

IMPLEMENTATION OF OPAT IN HOST PLEXUS: MULTIMODAL STRATEGY

Plexus network East Flemish Brabant

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OUTPATIENT PARENTERAL ANTIMICROBIAL THERAPY

Home hospitalisation agreement (July 2023):

- Intravenous administration of antimicrobial therapy: antibiotics, antivirals and antifungals
- Administration in home environment
- For at least 5 days
- At least 2 administrations in hospital

1. BUILD IT

- Creation of **common OPAT care pathway**
- Based on **home hospitalisation agreement**
- **Standardized at network level** with collaboration between hospitals
- **Multidisciplinary collaboration with OPAT team**
- Focus on **digitalisation**

2. TEACH IT

AT HOSPITAL LEVEL

- **Training of caregivers** in OPAT team
 - **Implementation** of generic protocol
 - **Education** on hospitalisation ward
 - **Information leaflets**

AT PRIMARY CARE LEVEL

- **OPAT e-learning** (primary care)
 - Implementation in **residential care centres**
- **Practical training** of home care services

Pilot project in UZ Leuven (2017)

- Shorter hospital stays
- Prevention of hospital-associated conditions
- Patient satisfaction

However: lack of guidelines, standards and funding

Home hospitalisation agreement (July 2023)

After 6 years in UZ Leuven:

- >500 OPAT discharges
- Clinical cure in 93% of patients
- Safe and effective

However: limited experience in regional hospitals

Objective of Plexus: uniformisation of OPAT protocol

- Home hospitalisation agreement
- National standards

Figure 1: evolution of OPAT implementation in Plexus network

4. SELL IT

- **Newsletters** by common antibiotic policy committee
- **Repeated education and training** of home care services
- **E-learning** for primary care
 - By different HOST networks
 - By Department Zorg

3. CHECK IT

- **Uniformisation on network-level**
- **Check-list for home care service** (monitoring)
- **Checklist for OPAT coordination** (follow-up)
- Follow-up of **OPAT pathway on network-level**
- **Regular feedback**
 - At joint antibiotic policy group meeting
 - At VZA workgroup 'antimicrobials' meetings

5. LIVE IT

- **High demand of OPAT**
 - Growing experience
 - Funding since 2023
 - Several advantages
- **HOST team responsible for implementation of generic OPAT pathway**
 - In collaboration with local OPAT teams
- **Transversal collaboration** between HOST networks

Figure 2: WHO multimodal improvement strategy

