



## Patient and Family Information

# OUTPATIENT PARENTERAL ANTIBIOTIC THERAPY (OPAT)

### Outpatient Procedure Centre/OPAT NUH Medical Centre, Level 3

#### Operating hours:

Mon to Fri: 8.30am to 5.30pm

Sat/Sun/PH: 8.30am to 12.30pm

#### Contact details:

(65) 6772 8600 (8.30am to 5.30pm)

(65) 9722 0564 (Emergency)

Email: [opat@nuhs.edu.sg](mailto:opat@nuhs.edu.sg)

#### National University Hospital

5 Lower Kent Ridge Road, Singapore 119074

Tel: (65) 6779 5555 Fax: (65) 6779 5678

Website: [www.nuh.com.sg](http://www.nuh.com.sg)

Company Registration Number. 198500843R

The information provided in this publication is meant purely for educational purposes and may not be used as a substitute for medical diagnosis or treatment. You should seek the advice of your doctor or a qualified healthcare provider before starting any treatment or if you have any questions related to your health, physical fitness or medical conditions.

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## What is OPAT?

Outpatient parenteral antibiotic therapy (OPAT) allows you to have intravenous antibiotics at home or in an outpatient setting. It is a safe and cost-effective alternative to inpatient care.

We provide a continuation of antimicrobial treatment when patients are medically fit for discharge and no longer require hospitalisation.

Patients can be referred to OPAT after being reviewed by our Infectious Diseases physicians.

## Our services

Clinic hours for antibiotics administration are from 8.30am to 12.30pm daily.

We provide the following clinical services:

- Weekly blood tests and consultations with one of our OPAT/ Infectious Diseases doctors.
- Patient and family education on how to care for your vascular access device at home.
- Home Caregiver Administration training (Self-OPAT) for the administration of intravenous antibiotics via 24-hour or 1-hour infusor.
  - Home administration is allowed to commence only after patient/caregiver is assessed as competent
  - Patients are required to attend the clinic 2 – 3 times a week
  - Patient education materials are provided for reference
  - A 24-hour hotline is available to provide support for patients/caregivers in times of emergency

## How will you receive your antibiotics?

Via infusion (drip)

- Given daily in OPAT by nurses
- Takes about 45 minutes to complete

Via 24-hour infusor

- Patients will have to carry an infusor bottle with them for 24 hours
- Daily change of infusor bottle by OPAT nurses or main caregiver at home

Via one-hour infusor

- Small balloon containing the prescribed antibiotic
- Takes about one hour to administer
- Can be administered by OPAT nurses or main caregiver at home



24-hour infusor



one-hour infusor

## Things to note

If you experience any of the following symptoms, please inform our staff at OPAT as soon as possible.

- Raised temperature (fever) above 37.5°C
- Feeling hot/cold, shivering or shaking
- Dizziness or feeling generally unwell
- Facial swelling or body rash
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhoea
- Redness, pain, swelling or discharge around your vascular access device