

Patient Information Leaflet

OHPiT
Out-Patient and Home Parenteral Infusion Therapy

Produced By:

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What is OHPiT?

OHPiT (Out-Patient and Home Parenteral Infusion Therapy) is a service that provides intravenous therapy (IV) for patients referred from either the hospital or from a General Practitioner (GP) in the community. Intravenous therapy refers to medication that is given directly into the vein, and this type of treatment is generally given to patients in hospital but in specific circumstances can be given safely in an out-patient clinic or at home.

If you are going to receive OHPiT, then a nurse will give you the medication either in the OHPiT infusion clinic or in your own home. You, or a family member / friend may also be able to be taught how to administer the medication yourselves. If this is the administration method that suits yourself and your Consultant / Doctor, a nurse will still visit you on a daily basis to ensure everything is going as planned.

How is the medication given?

As already mentioned, the treatment is given directly into your vein. This is through a small tube called a catheter which will be inserted by one of the OHPiT nurses into your arm.

There are different types of catheters available, and one that suits your treatment plan will be chosen for you. You will also be given further information on the type of catheter selected and how to look after it by the OHPiT nurse.

How do I access the OHPiT service?

Patients who could benefit from OHPiT are referred to the service by either a hospital Consultant or a GP. If it is the hospital Consultant making the referral, it means that you are possibly ready to go home but still need further IV treatment. If it is a GP that is making the referral, then it means that you possibly require IV treatment but do not need admitting into hospital. On both occasions an OHPiT nurse will meet with you to assess you and see whether you are eligible for this service. The assessment is to ensure that the OHPiT service is a safe option for you. The OHPiT process will be fully explained to you and you can decide along with your Consultant / Doctor whether it is something you are both happy to consider.

Do I have to go onto the OHPiT service?

If after discussions about the OHPiT service you decide that you do not want to be considered, then alternative options for your treatment plan will be discussed with you. This service is an option that is available to you, and if assessed and offered, it is then up to you and your Consultant / Doctor to decide whether this method of treatment is something you would like to be treated with.

What are the benefits of the OHPiT service?

You will be in the comfort of your own home rather than having to stay in hospital. It can allow you to maintain your independence, be back with your family and friends and sometimes even return to work.

What are the risks involved?

If it is an antibiotic that you are prescribed to take, then you will normally receive your first two doses in hospital or the OHPiT infusion clinic to ensure that if you have a reaction to the medication you are in a clinical area that is equipped to manage such events. Allergic reactions can occur with any medication,

and therefore you should always seek immediate medical attention if you develop any symptoms whilst at home, such as a rash, facial swelling or difficulty breathing (999 or 111 or OHPiT). The contact details are explained later in this leaflet.

Occasionally there may be problems with your IV line, such as a blockage or an infection can occur around the site. If there are any problems, then contact the OHPiT team and you will be assessed promptly.

Who will give me my IV medication?

Each OHPiT patient receives a service that best suits their needs. Most patients are either visited in their own home by a nurse, or attend the OHPiT infusion clinic on a daily basis. But there may be the option for you or a family member / friend to be taught how to administer the medication yourself. If this option is decided upon, then the teaching and assessment will take place either in the hospital ward that you are on or in the OHPiT infusion clinic. For all patients that take this option, they are usually still visited daily by a member of the OHPiT team, to ensure any problems that may occur are managed appropriately.

These options will be discussed with you and you will decide which treatment plan best suits your needs. If the option is to receive the treatment in your own home, all medication and supplies will be delivered to your house by an OHPiT nurse. The OHPiT nurses re-stock and assess patients weekly, normally in our OHPiT infusion clinic (Mondays), and a time will be given to you when to attend.

What do I need to bring to my OHPiT clinic appointment?

Please bring a dose of your medication that needs to be administered, and also your OHPiT paperwork. You will be advised of this in advance by one of the OHPiT nurses.

What happens if I feel unwell or I have a concern or problem?

The contact numbers of all the OHPiT team are below, and will also be given to you on a separate card.

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns regarding OHPiT, please contact either the OHPiT Nurse Specialist or an OHPiT nurse on **01983 552537** Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm. You can always contact the OHPiT nurse on duty (8am to 6pm) 7 days a week on **07717652513**.

Some common things to look out for include the following:

- Rash
- Diarrhoea
- Fever, feeling hot/cold, high temperature
- Pain, redness and swelling around the IV line
- Blocked IV line

If you are feeling unwell whilst at home with any of the above symptoms please contact us on the numbers above. In the event of an emergency please call 999 for an ambulance or go to the emergency department.

If you require this leaflet in another language, large print or another format, please contact the Quality Team, telephone 01983 534850, who will advise you.

Valuables should not be brought into the hospital. If patients have to bring in valuable items they should ask a nurse to store them safely and request a receipt for the items. You may not be able to have the valuable items returned if the time of discharge from hospital is out of hours.

We are sorry but the Trust cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to items not given for safe keeping.

You can get further information on all sorts of health issues through NHS interactive available through Sky TV or online at: <http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk/>

For Health advice and out of hours GP service please call the NHS 111 service on: 111

We Value Your Views On Our Service

If you wish to comment on the care which you, your relative or friend has received, we will be pleased to hear from you. Please speak to the person in charge of the ward, clinic or service in the first instance or ask them to contact the Quality Team. If you wish to contact them directly, telephone on 534850.

Alternatively you may prefer to write to:

Chief Executive
Isle Of Wight NHS Trust
St Mary's Hospital
Newport
Isle of Wight
PO30 5TG

All NHS sites are no smoking areas.

If you would like help and advice to stop smoking please call: Freephone 0800 169 0 169 to talk to the NHS Smoking Helpline.

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