

# Patient Safety Advisory

Veterans Health Administration Warning System  
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**Item:** **ALARIS (IMED) Gemini Infusion Pumps**

**General Information:** The ALARIS (IMED) Gemini infusion pump provides automatic free flow protection via the medication administration set and the exterior door. If the door latch is broken it may not properly activate the free flow protection mechanism on the IV set, and free flow of medication may occur if other methods of free flow protection are not employed (i.e. manual roller clamp).

**Specific Incident:** All four channels of an ALARIS (IMED) Gemini PC-4 Infusion Pump were needed to administer medication to a patient. One of the doors had a broken latch but it was decided to continue the use of the pump. An extra bolus of medication was delivered to the patient when other methods of preventing free flow were not employed.

**Suggestions:**

1. DO NOT use medication pumps, or other medical devices that are in need of repair.
2. As a standard practice, operators of medical devices should inspect and conduct operational checks, as specified in the manufacturers operations manual, on all equipment and medical devices before use. If the device is found to be in need of repair, it should be removed from service and sent to biomedical engineering for service.
3. Assure that there are an adequate number of pumps available to adjust for peak utilizations and/or maintenance cycles.

**Source:** Root Cause Analysis Database.

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