

"AT can be successfully administered in OPAT programs in selected patients, that are clinically stable and monitored by an infectious disease physician" Gil-Navarro et al (2020).



Abstract:

INTRODUCTION: Outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy (OPAT) has been recognised as a useful, cost-effective and safe alternative to inpatient treatment. Nevertheless, the most common antimicrobials used are antibiotics, and there is less information about the use of antifungal therapy (AT). The aim of this study is to analyse a cohort of patients treated with AT administered via OPAT and to compare them with patients from the rest of the cohort (RC) treated with antibiotics. **METHODS:** Prospective observational study with post hoc (or retrospective) analysis of a cohort of patients treated in the OPAT program. We selected the patients treated with antifungals between July 2012 and December 2018. We recorded demographic and clinical data to analyse the validity of the treatment and to compare the differences between the AT and the RC. **RESULTS:** Of the 1101 patients included in the OPAT program, 24 (2.18%) were treated with AT, 12 Liposomal Amphotericin B, 6 echinocandins and 6 fluconazole. This result is similar to other cohorts. There were differences between the AT vs RC in the number of patients with neoplasia (58.3% vs 28%; $p=0.001$), IC Charlson >2 (58.3% vs 38.8; $p=0.053$), duration of treatment (15 days vs 10.39 days; $p=0.001$) and patients with central catheters (54.2% vs 21.7%; $p=0.0001$). These differences are justified because there were more hematologic patients included in the AT group. Nevertheless, there were no differences in adverse reactions (25% vs 32.3%; $p=0.45$) or re-admissions (12.5% vs 10%; $p=0.686$) and OPAT with AT was successful in 21/24 patients (87.5%). **CONCLUSIONS:**



AT can be successfully administered in OPAT programs in selected patients, that are clinically stable and monitored by an infectious disease physician.

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Reference:

Gil-Navarro, M.V., Luque-Marquez, R., Báez-Gutiérrez, N., Álvarez-Marín, R., Navarro-Amuedo, M.ªD., Praena-Segovia, J., Carmona-Caballero, J.M., Fraile-Ramos, E. and López-Cortés, L.E. (2020) Antifungal treatment administered in OPAT programs is a safe and effective option in selected patients. *Enfermedades Infecciosas y Microbiología Clínica*. March 3rd. doi: 10.1016/j.eimc.2020.01.019. . .

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