

Abstract:

Today, healthcare systems around the world are under increasing pressure, not least with the current health crisis. One of the leading efforts to relieve this burden in recent years has been through the promotion and facilitation of self-administration, particularly for patients with chronic illnesses. By relocating certain treatments to patients' homes, hospitals are minimizing the risk of over-crowding and giving patients a more active role in their own medication regime. Fuelled by this trend toward self-care, the prefilled safety syringe market has seen exponential growth in recent years - providing greater ease-of-use and safety for all carers and self-administering patients in non-clinical settings. When looking at the benefit of switching intravenous hospital-based to subcutaneous home-based administration while maintaining the same clinical outcomes, a similar change is also being considered in some areas of oncology. Drawing on the experience of home-treatment for chronic conditions, this article looks at the challenges and considerations of extending this to eligible cancer patients in the future.

Reference:

I'ons G. Could pre-filled safety syringes facilitate the adoption of home administration for cancer patients? J Oncol Pharm Pract. 2020 Sep 29:1078155220961463. doi: 10.1177/1078155220961463. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 32990191.