

Management of children receiving IV Antibiotics at home under the Paediatric OPAT (p-OPAT) Service

Bloods

- **Every Monday** unless otherwise specified by the p-OPAT team.
- Blood request forms (for **FBC, U+ E's, LFT's and CRP**) will be sent home with the family where possible.

Clinical Observation

- Every day prior to giving IV medication.
- Line site check/phlebitis score, heart rate, respiratory rate, central capillary refill time and temperature, general wellbeing of child and parent/carer.
- **If any concerns contact the p-OPAT team or the on-call medical Registrar.**

IV Medication

If PICC or CVC line in situ:-

- Provided with prefilled syringes/CIVAS or an elastomeric device if applicable.
- For once daily infusions (over ½ hour to an hour) community teams to remain at the home, disconnect the infusion once completed and Hepsal flush the line.
- For the 24 hour infusions, community nurses to commence infusion and then leave to run over the 24 hour period. No Hepsal flush required if using the 24 hour elastomeric infusions.

If peripheral cannula in situ:-

- Commence infusion using CIVAS/Elastomeric device.
- Line to be observed throughout infusion and then flushed with saline only once infusion complete.
- Contact p-OPAT team directly when the child has received **48 hours of IVABs** so that microbiology results and the child's progress can be reviewed and a decision made as whether to continue the IVABs or make an oral switch.

Clinics

- Each child sent home under the p-OPAT service will be reviewed in clinic every Thursday afternoon between 3-4 pm.
- p-OPAT will also conduct a virtual ward round every Tuesday (in which the child's bloods will be reviewed) and decisions made regarding continuation of IVABs.
- Any changes will be discussed with the family in clinic and community team directly. Any further medications will be ordered and distributed by p-OPAT in clinic.
- Removal of PICC/CVC lines will be coordinated by the p-OPAT team.
- Cannula's can be removed in the home by the community team

Contact numbers

- If you have any concerns about a p-OPAT patient, please do not hesitate to call the team on ***** or the on call medical Registrar out of hours on ***** Bleep ****.