



St Mark's Intestinal Failure Patient Newsletter

If you would like anything to be included in the newsletter then please email the nutrition nurses on LNWH-tr.St-Marks-Nutrition-Nurses@nhs.net



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New national home parenteral nutrition framework



The national HPN framework was commissioned by the Department of Health to improve standards and access to home parenteral nutrition services in England. Since it was first launched in 2013 the number of patients on home parenteral nutrition has risen dramatically, and as such NHS Commissioners have stated cost savings need to be made.

The framework was developed by healthcare professionals, including staff from St Mark's, and home parenteral nutrition patients in conjunction with the Commercial Medicines Unit of the Department of Health.

The framework covers all aspects of home parenteral nutrition, including the making and delivery of the feed and ancillaries, and the provision of specialist nursing for those not able to administer the feed themselves. Companies wishing to provide home parenteral nutrition were required to meet a wide range of quality standards. All of the current home parenteral nutrition companies met the standards and so you will not need to change company.

The measures which have been introduced to try and make some cost savings surround what can and cannot be provided by the homecare company. Some hospitals were requesting ancillary items or nursing services for patients which were not directly connected to home parenteral nutrition. It is these items which will no longer be available, but it is unlikely that these will affect any of you. There is also a drive to standardise some of the equipment used, so you may see a change to the make of glove or dressing towels you currently use.

What to do if you go into hospital

If you need to be admitted to hospital you need to inform your homecare company. This is because your feed needs to be put on hold for the time you are in hospital. The feed is for use at home and if you are admitted to hospital then the hospital needs to make feed for you. The only exception to this is if you have feed which is in date at home that someone is able to bring into the hospital, or your scheduled feed has already been made, in which case the company can send it to the hospital.



Bionectors and MRI scans

The Bionector has a small metal spring within it. It is perfectly safe to have an MRI scan (or any other type of scan which uses magnets) as long as the Bionector is taped to your skin. For those of you who use SkinFix dressings this is a suitable way to secure the Bionector, but standard surgical tape is also acceptable.

