“What Matters” to an Outpatient Antimicrobial Therapy patient: redefining health care

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1) Introduction
• Administration of antibiotics in the patient’s own home is a useful treatment modality that allows patients to receive treatment within the comfort of their home. There has been limited examination of the psychological factors that concern patients undergoing treatment via either Hospital-In-The-Hospital (HITH) or OPAT programs. Thus, preventing any evidence-based attempt into optimizing treatment in the community based settings.

2) Aims
• describe the psychological concerns of patients in this setting prior entering the HITH or OPAT program.

3) Methodology
• descriptive qualitative prospective study where we conducted semi-structured interviews with OPAT patients (n=11) during a 4-month period, transcribed the interviews, extracted codes, and performed a thematic analysis of the transcribed material.

4) Study Population
• Greater than 18 years of age
• Admitted to OPAT/HITH
• Undergoing Antibiotic Treatment for at least 1 week

5) Study Limitations
• Small patient population
• Lack of input from paediatric populations
• Exclusion of repeating OPAT/HITH patients
• Potential cultural bias due to exclusion of non-English speakers.

6) Results
• Two main themes “mattered” on discharge to the home setting on the OPAT/HITH programs

1) Social Implications of Physical Deterioration
2) Physical Health

• The most common concerns reported by patients were:
  ➢ Loss of Independence
  ➢ Loss/Lack of Social support network
  ➢ Fear of being a burden
  ➢ General uncertainty/confusion
  ➢ Lack of understanding of the OPAT/HITH program
  ➢ Anxiety regarding Self-Administration

7) Conclusion
• moving forward the service will focus on the social supports prior to discharge as well as aids in the home ie help with showering etc with ongoing assessment across the stay and continuing to be available for questions re the service and asking if there are any more questions about the service on daily nursing visits. Finally continuing the flexibility of patient movement and support across the OPAT and HITH programs as there need change.

Figure 1: Codes and Themes

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Themes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loss of Independence</td>
<td>Social Implications of Physical health</td>
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