CLAIMS

1. A medicine feeding unit configured to feed solid medicines, the unit comprising:

a medicine feeder having a medicine container configured to contain the medicines and a driven shaft provided rotatably to the medicine container, the medicine feeder being configured to feed the medicines from the medicine container by the driven shaft being rotationally driven; and

a support having a rotary drive source and a driving shaft that is connected coaxially with the driven shaft and that is rotationally driven by the rotary drive source, the support being configured to detachably support the medicine feeder, wherein

the driven shaft has a driven shaft body and a driven engagement member that is movable in an axial direction relative to the driven shaft body,

the driving shaft has a driving shaft body and a driving engagement member that is fixed to the driving shaft body and that is engaged with the driven engagement member,

the driven engagement member is biased in an approaching direction approaching the driving engagement member in the axial direction,

the medicine feeding unit further comprises a rotation preventing part configured to allow the driven engagement member to rotate in a mounted state in which the medicine feeder is mounted on the support and to prevent the driven engagement member from rotating in a detached state in which the medicine feeder is detached from the support, and

the rotation preventing part comprises:

a movable locking part provided in the driven engagement member; and a fixed locking part that is provided in the medicine feeder and that locks the movable locking part, the movable locking part and the fixed locking part being configured so that the movable locking part is spaced apart from the fixed locking part in the mounted state, and the fixed locking part locks the movable locking part in the detached state by the driven engagement member that is

moved in the approaching direction from the position at which the fixed locking part is located when in the mounted state.

2. The medicine feeding unit according to claim 1, wherein

the support guides the medicine feeder to slide in a direction intersecting the axial direction of the driving shaft,

the medicine feeding unit further comprises a retraction mechanism having a pressing part that is provided in the medicine feeder and that is capable of pressing the driven engagement member, the retraction mechanism being configured to retract the driven engagement member by pressing it using the pressing part in a separating direction opposite to the approaching direction against the biasing force in the approaching direction when the medicine feeder is guided to slide with respect to the support, and

the fixed locking part is provided in the pressing part of the retraction mechanism.

3. The medicine feeding unit according to claim 2, wherein the movable locking part is provided on an end face of the driven engagement member.

4. The medicine feeding unit according to claim 2 or 3, wherein

the pressing part is biased in the approaching direction.