



## **PACIFHAN celebrate World Home Artificial Nutrition (HAN) Day 15 October 2021**

**‘Time to talk about pumps’**

**‘Sometimes the hard thing and the right thing are the same’ ~ anon**

**The International Alliance of Patient Organisations for Chronic Intestinal Failure & Home Artificial Nutrition (PACIFHAN)** is marking World HAN Day 2021 by stating that it’s ‘Time to talk about pumps.’

Why are pumps such an important topic of conversation? People who are dependent on home artificial nutrition (HAN) may have illnesses and a treatment, but they also live in a home just like most people do, not in a hospital or clinical setting. Where pumps are provided there are situations where this is hospital style equipment transferred to be used in the home environment. Is this safe, suitable and appropriate for those with ‘life on HAN?’

In conversation with PACIFHAN members and people on HAN, or those caring for people on HAN we recognise the variation in the provision of equipment available for those on HAN.

There are well recognised ways to infuse vital nutrition and hydration, which may or may not include the use of a feeding pump. Where pumps are provided these may be hospital style equipment, usually not ideal for the home environment. Ambulatory enteral and parenteral feeding systems are available to some people, but this varies considerably. Why are they not generally available and who decides what equipment is available for people on HAN?

We advocate that an ambulatory feeding system can enhance both the quality of life for someone on HAN as well as allow the freedom to make choices about lifestyles. The introduction of infusion pumps for PN, more so ambulatory feeding systems is one of the major technological advances for the safe administration of the life-saving medical nutrition.

**What is HAN?** Home Artificial Nutrition is a recognised life-saving therapy that provides a lifeline for all those who need it. Where the ability to eat and drink normally is compromised; medical nutrition is provided to supply nutrients and hydration. It can be parenteral nutrition (PN) which is given directly into the bloodstream or enteral nutrition (EN) which is given directly into the intestine or oral nutritional supplements (ONS).

**Who receives HAN?** Adults and children with medical conditions or illnesses that prevent them from being able to eat, enough if anything, to absorb nutrients.

**Is it available to all those who need it around the world?** In some countries it is a well-established treatment, in others there is limited availability but sadly in some countries those in need of HAN do not have access to it.

**Homecare services.** We realise that in some countries there are established systems to deliver the fluids and ancillaries to the patients’ home, there are also examples where this is done in a different way. The provision of homecare is implemented in different ways.

**Please spread the word about HAN, life-saving medical nutrition!**

- If you are part of a homecare supply chain or service, be proud of your role and share this with others.
- If you are someone on HAN, have a child or a relative on HAN, share your/their story; educate people about this life-saving medical treatment available to support people in their own homes.
- If you are a healthcare professional who supports people and the families to adapt to life on HAN share the vital role you play and how you're making a difference to people on HAN.

**Share your views on social media [#WorldHANDay](#) - [#HEN](#) - [#HPN](#) - [#ONS](#)**

**PACIFHAN contact: [info@pacifhan.org](mailto:info@pacifhan.org)**

**Twitter: [@pacifhan](#)**

**End.**