Community Nursing: IV Therapy Service

Quick reference Guide - Criteria/Referral/Operational Information
These excerpts are taken form the Intravenous Therapy Policy.

Operational Information
- IV Therapy Service operates a hospital ‘early discharge ‘service on a BD basis, however higher frequency will be assessed on individual bases depending on team capacity
- IV administrations MUST either be bolus or an infusion or no longer than a 30 minutes
- Referrals are via SPOA

Referral forms are to be completed and emailed or faxed to Single Point of Access (SPOA) carecampusreferrals@nwbh.nhs.uk or fax 0151 477 4802
A follow up telephone call is required to ensure delivery of referral
North 0151 244 4013
Central 0151 244 4560
South 0151 676 5427

Public Holiday
- Operational referral times: referrals will be taken up until the 22 December (for discharge on the 23 December) and will recommence on the 27 December

The last referral will be taken on the Wednesday (for Thursday discharge) before Good Friday and will recommence the Tuesday after Easter Monday

- For patients where the prescription originates from secondary care via a hospital physician, the drug, diluents and flushes must be prescribed by the hospital physician who is responsible for their care and dispensed by the discharging hospital. Top ups Medication (not flushes) can be dispensed via review clinics or ward doctors. Early discharged patient for IV Therapy remains the clinical responsibility of the hospital physician

Commonly accepted conditions
- Patients who will be receiving intravenous antimicrobial therapy will be medically fit and possible/potential complications excluded
- Commonly accepted conditions for intravenous antibiotics are eg: soft tissue infections – cellulitis, wound infections
- Urinary infections
- Respiratory infections /conditions – bronchiectasis
- Bone infection – osteomyelitis
- IV flushes - chemotherapy regimes
- Cardiac related infections
- Post-op

VAD
Intravenous therapies can only be given via a venous access device (VAD) which is appropriate for the drug, duration of treatment, and setting of drug delivery. VADs may include:
- Midline – (hospital inserted) open or closed – **this must be stated on the referral form**
- Peripheral inserted cannula (PICC - hospital inserted) open or closed – **this must be stated on the referral form**
- Tunneled central lines
- Portal implants (port-a caths)

Queries can be made to the IV Therapy Lead: beverleytunstall@nwbh.nhs.uk or 0151 676 5441 or Medicines Management Carol.Humphries@nwbh.nhs.uk