

How easy are these symbols to learn?

Nurses and doctors use machines to give medicine to their patients. The people who design the machines (computer scientists) use symbols to make them easy to use. Some symbols give information about the machine (its status), some tell you how to control it.

The machines are called 'infusion pumps'. The medicine is pumped from a bottle called an 'infusion bottle' into the patient using a syringe.

Below are real symbols used on infusion pumps. It is very important that nurses and doctors understand the symbols so they don't make mistakes that hurt their patients.

You must learn the following symbols and their meaning, and answer the questions overleaf.



Infusion
status



Injection
syringe



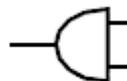
Infusion
bottle



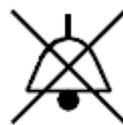
Handheld
switch



Battery check



Power plug



Cancel alarm



Sound
muting



On



Off



Start



Stop

The **chi+med** project is helping make medical devices safer – you can find out more about us at the website below.

cs4fn.org/chi-med

How much can you remember?

You're a busy nurse using a machine that delivers medicine. To keep your patient healthy you need to choose the right button to press or the right picture to read to get the information you need. There's no time to waste.

How quickly can you answer these questions? Remember choosing the wrong picture could hurt your patient! Circle the one you think is right.

Question One

Does your machine have enough battery power to deliver medicine for two hours? Which of these symbols will let you check the battery?



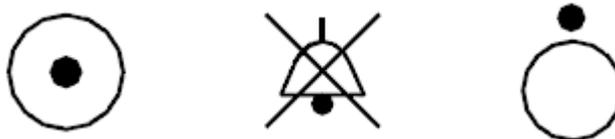
Question Two

Which of these is the button to **Start** the machine?



Question Three

What's that noise? Which button would you use to switch off the alarm sound?



Question Four

You've run out of battery – which picture below is telling you that you need to plug the machine in?



When you have finished check over the page to see if you were right.

The meaning of a well designed symbol should be easy to remember. Which of these are good symbols and which are poor symbols?