



The British Society for
Antimicrobial Chemotherapy



OPAT
Outpatient Parenteral
Antimicrobial Therapy

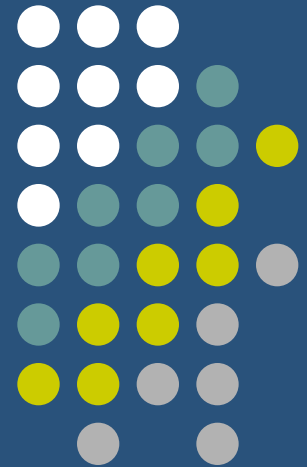
OPAT Community Led Service

Sue O'Hanlon



OPAT Community Led Service

Sue O' Hanlon
Lead Nurse
Bridgewater Community NHS Trust





Halton and St Helens

- Two similar boroughs
- Population of 300,000
- Heavily industrialised in the past
- High levels of cancer, cardiovascular disease
- High mortality rates
- High levels of obesity
- High levels of teenage pregnancy

Context

- July 2005
- October 2006
- October 2011



Team Members

- 3 IV Nurses
- 1 IV Support Worker
- Community Nurses



Advantages and Disadvantages Community Nurses



- Already providing a 24 hour service
- Geographically spread across the boroughs
- Referrals evenly spread
- Gave OOH nurses some work
- Lack of IV competence
- See IV patients as unimportant
- Require lots of education and training
- Capacity issues

Advantages and Disadvantages IV Therapy Team



- Highly skilled and competent
- See patients on time
- Less issues around troubleshooting
- Would be prepared to make clinical decisions regarding changing to oral
- Less medication errors and missed doses
- Ability to cannulate at all times
- Ability to accept referrals at all times
- Need lots of staff to cover all shifts
- No IV referrals –no work
- Lots of travelling involved
- Expensive commodity

Challenges

- Referral criteria
- Referral process
- Medication issues
- Equipment/consumables





Education and Training

- IV Therapy introduction day
- IV Therapy update day
- Venepuncture training
- Peripheral Intravenous cannulation

Dosing Schedules



Daily

BD

More Frequent



Vascular Access Devices

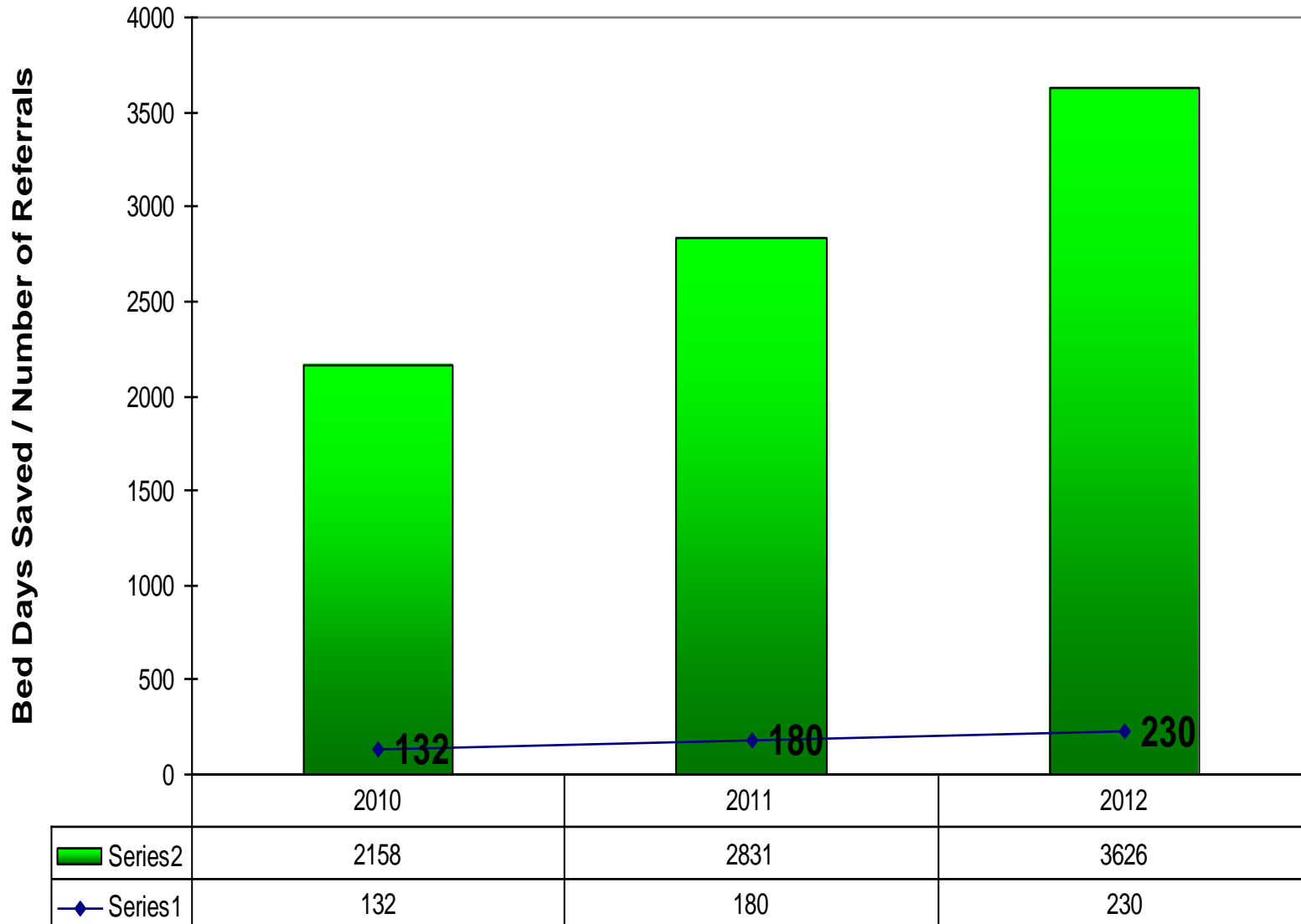
- Every type of device used
- Community placement of Midlines in the home by landmark or ultrasound
- Community placement of PICC lines in a clinic or community hospital by ultrasound



Diagnoses

- Skin and soft tissue infections
- Bronchiectasis
- Joint and bone infections
- Multi drug resistant UTI's
- Abscesses
- Dehydration
- CKD
- Immunological conditions
- Porphyria
- Osteoporosis

Halton & St Helens Community IV Therapy





Future Developments

- Develop BSAC database for community use
- Develop virtual ward rounds
- Look at continuous infusions
- Develop iron infusion clinic
- Trying to standardise practice locally
- Develop an IV Therapy team

Poison Chalice or Holy Grail? You decide

Thank You For Listening
Any Questions?

