

LEARNING POINTS FROM A RECENT PRESCRIBING ERROR:

Prescribe Syrups in milligrams (Aqueous Morphine)

**PRESCRIBING ERROR OCCURRED WHEN THERE WERE NO COUNTERCHECK POINTS
: MILLIGRAM (MG) NEEDS TO BE TALLIED WITH MILITRES (ML)**



HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?

MORPHINE HCL SOLUTION 10MG/5ML (AQUEOU	* F *	2	months	1	1	10.00	ML
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INTENDED REGIMEN

Aqueous Morphine **5mg (2.5mL)** every 4 hourly (6x/day)

DISCHARGE SUMMARY

Aqueous Morphine **10mg (5mL)** every 4 hourly

DISCHARGE PRESCRIPTION

Aqueous Morphine **20mg (10mL)** every 4 hourly

CONSEQUENCE

4-fold Overdose in an oncology patient



POSSIBLE CAUSE

- ✗ ordering of doses using inconsistent units (sometimes mg; sometimes mL)

HOW TO PREVENT IT FROM HAPPENING AGAIN?

Drug Description	DM	Duration	Dosage	Unit	Freq	Status	Intake Action	Route
MORPHINE HCL SOLUTION 10MG/5ML (AQUEOUS MORPHI		5	days	5.00	ML	4		UNTUK I

1. Be aware of the system limitation:

Aq Morphine solution **unit dosage in the Prescribing System** is in **mL**, not mg.

Drug Description	DM	Duration	Dosage	Unit	Freq	Status	Intake Action	Ro
MORPHINE HCL SOLUTION 10MG/5ML (AQUEOUS MORPHI		5	days	5.00	ML	4	10MG	UNTI

2. **Type** Syrup doses weight (e.g.,mg, mcg, units) at the Intake Action column as a form of counter checking.

3. **Check** the Formulary App for concentration of syrup if unsure (? mg in mL)

