

## **BD adds two new products into its prefilled drug delivery system profile**

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With the aim to reduce medication and dosage errors and improved patient compliance to injectable drugs, two new prefilled drug delivery devices - one for chronic diseases and another for vaccination were introduced at Technovation 2015 on 10th July by BD Medical - Pharmaceutical Systems.

BD Neopak is a single-dose, ready-to-use glass prefilled syringe system. It is an advanced version of normal prefilled syringe, particularly suitable for biotech drugs, that are more sensitive in nature and require delivery devices ensuring virtually no interaction and aggregation with the drug. BD Neopak offers additional benefits of PFS such as lesser injection time, lesser errors, reduced contamination and much better productivity to patients and clinicians.

BD Uniject SCF (Sterile, Clean and ready to Fill) is a single-use prefilled auto disable injection system that protects against inappropriate needle reuse. Being tamper proof, this system can be used even by healthcare workers, for greater coverage of outreach programs such as mass immunization. Both forms of drug delivery will assist the process of administering pharmaceutical compounds to achieve desired effect far more quickly and effectively.

"In the current environment, patients demand higher quality and more reliability in injectable drug delivery systems. Therefore there is an urgent need to be able to collaborate with industry leaders and introduce cutting edge solutions that will greatly benefit Indian patients. BD as a technology and innovation driven organization has been prudent to respond to evolving needs and provide great value to customers," said Mr Murli Sundrani, business director, BD Medical-Pharmaceutical Systems, BD India.

Injectable drug delivery market is primarily driven by rising incidences of chronic diseases such as auto immune diseases, diabetes and cancer and healthcare costs are driving the growth in drug self-administration, particularly for chronic conditions. Today, prefilled drug delivery systems are considered to be the preferred mode of administering more than 50 injectable drugs. Countries like the US, Europe and Japan, pre-dominantly use the technology, while its usage is expanding in developing countries as well like in India and China.

Prefillable syringes eliminate the risk of contamination and dosage error, assuring patient safety. Doctors, physicians and healthcare workers also find it convenient and less time consuming as the number of steps taken to prepare an injection with the conventional vial or an ampoule is reduced from 10 to just three with a prefillable device. Dr SG Kasi, principal investigator, Time & Motion Study said, "This is a first kind of study done in India which demonstrates the superiority of prefillables (PFS) over single and multi-dose vials in terms of time taken for one vaccination, vaccine wastage, and errors occurring during vaccination. The advantages of the PFS have been acknowledged by the CDC, which now recommends it as the "preferred" system of vaccine administration."

Earlier, Indian Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Immunization (IAPCOI) in association with BD Medical-Pharmaceutical Systems completed a Time and Motion Study in India to assess the impact on vaccination efficiency with prefilled syringe. The study conducted in Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Delhi and Kolkata demonstrated the superiority of PFS over single and multi-dose vials; involving comparison in terms of efficiency associated with the vaccine administration process (preparation, injection and disposal) and rate of handling errors with safety implications. PFS was proven to be twice as fast as vials and handling errors were three times fewer than vials.