

Please provide a response to the questions below in accordance with further detail outlined in the Freedom of Information Request letter titled 'Antibiotic Administration Set Line Flushing'				
Hywel Dda University Health Board		FOI.11858 - Attachment 1		
Question Number	Question	Please answer using the drop down boxes where provided or using free text where no drop box is provided.	Additional Comments	Guidance notes for answering question
1a	With regards to administration sets (pump and gravity) used to infuse IV antibiotics, does your institution have a policy to flush the administration set to give the full dose of antibiotics in accordance with guidelines?	yes	The UHB has 2 policies relating to flushes: Policy 268 - Medicines Management (2021) Policy 752 - Injectable Medicines and Infusion Therapy. Copies have been provided.	Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
1b	If yes to question 1a, is your organisation fully compliant with your policy to flush the administration set to give the full dose of antibiotics in accordance with guidelines?	yes	The UHB confirms that flushes are not currently prescribed. However, they are undertaken in all clinical areas.	Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
1c	If yes to question 1a, do you follow method 1 or 2 as outlined by the National Infusion and Vascular Access Society (NIVAS) guidance on line flushing 2021?	method 1		<a href="https://nivas.org.uk/contentimages/main/NIVAS-Infusion-flushing-guidelines-2021-Version-3-2-FINAL.pdf">https://nivas.org.uk/contentimages/main/NIVAS-Infusion-flushing-guidelines-2021-Version-3-2-FINAL.pdf</a>
2a	With regards to administration sets (pump and gravity) used to infuse IV antibiotics, if you do have a policy in place to flush the administration set, have you audited compliance with this policy?	no	The UHB confirms that all areas flush the IV giving set using method A.	Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
2b	Can you share the audit results (if yes, please can you provide a copy)?			Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
3a	What education have you put in place to ensure healthcare professionals in your organisation understand the guidance on flushing administration sets that are used for IV antibiotic infusions?	The UHB confirms that flushing administration is discussed during the preparation and administration section of the IV drug administration training day identifying the potential wastage.	The UHB confirms that IVI sessions are part of Preceptorship and all new staff undertake IVI education as soon as possible upon commencement; staff cannot administer IVIs until competencies are completed.	Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
3b	What education have you put in place to ensure healthcare professionals in your organisation understand the patient risks involved with failing to flush the residual volume of IV antibiotics in the administration sets?	The UHB confirms that risks are discussed during the preparation and administration section of the IV drug administration training day; identifying the potential delay or failure to reach the therapeutic level leading to prolonged infection and using the drug 'off licence'.	The UHB confirms that 14 respondents across the UHB identified the patient risk of not flushing.	Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
3c	What education have you put in place to ensure healthcare professionals in your organisation understand the possible effects of not flushing the IV administration set containing IV antibiotics on antimicrobial resistance?	The UHB confirms that the effects are discussed during the preparation and administration section of the IV drug administration training day; identifying the potential delay or failure to reach the therapeutic level leading to the possible development of bacterial resistance.	The UHB confirms that 4 out of the 14 respondents across the UHB identified the effects of not flushing on antimicrobial.	Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
4	With regards to administration sets (pump and gravity) used to infuse IV antibiotics, which of the following (if any) are included in your policy with regards to disposing of the administration set and residual volume of either the prescribed antibiotic or flushing solution?			
4a	Complete administration set (including drip chamber with sharp) is disposed of into the yellow bag.	yes		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
4b	Complete administration set (including drip chamber with sharp) is disposed of into the orange bag.	no		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
4c	Complete administration set (including drip chamber with sharp) is disposed of into the sharps bin.	no		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
4d	Drip chamber/sharp are detached from the administration set line and the drip chamber/sharp disposed of in the sharps bin and the rest of the administration set line disposed of in the yellow bag.	no		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
4e	Drip chamber/sharp is detached from the administration set line and the drip chamber/sharp disposed of in the sharps bin and the rest of the administration set line disposed of in the orange bag	no		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology
4f	Other (please state)	Free text		Please exclude the following areas from your response; paediatrics, oncology and haematology