



# The management of Diabetic Foot Infection on OPAT -A single centre experience



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## Reference

Sweeney E, Curtin N, de Barra E, Burns K, O'Neill E, Feeney E, Jackson A, Gavin P, Clarke S, O'Connell S, Muldoon E. National Guidelines on the Provision of Outpatient Parenteral Antimicrobial Therapy (OPAT). Ir Med J. 2020 Jul 30; 113(7):123. PMID: 35575598.

## Background

- Diabetic foot infections (DFI) are a frequent clinical problem in patients with diabetes mellitus. While some patients DFI can be treated with oral antimicrobials many patients have complex wounds with polymicrobial infections which require IV therapy. In our centre, patients under the care of the diabetes service who develop DFI are given rapid access to the ID clinic (within 7 days), reviewed by a senior podiatrist, a consultant in infectious diseases and an outpatient parenteral antimicrobial clinical nurse specialist. The aim of this study was to review patients treated with DFI via the OPAT service to identify areas for quality improvement

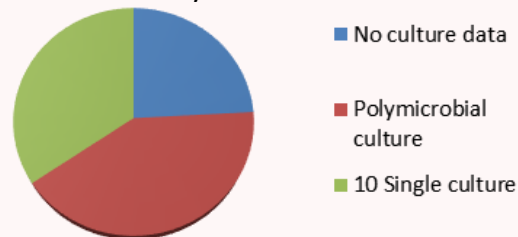


## Methods

- Patients treated via OPAT for DFI during 2022 were identified. Patient demographics, treatment plans, and clinical outcomes were recorded

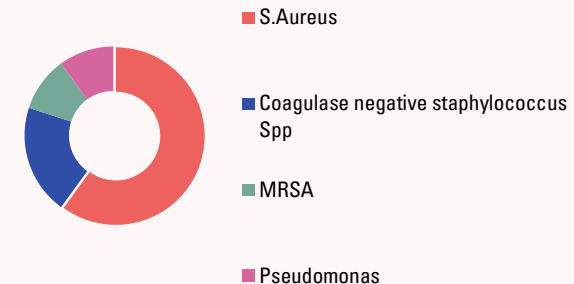
## Results

- There were 29 OPAT episodes for DFI in 2022, 24 patients were treated via OPAT; 8/24 (33%) were women, mean age 62 years (range 30-84 years), 20/24 (83%) were Irish. In four OPAT episodes the patient had no inpatient stay prior to initiation of OPAT, in a further 5 episodes the inpatient stay was less than a week (range 1-6 days, median 2 days). The remaining inpatient stays prior to OPAT ranged from 8-24 days, median 12 days



## Discussion

- The use of OPAT in complex DFI can reduce reliance on inpatient bed days. Development of formal pathways between endocrine and ID services, incorporating podiatry services can lead to prompt patient care in the outpatient setting
- The commonly used antimicrobial was ceftriaxone either alone or in conjunction with another agent (19/29 (65%) episodes).



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