





## Medicines supply to Virtual ward/Hospital at Home

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## What is a Virtual ward or Hospital at Home?

### Hospital at Home

“Hospital at Home/ Hospital in the Home (HaH/ HiTH) is an acute clinical service that takes staff, equipment, technologies, medication and skills usually provided in hospitals and delivers that hospital care to selected people in their homes or in nursing homes. It substitutes for acute inpatient hospital care.”

### Virtual ward

“A virtual ward is a safe and efficient alternative to NHS bedded care that is enabled by technology. Virtual wards support patients who would otherwise be in hospital to receive the acute care, monitoring and treatment they need in their own home.”

Consensus definition presented by Prof Michael Montalto at World Hospital at Home Congress 2023

NHS Enablers for success: Virtual wards including hospital at home 2022

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## What is managed in hospital at home?




Covid virtual wards established in 2020

NHS England expansion of virtual ward project in 2021 covering a variety of clinical conditions including respiratory and frailty

Hospital at home has existed for many years in other countries including NI and Scotland



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## What happens in Hospital at Home?

- Members of the MDT assess patients in their usual place of residence
- Technology may be used in the diagnostics or monitoring of the patient
- Treatment is delivered by the team, patient or carers
- Patients are discharged after a defined period of treatment, usually a maximum of 2 weeks

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## How are medicines accessed in hospital at home?

- Dispensed for individual patients from community or hospital pharmacy
- ‘Grab bags’ acting as ward stock
- Paper or electronic prescriptions
- Discharge prescriptions



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## Types of medications delivered

- Intravenous or subcutaneous fluids
- Antibiotics
- Diuretics




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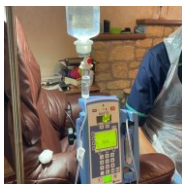
## What are the medicine challenges?

### Oral medications

- Compliance aids
- Self administration

### Injectable medications

- Reconstitution
- Multiple daily dosing
- Access to infusion pumps
- Stability data
- Adverse reactions



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## What are the medicine challenges?

- Communication and transfer of care
- Medicines reconciliation
- Controlled drugs
- Cold chain



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## Current solutions ...

- Elastomeric pumps
- Smart infusion pumps
- Electronic FP10s



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## Opportunities...

- Availability of stability data for extended infusions
- Improved data on reactions
- Pre-made or pre-filled injectable products
- Technology to support patient self administration of medicines
- Training resources for patients
- Technology to support communication with patients and hospital at home teams

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# Thank you

Any questions...?

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