

**This study reviews the current OPAT service provision in the UK and evaluates concordance with the national OPAT practice guidelines (standards of care)”  
Durojaiye et al (2018).**

Abstract:

This study reviews the current OPAT service provision in the UK and evaluates concordance with the national OPAT practice guidelines (standards of care). We conducted a survey of acute hospital trusts and health boards in the UK regarding OPAT practices between June and September 2017. 165 (93%) of the 178 acute hospital trusts/health boards that were contacted responded to the survey. 100 (61%) indicated they had an OPAT service. Ten (10%) OPAT services did not involve an infection specialist. Bone and joint infections, and skin and soft-tissue infections were the most common conditions treated. Most OPAT services (74%) hold weekly multidisciplinary meetings/virtual ward rounds to review patient’s progress. 73% had a dedicated OPAT database. We identified variations in practice and concordance with the national OPAT good practice guidelines. In an era of increasing demand for home-based care, further studies are required to identify the optimal configuration of OPAT services with regards to quality and patient safety.

Reference:

Durojaiye, O.C., Cartwright, K. and Ntziora, F. (2018) Outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy (OPAT) in the UK: a cross-sectional survey of acute hospital trusts and health boards. *Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease*. July 24th. .

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