

Medication Ordering – PCA Infusions

Purpose

This document provides a quick-reference guide for prescribers on ordering PCA medications in Meditech Expanse. It highlights key ordering actions, system behaviors, and clinical considerations to support safe and effective PCA prescribing.

Audience

Doctors, Nurses, Clinical Pharmacists

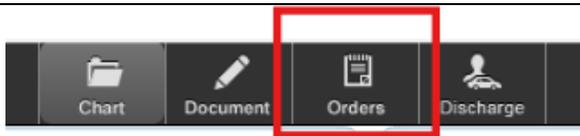
Version Control

Version	Date	Author	Changes Made
1.0	23-Oct-2025	Justin Capati, Christopher Meddings, Medical Services	Initial draft

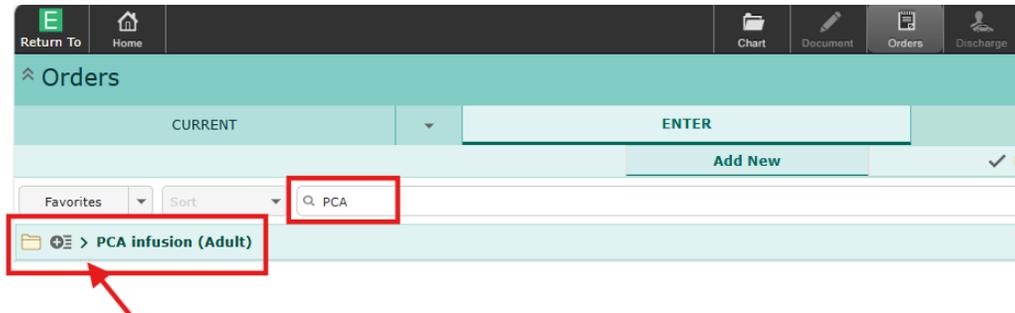
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Key Patient Data Requirements

- Ensure **height, weight, and allergy information** are recorded before prescribing.



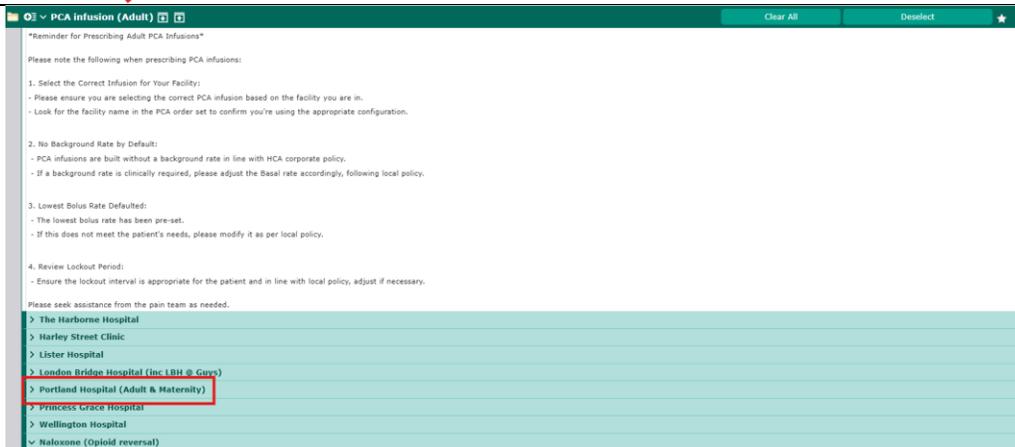
Search **PCA** and select '**PCA infusion (Adult)** order set by clicking the > chevron



Once key patient data is recorded, you can begin prescribing infusions by clicking 'Order' to access the ordering screen.

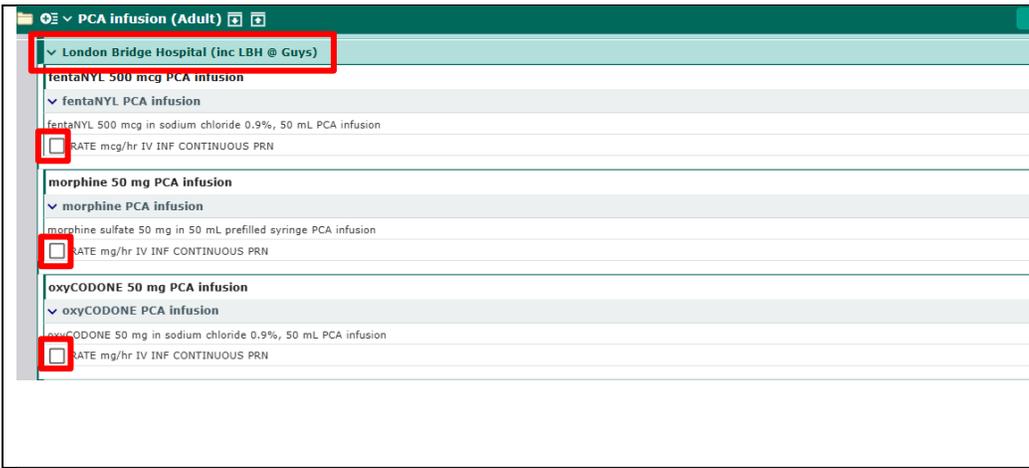
To prescribe PCA's:

- Type "PCA" into the search bar.
- Ensure the PCA order set is selected which would be marked with the 'folder' icon. 

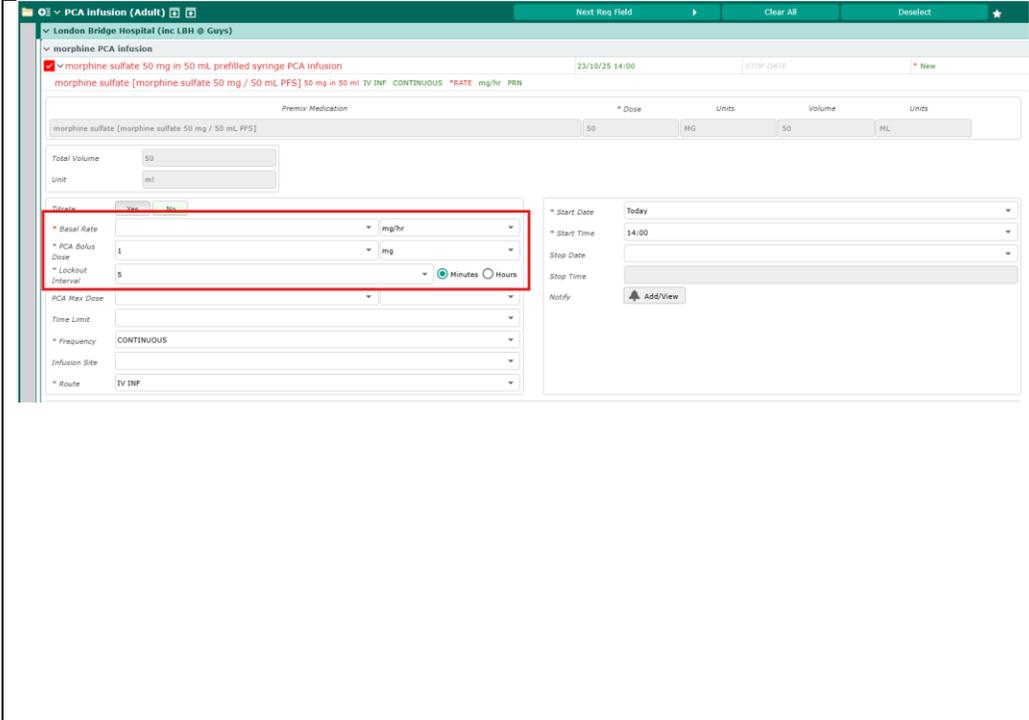


When the PCA order set is opened, it will expand to display sub headers and configuration options.

Review the guidance provided, then **select the facility** where the patient is located to ensure the correct PCA concentrations are available for prescribing.



Under the facility sub-headings, you select the desired PCA drug and concentration by clicking the check box.

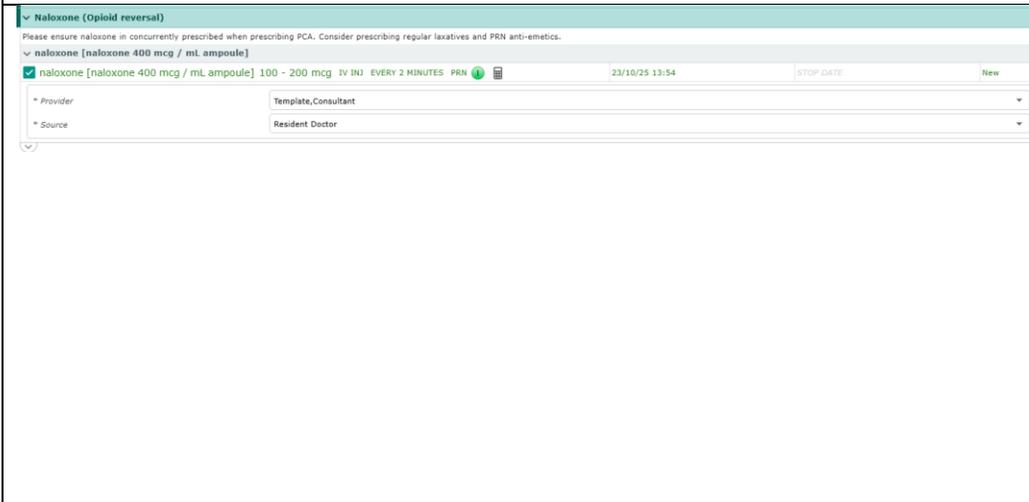


Once the PCA order is selected, expand the order details to review configuration settings.

PCA infusions are built **without a default basal rate**, in line with corporate policy. If a background dose is clinically required, enter the rate in the “**Basal Rate**” field; otherwise, enter ‘0’ to indicate no background infusion.

The **lowest bolus dose** is pre-set based on each facility’s configuration.

Always review the **lockout interval** and adjust as needed. Refer to your facility’s **local policy** or consult the **pain team** for guidance.



Naloxone is pre-selected in the PCA order set in line with policy.

You can adjust the dose by expanding the order details.

PRN anti-emetics and laxatives can be order via conventional order entry if needed alongside PCA orders to support symptom management.