Comparison of Outpatient Antimicrobial Therapy (OPAT) in a Physician Office Infusion Center (POIC) vs. Traditional Home Health Care (HHC)

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Background: OPAT (also referred to as mobile IV therapy or point-of-care infusion therapy) for patients with chemotherapy (usually for cancer) and other indications has been reported to improve patient satisfaction, reduce complications, decrease hospital admission rates, and decrease costs.

Objectives: To compare OPAT administered in a POIC setting to traditional HHC for outpatient antibiotic therapy

Methods: This is a cohort study of 172 patients treated in a POIC and 23 patients in HHC. This study reviewed the patient visits and related outcome measures for each patient from February 2013 to December 2014. The 2 populations were compared for demographics, location of care, primary diagnosis, antimicrobial usage, length of treatment, ED visits during OPAT, hospital admission within 30 days, and patient characteristics.

Results: The 3 most frequent diagnosis in the POIC group were compared to 31 pts in the HHC group. The subgroup of patients with primary diagnosis of POIC: respiratory and/or abdominal infection (P) and HHC group: respiratory and/or abdominal infection (P) and total abdominal infection (I) were equal.

Conclusions: This study provides evidence that OPAT can be delivered through different modalities depending on availability and need of the patient. The POIC setting may allow for more consistent monitoring and follow-up visits. This study showed significantly lower hosp admission rates compared to HHC. Data on clinical outcomes and costs were not included due to limited availability from HHC pts and would be warranted to continue to confirm overall improved outcomes.

References: