

Insulin Injections –

No Need for Needle

Millions of diabetics face a daily ritual of giving themselves injections of insulin to control their disease. The traditional method has been with a needle. But now a Canadian firm, Advanced Medical Technologies Inc., of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, produces an advanced technology power injector device that injects insulin under the skin without the use of a needle.

The injector delivers insulin under pressure through a tiny orifice that penetrates the skin painlessly to spread insulin evenly beneath.

The insulin vial with its disposable vial holder is attached to the injector to fill it, then the handle is turned counter-clockwise to load the injector with insulin. Even a diabetic with sight problems can use the device because a "click" is felt as each whole unit is loaded. The vial holder is removed when the desired number of units have been filled. As the user fills the unit the number of units loaded can be seen through a window lens on the injector. The device accepts two types of insulin and can be filled to within half a unit. It has a capacity of 50 units of U-100 insulin.

If varied insulin injections are required, a second vial replaces the first, and the same procedure is followed.

The injector is equipped with a "backing off" feature which permits the patient to adjust the pressure by five variable settings to adapt to skin resistance. Experimental injections can be "practised" using bacteriostatic saline solution.

Some physicians report that the small, accurate device, which can be sterilized easily, actually reduces daily insulin requirements.



This compact insulin injection device, which eliminates the need for needles, is produced by a Canadian firm, Advanced Medical Technologies Inc.