

PEER REVIEW HISTORY

BMJ Open publishes all reviews undertaken for accepted manuscripts. Reviewers are asked to complete a checklist review form (<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/site/about/resources/checklist.pdf>) and are provided with free text boxes to elaborate on their assessment. These free text comments are reproduced below.

ARTICLE DETAILS

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	Home self-administration of intravenous antibiotics as part of an outpatient parenteral antibiotic therapy service: A qualitative study of the perspectives of patients who do not self-administer
AUTHORS	Tonna, Antonella; Anthony, Geraldine; Tonna, Ivan; Paudyal, Vibhu; Forbes-McKay, Katrina; Laing, Rob; Mckenzie, Alexander; Falconer, Sharon; McCartney, Gillian; Stewart, Derek

VERSION 1 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Sara Garfield Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, UK
REVIEW RETURNED	05-Nov-2018

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>This is a very interesting and well written paper. A few minor suggestions:</p> <p>Abstract: It would be good to make clear in the abstract that you are referring to parental antibiotics. The conclusion of the abstract could be more specific in terms of giving an example of an intervention or types if intervention.</p> <p>Methods: Please add in information about how disagreements in analysis between reviewers were resolved.</p> <p>Results: It would be good to present minority views. For example, for knowledge, the paper states 'most' patients appeared to have a lack of knowledge. Does this mean there was a minority that did have knowledge?</p> <p>Figure 1 : This is not labelled as figure one and is therefore difficult to locate.</p>
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REVIEWER	Serge de Valliere University Hospital of Lausanne, Switzerland
REVIEW RETURNED	14-Nov-2018

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>This study investigates the facilitators and barriers to antibiotic self-administration in an OPAT unit, where the rate of self-administration decreased significantly over the years. The findings are interesting and suggest that decisions are almost solely taken by the health care professionals who only rarely propose self-administration.</p> <p>From the text it is not quite clear what information the patients received before discharge from hospital. Who decides about the mode of outpatient treatment: the OPAT staff or the hospital-based staff? Are patients seen by OPAT staff before discharge? What are the OPAT staff supposed to say to the patients? More informations in general about the process of discharge from hospital would be useful to better understand the barriers to self-administration.</p>
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VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

Reviewer 1

Comments	Authors' responses
Conclusion in abstract	This has been modified to take on reviewer's comments
Clarify that referring to parenteral antibiotics in abstract	This has been done
Disagreements in analysis	Involvement of 3 rd member of team – this has been clarified
Minority views	All patients indicated they had no perceived knowledge of ability to self-administer – this has been changed from “most” to “all.” Following review, in all other emerging themes, minority views have been presented and therefore no further changes have been made.
Figure 1	This has been labelled.

Reviewer 2

Comments	Authors' responses
Further detail on discharge process	These have been provided with additional details provided in Figure 1

VERSION 2 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Serge de Valliere Service of Infectious Diseases, University Hospital of Lausanne, Switzerland
REVIEW RETURNED	29-Nov-2018

GENERAL COMMENTS	No new comment
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