



# patient safety

## **ALERT UPDATE**

Alert 3 Update, April 6 2009

**Subject**



**Issued by**

Queensland Health Patient Safety Centre

**Issue date**

Alert issued 30 March, 2009

Update issued 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2009

**Authority**

Chair, Queensland Health Patient Safety and Quality Executive Committee

**Issue**

1. *Potential syringe incompatibility - when 10ml BD-Plastipak syringes are used with this device there has been a demonstrated possibility of incorrect infusion rate.*
2. *Syringe alignment - If the syringe is dislodged or not loaded precisely into this device, unexpected changes in the delivery period may occur.*

**Specific incident**

*When using a 10ml BD-Plastipak syringe, the displayed volume infused by the Niki T34 syringe driver did not correlate with amount delivered. In this case, there was a difference of greater than 1 ml.*

**Queensland Health response to incident**

1. *Niki T 34 syringe drivers are currently being recalibrated by Queensland Health Biomedical Technology Services, in conjunction with REM Systems. Following recalibration, all Niki T34 syringe drivers have been verified for volume and occlusion pressure accuracy.*
2. *Biomedical Technology Services are dispatching recalibrated Niki T34 syringe pumps, commencing on April 6, 2009, back to relevant districts for immediate return to clinical use. The syringe pump may now be*

	<i>safely used with the BD –Plastipak syringe.</i>
<b>Further Action</b>	<p><i>District CEOs must ensure that clinical units that utilise the Niki T34 syringe driver:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>have returned all NikiT34 syringe pumps to Biomedical Technology Services for recalibration</i></li> <li>• <i>are advised of the Alert Update.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Distribution List</b>	<i>Director General, Chief Health Officer, CEO Centre for Healthcare Improvement, District Chief Executive Officers, District Directors of Nursing, District Executive Directors of Medical Services, Material Supply Managers, Patient Safety Officers, Director of Clinical and Statewide Services, Senior Director Biomedical Technology Services</i>
<b>Contact</b>	<i>Rowena Richardson, Patient Safety Centre 36369717 or <a href="mailto:rowena_richardson@health.qld.gov.au">rowena_richardson@health.qld.gov.au</a></i>
<b>Alert</b>	<b>“An Alert communicates a serious patient safety risk that requires specific action by an identified person, with feedback process to confirm that the action has been taken.”</b>
<b>Signature</b>	<i>Chair, Queensland Health Patient Safety and Quality Executive Committee</i>