Real-world benefits of APO-go® POD in advanced Parkinson's disease (PD) – a patient case study

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Michael Bonello[1] and Jan Parsons[2]

[1] The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust, Liverpool, UK; [2] Britannia Pharmaceuticals Limited, Green Park, Reading, UK

Introduction

- Continuous subcutaneous apomorphine (APO) infusion is an effective and well-tolerated therapy for advanced PD.
- APO-go® infusion (Britannia Pharmaceuticals Limited) is administered using a portable mini-pump with the solution contained in pre-filled syringes (PFS).
- A new method of administration, APO-go® POD, is now available with the solution supplied in a prefilled cartridge. The first UK patient on POD was initiated in 2023.
- Patients/carers are trained on how to set up the infusion pump and supported by specialist PD nurses.

Methods

- The practical benefits of APO-go® PFS and POD administration are compared in terms of set-up procedure, set-up time, patient convenience and ancillaries required.
- The 'real-world' benefits are illustrated with a case study from our centre of a patient who transitioned from APO-go® PFS to POD.
- In addition, the CRONO® PAR4 20 infusion pump is compatible with both the PFS and POD systems to make switching straightforward.

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CASE STUDY

At our centre, a 52-year-old female patient who had been diagnosed with PD for 10 years commenced APO-go® PFS infusion in January 2023.

- This effectively controlled her symptoms, but with impaired dexterity she struggled with the set-up (liquid spillage) and disposal of ancillaries, particularly when travelling.
- She feels that the transition to POD has saved her time, is easier to set up in the morning, and there is less wastage.

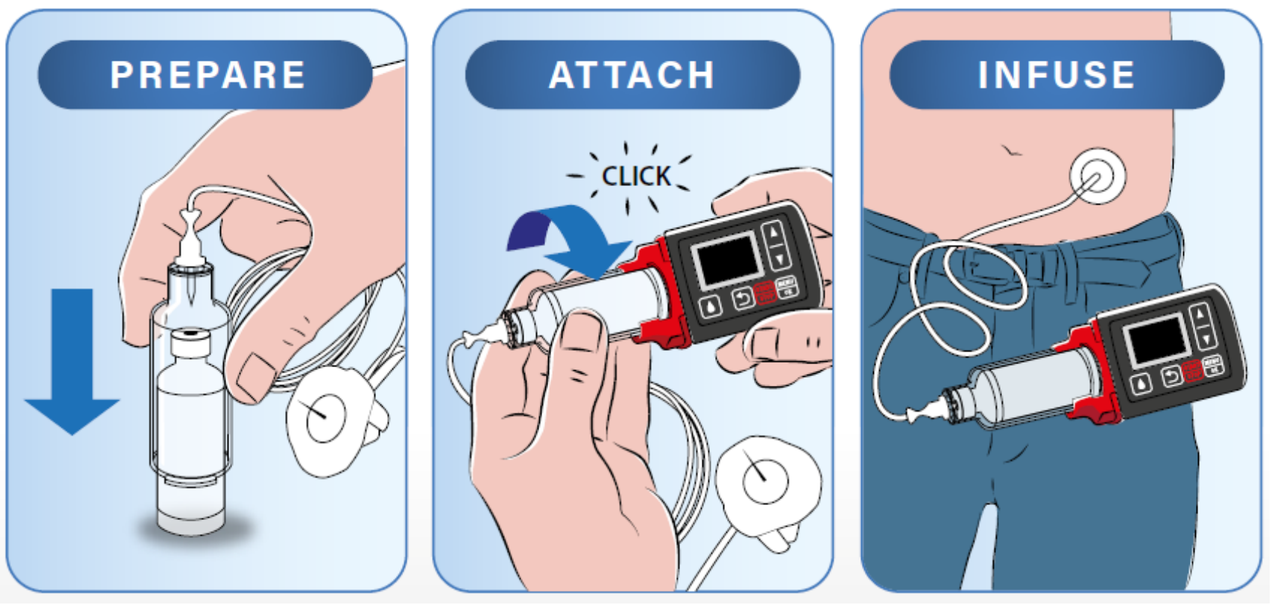
> *"To relay my opinion on the APO-go® POD, I must say the greatest benefit is the simplicity to set it up. It takes no time at all and there are less 'parts' needed so effectively less rubbish to dispose of."*

APO-go® POD versus APO-go® PFS

Set-up procedure

- The time required to set up the infusion with APO-go® POD is 34 seconds (8 steps), compared to 1 minute 48 seconds for PFS (12 steps), a reduction of 1 minute 14 seconds.
- The simplified set-up procedure for APO-go® POD (Figure 1) is designed to support patient autonomy and is particularly beneficial in patients with impaired dexterity.
- Unlike PFS, the POD system, does not require liquid transfer as it attaches directly to the pump, therefore it eliminates the risk of spillage.

Figure 1. Stepwise set-up of APO-go® POD.



Dosing

- APO-go® POD can be used up to 48 hours after opening which allows flexibility of dosing depending on the patient's needs and minimises wastage.

Ancillaries

- The POD system requires two less ancillaries than the PFS system so there is less to dispose of once the components are used.

Conclusions

- **This case highlights the practical benefits the APO-go POD system can provide for PD patients in their daily lives.**
- **Set-up time and steps are reduced with the POD system, streamlining the administration process making it easier for patients, and promoting independence.**

Prescribing Information and Adverse Event reporting details are available at Britannia Pharmaceuticals Ltd.'s exhibition stand.

UK-APOGO-2400008; March 2024

Disclosures:
Dr Bonello is an employee at Walton Centre, Liverpool.
Jan Parson is an employee of Britannia Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

Presented at the 18th World Congress on Controversies in Neurology, London, UK, 21–23 March 2024