Secondary set-up
Alaris® products

To set up the secondary container:

Note: The primary tubing must contain a check valve for automatic secondary delivery.

1. Prepare the secondary container—close the roller clamp on the secondary tubing, and spike the secondary container.

2. Prime the secondary tubing, before (step 3) or after attaching it by “backpriming.”

3. Swab the top of the Y-site port on the primary tubing with appropriate antiseptic, and attach the secondary line to the port.

4. Hang the secondary container from the IV pole.

5. Hang the primary container lower using the hanger(s) provided with the secondary set.

Note: Accurate secondary infusion delivery depends on primary container hanging sufficiently lower than the secondary container.

6. Open the vent on the drip chamber if the secondary container is glass or semi-rigid.

7. Open the roller clamp on the secondary set.

8. Program the secondary infusion. When the infusion starts, ensure that drops fall in the secondary drip chamber and not in the primary drip chamber.

Note: If drops are seen in the primary drip chamber, lower the primary fluid on another hanger.

Helpful hints

- Factors such as the size of the secondary container, restrictions in the flow path and the rate of secondary fluid delivery can influence the infusion duration

- Secondary fluid containers such as 50 mL or 100 mL “mini-bags” that are usually delivered at lower flow rates typically require only one hanger.

- If the secondary container is large or the secondary flow rate is high, this simple test should be performed to ensure that no unwanted primary flow occurs during the secondary infusion:
  1. Start the secondary infusion.
  2. Note the level of the bottom of the secondary container. By hand, lower the secondary container so that the top of the fluid aligns with where the bottom of the container was previously (as it will be when the container empties).
  3. Watch for drops in the primary drip chamber.
  4. If drops are seen, lower the primary fluid on another hanger.
  5. Make sure the top of the container is never lower than the Y-site port to reduce the risk of air entering the primary set.

For product support, contact Customer Advocacy at 888.812.3266 or customerfeedback@carefusion.com.
For technical support, contact Instrument Technical Support at 888.812.3229.
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