

Primary Options Programme Northland

Ph: 0800 PRIMARYOPS (0800 774 627)/ Fax: 09 438 3210 / PO Box 1878, Whangarei

Primary Options Coordination: New Coordinator

Lisa Russ has been appointed as the new Primary Options Programme Coordinator. Lisa has coordinated the service since Carolyn's leaving in February, and with her permanent appointment looks forward to working towards advancing the programme into the future. Jayne Hill will continue to provide clinical support for a further period.

Hyperemesis Pathway

We have recently released the hyperemesis pathway in which pregnant women with hyperemesis gravidarum may be rehydrated in the community following a discussion with an obstetrician. Referrals will be accepted from GPs or midwives and the IV rehydration therapy may be given in the women's own GP practice or at Kensington Hospital if her own GP is unable to offer IV therapy. If you have any questions about this pathway please contact us.

Pyelonephritis Pathway

Another pathway we have recently rolled out is the Pyelonephritis pathway. This pathway has two streams - One for GPs who are able to treat patients with IV antibiotics in the practice through Primary Options (pyelonephritis patient must be followed up with a clinical exam the following day), and another stream through ED in which an initial dose of IV antibiotics is given in ED and the patient is then discharged home with a referral to their GP for next day follow up clinical exam on weekdays or, on a weekend or public holiday, in Whangarei to White Cross or in Northland to the after-hours GP service. Practices that routinely administer IVs through Primary Options be able to order an initial supply of IV Gentamicin on PSO. If your practice anticipates using the pyelonephritis pathway and you aren't sure about how to get an initial supply of Gentamicin please contact us.

Cellulitis patients

Please document whether the patient has been trialed on oral antibiotics (and if not please document what the indications for not trialing on orals are). It is expected that all moderate cases of cellulitis are trialed for a minimum of 48 hours on oral antibiotics.

Ceftriaxone – Not funded through Primary Options.

Please read the policy regarding the use of ceftriaxone. This is not funded through Primary Options Programme Northland unless the case has been discussed with and its use endorsed by the microbiologist at the NDHB. The discussion with and endorsement by the microbiologist must be noted in the clinical notes.

August 2013

In this Newsletter

- *New Primary Options Coordinator*
- *Hyperemesis pathway*
- *Pyelonephritis pathway*
- *Outcome reminders*
- *Pathway suggestions*



Outcome reminders

Please submit an outcome as soon as an episode of care has been completed. The outcome also includes an invoice so there is no need to invoice separately. The outcome gives us information around whether the referral was managed in primary care and of the eventual diagnosis. If a suspected DVT is eventually diagnosed as something else then please indicate this on the outcome so that we are getting the correct data.

Reminder emails are sent to practices in which there are open referrals requiring outcomes. These outcomes are required in order for monthly invoicing to be completed.

Pathway suggestions

We love getting your feedback – it's important that we know how things are going, what's working well and what may not be working so well. We'd also like to hear of any ideas for new pathways you may have. If there's a procedure or acute condition that you are referring on that you think could be managed safely in a primary setting and that would reduce presentations to ED or admittances to hospital give us a call –we may be able to look at developing a pathway for future referrals or perhaps accept it under Primary Options current criteria.

Practices in Whangarei that don't currently offer IV therapy

These practices are still able to access Primary Options for their patients as we can arrange to have IV antibiotics, IV rehydration or Zoledronate infusions administered at Kensington Hospital during normal working hours and over weekends. Patient feedback to us tells us they are most appreciative of the efficient treatment they receive – little or no waiting and a gentle caring environment. Please phone us to arrange private services.

GP survey

Thank you to everyone who responded to our online survey. We got some great feedback and look forward to working through your suggestions. The winner of the \$100 voucher was Dr Alistair Whitton of Rust Ave Medical Centre.

Congratulations Dr Whitton! Alistair and Nadine will put the voucher to good use with some serious plant shopping.

Our website has been updated and we ask that you please **THROW OUT ALL OLD POPN MANUALS** and only refer to the website **www.manaiapho.co.nz/Primary_Options** as this will have all of the up to date information regarding Primary Options.

Please contact us if you have any queries regarding Primary Options

Lisa Russ 0800 PRIMARYOPS (0800 774 627)

Email: primaryops@manaiaapho.co.nz