

CLAIMS

The invention is claimed as follows:

1. A drug infusion system ~~(10)~~ comprising:
~~an a first infusion pump (20);~~
~~a second infusion pump;~~
an input device ~~(24, 84)~~; and
a processor, ~~associated with the first infusion pump,~~ the input device ~~(24, 84)~~ and processor configured to allow an operator to make a selection that specifies a preprogrammed combination of a plurality of drugs to be delivered to a patient by the first and second infusion pumps, the first infusion pump determining which one or more drug of the combination is to be pumped by the second infusion pump, the input device ~~(24, 84)~~ and processor further configured to allow the operator to enter (i) the identification, (ii) weight and/or (iii) body surface area ("bsa") of the patient, at least one of the plurality of drugs delivered based on the entered weight and/or bsa of the patient.
2. The drug infusion system ~~(10)~~ according to Claim 1, wherein each of the drugs is delivered based on the entered weight and/or bsa of the patient.
3. The drug infusion system ~~(10)~~ according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein the combination of drugs includes a sequence in which the plurality of drugs is delivered.
4. The drug infusion system ~~(10)~~ according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein at least one of a rate, a dose and a concentration is specified for at least one of the drugs.
5. The drug infusion system ~~(10)~~ according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein the dose is based on the entered weight and/or bsa of the patient.
6. The drug infusion system ~~(10)~~ according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein the rate is specified to achieve the specified dose.

7. The drug infusion system-(10) according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein the concentration is predetermined.

8. The drug infusion system-(10) according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein the plurality of drugs are of a type selected from the group consisting of: (i) an antibiotic, (ii) an anesthetic, (iii) an anticoagulant, and (iv) a drug to manage hypertension.

9. The drug infusion system-(10) according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein at least one of the infusion pump-(20) pumps is a multi-channel pump, ~~each of the~~ and wherein a plurality of the drugs are delivered via one of the multiple channels of the multi-channel pump-(20).

10. The drug infusion system-(10) according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein at least one of the input device-(24) and the processor is integrated with the first infusion pump-(20).

11. The drug infusion system-(10) according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein at least one of the input device-(84) and the processor are located on a remote computer-(80) in communication with the first infusion pump-(20).

12. The drug infusion system-(10) according to any one of the preceding Claims, wherein the selection is made from a library of selections, each selection associated with a different combination of drugs.

13. The drug infusion system-(10) according to any one of the preceding Claims, which includes a display device-(22) that displays the library of selections to the operator.

14. The drug infusion system-(10) according to any one of the preceding Claims, which includes (i) a display device-(22) that displays the combination of drugs to the operation-operator and (ii) a confirm function-(50) requiring the operator to confirm that the displayed combination of drugs is correct before delivery to the patient.

15. The drug infusion system-(10) according to any one of the preceding Claims, which includes a mechanism that verifies a drug of a supply for operation with at least one of the infusion pump-(20) pumps is one of the selected combination of drugs.

16. A drug infusion system-(60) comprising:
a first infusion pump-(20a);
a second infusion pump-(20b);
an input device-(24, 84); and
a processor, associated with the first infusion pump, the input device-(24, 84) and the processor configured to allow an operator to make a selection that specifies a combination of a plurality of drugs to be delivered to the a patient using the first-(20a) and second-(20b) infusion pumps, the first infusion pump determining which one or more drug of the combination is to be pumped by the second infusion pump.

17. The drug infusion system-(60) according to Claim 16, wherein the first infusion pump-(20a) is a master infusion pump and the second infusion pump-(20b) is a delegate infusion pump, the first pump-(20a) determining which one or more drug of the combination is to be pumped by the second pump-(20b), processor further configured to divide the delivery of the plurality of drugs between the master infusion pump and the delegate infusion pump if the number of the plurality of drugs is greater than the number of the drug infusion channels of the master infusion pump.

18. The drug infusion system-(60) according to any one of Claims 16 or 17, which assigns each of a plurality of channels-(12, 14, 16, 18) of the first infusion pump-(20a) to a plurality of the drugs of the combination and employs the second infusion pump-(20b) if one or more drug of the combination has not been assigned, cannot be pumped by the first infusion pump.

19. The drug infusion system-(60) according to any one of Claims 16 to 18, which designates different drugs of the combination to the first infusion pump-(20a) or the second infusion pump-(20b) according to at least one of (i) a sequence of delivery of the plurality of drugs; and (ii) a type of each of the plurality of drugs.

20. A drug infusion system comprising:

a first infusion pump;

a second infusion pump;

an input device; and

a processor associated with the first infusion pump, the input device and processor configured to allow an operator to make a selection that specifies a preprogrammed combination of a plurality of drugs to be delivered to a patient, the processor further configured to assign each of a plurality of channels of the first infusion pump to a plurality of the drugs of the combination and employ the second infusion pump if one or more drug of the combination cannot be pumped by the first infusion pump.

21. A drug infusion system comprising:

a first infusion pump;

a second infusion pump;

an input device; and

a processor associated with the first infusion pump, the input device and processor configured to allow an operator to make a selection that specifies a preprogrammed combination of a plurality of drugs to be delivered to a patient, the processor further configured to designate a different drug or drugs of the combination to the first infusion pump or the second infusion pump according to at least one of (i) a sequence of delivery of the plurality of drugs or (ii) a type of each of the plurality of drugs.

22. A drug infusion system comprising:

a master infusion pump including at least one drug infusion channel;

a delegate infusion pump in communication with the master infusion pump;

an input device; and

a processor associated with the master infusion pump, the input device and processor configured to allow an operator to make a selection that specifies a preprogrammed combination of a plurality of drugs to be delivered to a patient, the processor further configured to divide the delivery of the plurality of drugs between the master infusion pump and the delegate infusion pump if the number of the plurality of drugs is greater than the number of the drug infusion channels of the master infusion pump.