

User Evaluation of Click-on Pen Needles Versus Traditional Screw-on Pen Needles

A Four Week Handling Study Comparing Ypsomed's "Click-on" Pen Needles Versus BD's Microfine® Pen Needles

Abstract

This study was conducted to assess the function and patient acceptance of Ypsomed's "click-on" pen needles versus traditional screw-on pen needles. Results from this four week handling study show a clear overall preference for "click-on" pen needles with many patients likely to use or recommend them after the study.

Objective

The primary objective of this evaluation was to assess the function and patient acceptance of Ypsomed's Penfine "click-on" pen needles versus traditional screw-on pen needles, Becton-Dickinson's (B-D) Microfine® pen needles.

Method

The evaluation was performed by an independent Swedish institution, (IBD - International Business Development, Sigtuna). 195 patients with type I diabetes (78 female, 117 male) currently using Novo Nordisk's Penser®/Novolet® insulin pen with B-D's Microfine® pen needles participated in the study. The patients were recruited from 20 different medical centers in Sweden and were given Penfine "click-on" pen needles to use over a period of four weeks for all their respective injections. Each patient self-injected an average of 4 times per day. The needle size used by all patients during the test was 8 mm x 0.25 mm (31G x 5/16").

Results

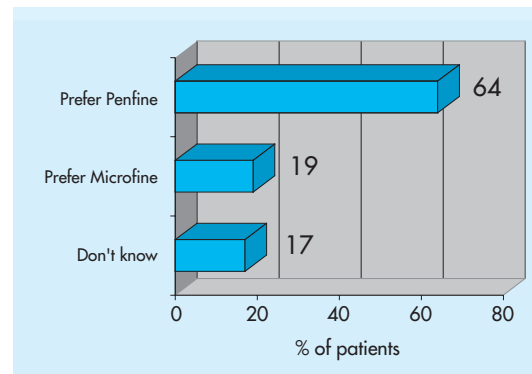
Pen Needle Usage History

The average length of time the patients had been using an insulin pen was 7 years. Though pen needles are for single-use, only 48% (82 patients) were using them only just once. All other patients were re-using their pen needles for convenience purposes, and some re-used each pen needle up to six times.

The vast majority (193 patients) considered the length of their current needle – (8mm) – to be the preferred length for them.

Pen Needle Preference

After using Penfine "click-on" pen needles for four weeks, 64% (125 patients) stated that they preferred Penfine pen needles.



Rating of Individual Pen Needle Features

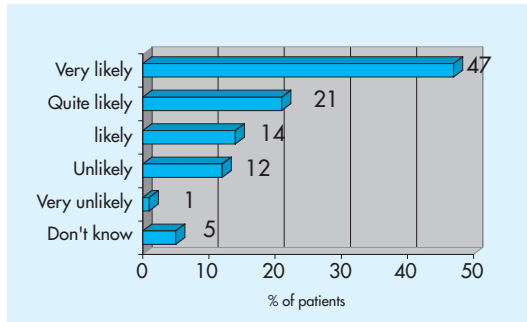
Pen needle preference may be explained by the participants' ratings of the pen needles' individual features. When comparing Penfine and Microfine® pen needles:

- 77% (150 patients) stated the attachment of Penfine pen needles to be easier due to the "click-on" feature
- 28% / 24% (50 / 43 patients) considered the injection comfort/sharpness of Penfine pen needles superior to Microfine® pen needles
- 13% (25 patients) considered the cap of Penfine pen needles to be better

No significant distinction was made between both pen needles in regard to lack of needle clogging, lack of needle bending and ease of dispensing dose.

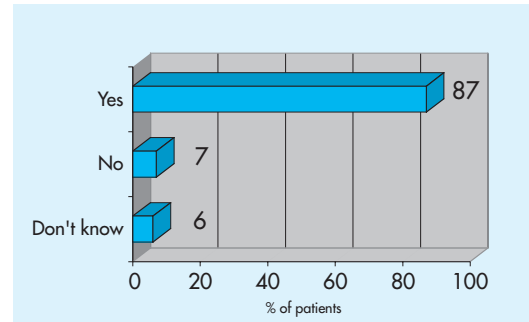
Likelihood of Using Penfine Pen Needles

Patients were asked if they would be likely to use Penfine pen needles once the study was over. 82% (160 patients) stated they would be likely to use Penfine pen needles with 47% (92) considering themselves “very likely” to use them.



Likelihood of Recommending Penfine Pen Needles

Patients were asked if they would recommend Penfine pen needles once the study was over. 87% (170 patients) stated they would recommend Penfine pen needles to a friend or colleague.



Conclusion

The results from this 4 week handling study show a clear overall preference for Penfine “click-on” pen needles with many patients likely to use and recommend the pen needles to their friends after the study. The pen needle’s injection comfort was appreciated and it’s “click-on” feature was particularly highly rated due to its ease of use.



Penfine® and Clickfine® Pen Needles

Penfine® pen needles are manufactured in Switzerland by Ypsomed AG. They are distributed in the U.S. by Can-Am Care where they are sold in pharmacies nationwide under the Clickfine® brand name and under retailers’ store brand names.

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