

Your GP has referred you to APAC

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

You may require an intravenous cannula into your arm to administer intravenous antibiotics.

- This will be inserted by either your doctor, practice nurse or a nurse from APAC
- The cannula will remain in your arm, secured comfortably with a simple dressing for the duration of your treatment.

Your GP will

- Give you an APAC referral which includes a medication order.
- Give you a Script.
- Arrange a review appointment for 3-4 days time.

You need to

- Take the script to your local community pharmacy to get your antibiotics as soon as possible. If the antibiotics are not immediately available, APAC will supply in the interim.

APAC Will

- Phone you shortly after your doctor refers you to us, to complete your admission.
- Each morning an APAC staff member will contact you with a time period for your treatment.
- Attend your treatment in your usual place of residence or you can attend our clinic at either Gosford or Wyong hospitals

Caring for your Intravenous Cannula

- The plastic tube inserted into your vein is called an INTRAVENOUS CANNULA
- The intravenous cannula is required to deliver the medication ordered by your GP
- Please keep the bandage that is covering your intravenous cannula in place
- It will help protect & keep the surrounding skin clean & free from infection
- You may wrap plastic cling wrap around your arm, covering your cannula to shower. Please remove cling wrap as soon as shower complete and gently pat dry over plastic dressing.
- The Registered Nurse giving you your medication will check the cannula every day to ensure that it is working well & that there are no signs of infection.
- The Registered Nurse will organize to have the intravenous cannula replaced as required

Ring APAC with any questions on 4320 3482

PLEASE INFORM APAC IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING OCCUR

(May indicate that you have developed an infection)

- Redness that spreads more than 5mm around the entry site of the intravenous cannula
- Any discharge from the cannula site
- Strong odour from the cannula site
- Increasing pain at or around the cannula site
- Swelling at the site or down the arm
- Feel you have a temperature
- Abnormal sweating or shivering
- Feeling of being more unwell

WHAT YOU DO IF YOUR INTRAVENOUS CANNULA FALLS OUT?

- DO NOT PANIC

Apply firm pressure with a clean cloth or dressing for 5 minutes or until the bleeding stops.

Apply bandaid over insertion site.

PHONE APAC TO INFORM US.

APAC: 4320 3482, 7am – 8.30pm, 7days

IF CONCERNED & AFTER HOURS

Phone Hospital Switch on 4320 2111 and ask for the emergency department to discuss with a nurse.