



## **What antibiotics are equally efficacious whether prescribed orally or intravenously?**

There are a number of very useful oral antibiotics that are available for a wide range of clinical conditions. Many of these are extremely expensive if given iv, when they are equally effective if given orally. For a very small percentage of patients with intractable vomiting or significant GI malabsorption such antibiotics need to be iv, but this would be only in exceptional circumstances.

For that reason, the antibiotics outlined below will not be available through the OPAT programme unless first discussed with your regional OPAT lead Physician.

On the Web-based OPAT site, there will be an automatic prompt that will prevent a prescription from being filled if any of the antibiotics below are included as an iv request. The prompt will explain the reason why the request is being denied, and will provide contact details of their regional lead to discuss further if necessary.

- Co-trimoxazole (Septrin)
- Clindamycin
- Clarithromycin
- Erythromycin
- Ciprofloxacin
- Levofloxacin
- Rifampicin
- Doxycycline
- Metronidazole
- Linezolid
- Fluconazole