

Intravenous Antibiotic administration at Home

You have been admitted to HITH to receive antibiotics through your intravenous line. Antibiotics work by killing bacteria that cause infection.



Common Antibiotics Used:

- Benzylpenicillin
- Cefepime
- Ceftazidime
- Ceftriaxone
- Cephazolin
- Ertapenem
- Flucloxacillin
- Piperacillin + Tazobactam

Administering Antibiotics

- Your first dose of antibiotic dose would have been given in hospital under medical supervision, to ensure that you do not have any allergic reactions.
- You will continue to receive these antibiotics in your home which may be administered over variable times.
- Your antibiotic may be delivered via an elastomeric infuser device. Please refer to this information pamphlet provided.
- Dosage of the antibiotics is based on the type and site of infection, your weight and kidney function, and response to treatment
- Depending on which antibiotic given you may be scheduled in the afternoon to allow for the blood samples to be taken in the morning.
- The results of your blood sample may require a change in the dose of your antibiotic, your Doctor or nurse will discuss this with you.
- In some instance oral medications are administered to increase the effectiveness of intravenous antibiotics e.g. Cephazolin

Common Reactions:

- Redness
- Soreness and Warmth
- Pain and Swelling
- Nausea and Vomiting
- Diarrhoea

Uncommon Reactions:

- Rash and Itching
- Hives

Signs of An Allergic Reaction:

- Shortness of Breath
- Wheezing or Difficulty Breathing
- Facial, Lip and Tongue Swelling

If you experience any these reactions, please advise your nurse or in the event of an emergency call 000

More information please refer to your antibiotic Information leaflet. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact one of the HITH Pharmacists

PH: 30491414 (06:30 am to 09:30 pm)
A/H: 1800 108 668 (09:30 pm to 06:30 am)