

Primary Options Programme Northland



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Newsletter: December 2011

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to all participants in the Primary Options Programme Northland!

HOLIDAY HOURS: We will be closing from the 23rd December through to the 4th January 2012 for all calls however you are still able to send referrals through electronically. Any external (e.g. scans, rest home placements) will not be able to be handled over this time as the office is closed however we will be back to business as usual on the 4th January..

UPDATED ALGORITHMS:

Please note that there have been changes to the Community acquired pneumonia pathway and to the Asthma pathway. These will be on the website in the early New Year. There has also been an additional pathway – the FOSFOMYCIN pathway(see below). We have updated the website to make it easier to use – we welcome your feedback regarding the ease of use of this site.



FOSFOMYCIN

Fosfomycin is a section 29 antibiotic now available through POPN to treat longstanding UTIs that are resistant to commonly prescribed oral antibiotics.

GPs who would like to prescribe this for their patients must call the microbiologist at Whangarei Base Hospital (David Hammer) to authorise this. The script is then faxed to Kensington pharmacy who will then courier to the practice for the patient to collect. Please see the POPN Website for more information @www.manaiaapho.co.nz

IV ZOLEDRONATE

- To qualify for POPN funding for IV Zoledronate infusions the patient **MUST BE INTOLERANT TO ORAL FOSAMAX AND THIS MUST BE DOCUMENTED IN THE CLINICAL NOTES**. If this is not documented in the clinical notes the claim will be declined. Administration of the IV medication must also be documented (this can easily be done by clicking on “add consult notes”)
- Patients may also be able to qualify for funding for IV Zoledronate infusions through “care plus” if they do not fit the POPN criteria. Jayne Hill (Manaia PHO) is the contact person for this.
- Please call POPN to arrange any infusions that are not carried out in the practice. POPN are able to organize administration of IV Zoledronate (and other IV infusions) at Kensington Hospital if practices are unable to administer it.
- Please refer to guidelines in the POPN manual at www.manaiapho.co.nz/primaryoptions

DVT SCORING TOOL

A new scoring tool (Primary care Decision Rule) has been approved by the DVT clinical advisory group for POPN. This replaces the Wells score.

PLEASE NOTE:

Manaia PHO (and Kaitaia) practices **DO NOT NEED TO GO THROUGH POPN TO ORGANIZE A SCAN** for a suspected DVT – they can refer directly to NDHB radiology by calling the radiology dept at the hospital ext 7591. Radiology will request a d- dimer result and a completed Primary Care Decision Rule. Other areas will need to call POPN to organize a scan.

ABOUT PRIMARY OPTIONS PROGRAMME NORTHLAND (POPN)

Primary Options funding offers general practice an alternative to referring their patients acutely to hospital. A range of services are available to support patients to be cared for in the community.

If you would like to book in a time for Carolyn and/or Jenny to visit for education, training or just advice please contact us:

Carolyn Jones: carolynj@manaiaapho.co.nz 021847567

or

Jenny Barrett: jennyb@manaiaapho.co.nz. 094381015

Access the manual, guidelines and forms online at:

http://www.manaiaapho.co.nz/primary_options

Have a safe and happy holiday season from the Primary Options team!



