

ABSTRACT

Provided is a medicine feeding unit configured to feed solid medicines, the unit including: 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; 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 guide the medicine feeder so as to slide in a direction intersecting the axial direction of the driving shaft, and 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 the 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, and the medicine feeding unit further includes a retraction mechanism configured to retract the driven engagement member in the axial direction so as not to interfere with the driving engagement member, when the medicine feeder is guided to slide with respect to the support.