

NEWBORN SUBCUTANEOUS INJECTIONS.

Subcutaneous (Sub-Q) Injections

- Some medicines work best when they are given into subcutaneous tissue.
- The subcutaneous tissue is the fatty layer of tissue just under the skin.
- Giving medicines this way is sometimes called “Sub-Q” injection.
- The medicine is absorbed slowly when it is given this way.

How to decrease the baby’s discomfort

When a child first begins getting injections, he/she might be scared. There are several ways you can decrease the discomfort your child feels during the injection.

- Test the areas of the skin by pressing gently to see where they are less sensitive.
- Rotate the site where you give the injection and keep track of the sites used.
- If injections will be given for a length of time, it is best to set up an injection site rotation pattern and be sure sites are at least one inch apart.
- Distract your child during the injection. For instance, allow them to watch TV, sing, or look at a book.

Getting Ready

1. Wash and dry your hands.
2. Choose a place to set up and give the injection that is clean, well lit and flat (like a table).
3. Set up your supplies; including an alcohol pad, medicine, gauze pad or cotton ball, and bandage if needed.
4. If you are not using a pre-filled syringe, make sure the syringe has the right amount of medicine and no air bubbles.

Select the injection site - Anterior Lateral Thigh

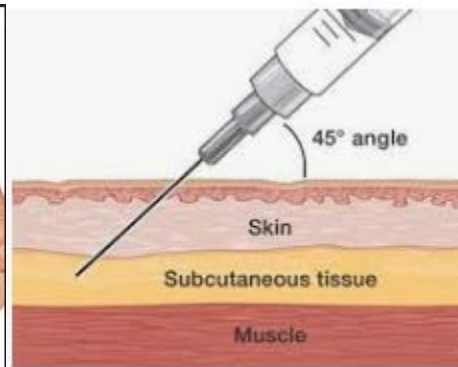
(for babies.. that is the right or left thigh) Use only the front of the leg /THIGH AREA



(DO NOT USE INSIDE OR BACK OF THIGH)

Use a different site each time you give the medicine. This is to avoid soreness or irritation at any one site.

- Clean the site with alcohol pad, wiping in a circle like motion.
- Hold the syringe with the medicine like you are holding a pencil. Remove the needle cover.



Subcutaneous injections: Injecting at hon

- With your other hand, pinch the outside area of the skin that was cleaned with alcohol with your index finger and thumb.
- Quickly push the needle into the skin at a slight angle.
- Relax the pinched skin and slowly push down on the plunger.
- Pull the needle out quickly at the same angle that it went in.
- Cover the site with cotton ball or gauze pad.
- Drop the syringe and needle into a sharps container or a hard plastic container that is approved by your county Public Health Department.
- Apply bandage if needed

