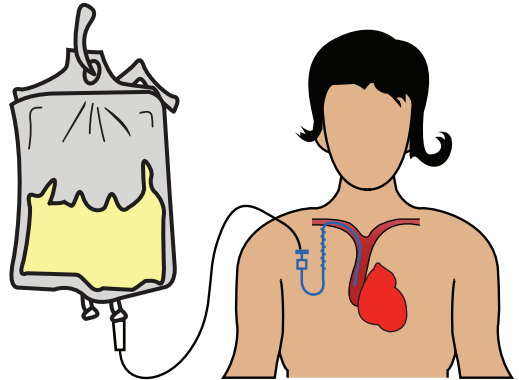


What is HPN?

HPN stands for Home Parenteral Nutrition. It is a highly complex life support therapy performed at home by those who cannot get enough nutrition from food to live. This happens as a result of a serious problem with the digestive system (Intestinal Failure).



Parenteral Nutrition (PN) is food in a liquid form which is pumped into the body via a tube in a major vein close to the heart. This liquid

food contains all the essential nutrients our bodies need to live, but because it's pumped directly into the bloodstream, it must be kept completely sterile and all set-up connections and procedures must be kept sterile (aseptic). This is to minimise infection risk from bacteria entering the bloodstream (sepsis). When this is done at home - usually overnight - it is called Home Parenteral Nutrition (HPN).

Various diseases and medical conditions can cause Intestinal Failure and the need for someone to be on HPN, a number of these diseases being quite rare. They include: Gastroparesis, Chronic Intestinal Pseudo Obstruction, Hirschsprungs Disease, Hollow Viscous Myopathy, Malrotation Volvulus, Short Bowel Syndrome, Crohns Disease and intestinal cancers.

HPN is highly complex and there are serious risks and possible complications, but it allows approximately 280 adults and children across Australia and New Zealand to live at home and be involved in life.



PNDU

Parenteral Nutrition Down Under

If you would like to know more about HPN or Intestinal Failure, please contact PNDU at contactpndu@gmail.com or www.pndu.org. PNDU is the support group for people living with HPN in Australia and New Zealand.