

Ivenix has received inquiries on the impact of extra-long extension sets with infusion pumps outside of patient rooms. If your hospital uses this setup during the COVID-19 outbreak, please be aware of the clinical implications and potential risks. Below are general principles to consider for this set-up.

The use of extension sets can ...		Ivenix response
Accuracy	Increase backpressure in the tubing, especially if small bore or microbore extension sets are used.	Accuracy of the Ivenix Infusion Pump is not affected when using extension sets. The Ivenix pump measures and adjusts flow, thus accommodating to changing clinical conditions such as increased backpressure.
Delay of therapy	Create a significant delay from the time the medication leaves the IV pump to when it actually enters the patient’s body.	Priming the tubing with the medication will lessen the duration of time in which the drug reaches the patient, especially at low flow rates.
Delay of occlusion time	Delay the detection of an occlusion, especially if standard-bore, thin-walled extension sets are used. Due to tubing compliance with long extension sets, the time to detect an occlusion will be extended, especially at low flow rates.	Frequent patient assessment may reduce the likelihood of extravasation or infiltration. Avoid extension sets during the administration of low flow rate medications.
Secondary infusions	Result in secondary infusions remaining in the tubing and ultimately delivered at the wrong rate when the pump switches to primary.	Consider flushing all secondary infusions with the same volume of IV tubing and at the same rate of the secondary infusion to ensure proper delivery. When using the Ivenix pump, clinicians are also encouraged to use the “infuse to empty” option to ensure complete emptying of the secondary infusion

Alarm response	Silencing an alarm without assessing the patient has the potential to be harmful.	The Ivenix Infusions Dashboard allows clinicians to remotely view active alarms that occur on pumps. While the dashboard does not allow remote troubleshooting, if clinicians decide to leave the pump in the room, they can see the details of the alarm prior to entering a room. The infusions dashboard can also be configured to inform clinicians when infusions are almost complete which allows prepping all the necessary supplies prior to entering a room.
Drug Waste	Can result in additional medication volume that could lead to waste.	Use extension sets judiciously as it might increase the demand for medications that may be in short supply. Ivenix has a report that can be used to evaluate drug waste and consumption.

For any additional information, please see www.ivenix.com or contact us at info@ivenix.com