



# BUG BITES

A monthly  
publication from  
the Infectious  
Disease  
department

MONTHLY INFECTIOUS DISEASE NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE -OPAT, PICC, LIGHTS, IC/IP

## OPAT

Outpatient Parenteral Antimicrobial Therapy (OPAT) is the acronym used for some patients who leave the hospital on IV antimicrobials. These patients have specific orders and instructions that facilitate safe care & follow up in the outpatient setting. Please refer to the OPAT Guidelines on the ID website for complete details.

<http://www.venturafamilymed.org/>

## PICC GUIDELINES

Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) lines can be convenient for administering IV medications. Please ensure it is necessary prior to ordering. Single lumen lines are preferred unless otherwise recommended. PICC lines should not be placed in any patient until bacteremia has been cleared for a minimum of 48 hours. Contact Bebe Betker, PICC line nurse, via tiger text **before** placing the order. Keep in mind PICC's are generally not placed after 1:30pm.

## TURN ON THE LIGHTS!

We often forget or choose not to turn on the overhead spotlight when examining patients in the hospital, mainly for the patient's comfort. Unfortunately, skin findings such as cellulitis, rashes, & infiltrated IV sites can often be missed in dim lit rooms. Please remember the importance of adequate light even if it disrupts your patients!

## Question of the Month

March 24<sup>th</sup> is world TB Day!

How many cases of active Tuberculosis (TB) were there in Ventura County in 2017?

**26**, this is a decline in the last few years

Remember to consider the diagnosis of TB in your patients, especially in those with HIV.

## Did you know?

Infectious Disease is a separate department from Infection Control/Infection Prevention (IC/IP). Although our departments work closely together, we handle different aspects of issues that surround infections. If you have questions about isolation, prevention, exposure, etc, you should refer to the CDC Isolation table icon on every desktop, ask the floor nurse managers, and/or call: Infection Prevention & Control Office (805) 652-6535

