

GUIDANCE FOR USING THE HOME PARENTERAL NUTRITION TOOLKIT

Please read the following
notes in conjunction with the
Home Parenteral Nutrition
(HPN) toolkit

*Setting up Home Parenteral Support, Catheter Care
Management & Discharge Planning on Parenteral
Support for patients with Intestinal Failure*

Authored by:
Mia Small, Nurse Consultant, St Marks Intestinal
Rehabilitation Unit & Cathy Cawley, Lead Nurse,
Intestinal Failure Unit, Salford Care Organisation

Who should use the toolkit and why?

The purpose of the HPN toolkit is for hospitals and HPN centres only, who manage patients with Intestinal Failure (IF). The toolkit has been designed to be used as part of the discharge process when commencing patients on HPN. There has been a huge rise year on year in demand of HPN nursing and unfortunately the demand of nursing is outweighing supply. The intention of the HPN toolkit is to support hospital teams and HPN centres in training patients and carers in managing a central venous catheter for Parenteral Support infusions. The toolkit reflects and endorses best practice guidance and locally approved unit guidelines within the speciality of IF.

Is the patient suitable for homecare and HPN?

Appendix C is a patient needs assessment form. This document assesses if the patient is suitable for homecare and HPN. It should be used in conjunction with the hospitals own local discharge planning documents and the form will determine if a patient is suitable for training or if there is an identifiable carer to manage the HPN. The document will also identify if the training or carer will be for partial or full HPN training. In addition to that, the form can also be used once the patient is at home periodically should any changes in the patient's circumstances occur.

Core training guide for patients

The core training guide refers to the key skills required. This is to promote and maintain patient safety for patients on HPN. Becoming proficient in the core skills required for HPN before going home will provide confidence and reduce the time it takes for a patient/carer to become independent with managing the catheter. Within the toolkit there is a theory and practical element for each of the core training procedures. This includes aseptic handwashing, correct glove application, disinfection of the trolley/surface area and the needle free device (NFD). The theory should be discussed in detail with the patient/carer as this will help embed the knowledge and skills required. The questions then should be used as a teach back method to ensure that the knowledge is embedded. The training elements should be demonstrated in practice by the training nurse and then repeated by the patient or carer. This should be repetitive until the skills are achieved, this will then complete the practical assessment for the core competencies.

Disinfection of the Needle Free Device (NFD)

As the disinfection of the NFD core skills before discharge is mid procedure of the catheter care protocol this competency is more about explaining the importance of the disinfection and how to scrub the NFD appropriately. This can still be achieved without progressing to connecting and disconnecting by using the end of a smart site needle free valve if there is no chest or arm mannequin available to use. Equally when the nurse is connecting or disconnecting the patient's catheter this can be demonstrated to the patient or carer at the time, if appropriate.

Appendix D – Home Parenteral Nutrition Competencies

Appendix D is the documentation aimed at the larger hospitals /HPN centres where a patient or carer has been identified for full HPN training before discharge. The patient or carer, if the patient is well enough, should start training at the earliest opportunity during the inpatient stay. Training for HPN should not delay discharge. The appendix D evidence's the full competencies required from patients and carers when managing patients with IF/training for HPN.

Appendix D Supplement 1

Appendix D Supplement 1 provides hospital nursing staff with the documentation to evidence the core competencies for patients or carers. This appendix should be used if the hospital and HPN centre does not have the capacity to provide full training to the patient or carer before discharge. The patient or carer should be discharged with the core competencies where possible and will then complete full HPN training once home by the homecare nurses.

Appendix P - Home Parenteral Nutrition Nurse Competencies

Appendix P should be completed if a nurse is managing a patient with IF/HPN as these are basic competencies expected from a nurse managing a patient with IF. If a patient is trained with the core skills or fully trained on HPN the training nurse should have the competencies as outlined in appendix P.

How to access the documents from the National HPN framework

The appendices can be accessed via the National Framework Agreement for the Supply of Home Parenteral Nutrition. To download the NHS HPN Framework forms you will need access to the [Homecare National Frameworks - FutureNHS Collaboration Platform](#). If you haven't got access contact your pharmacy and procurement department and they will be able to help you.

Training Diary

The training diary is a quick clear way of evidencing the competencies achieved during training however some hospitals and HPN centres may have their own training guides that they prefer to use.