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## Overview

This standard covers initiating, carrying out and concluding dialysis therapy, both haemodialysis and Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis, for chronic, stable, dialysis individuals who have established access. The therapy can occur in a number of settings including the individual's home, hospital or any other care setting.

This standard is not intended to cover acute cases and does not include inserting, connecting, monitoring and disconnecting cannulae and catheters.

Users of this standard will need to communicate effectively to meet individuals' needs and wishes and work in line with health and safety legislation, policy and practices.

## Performance criteria

### *You must be able to:*

- P1. access and accurately interpret all relevant work instructions and information
- P2. identify and agree the roles and responsibilities of yourself and others in carrying out, and concluding, dialysis therapy for individuals with established access
- P3. provide support to the individual, ensuring that you respect their rights and wishes relating to their privacy, beliefs and dignity
- P4. check the individual's identity and confirm the planned activity
- P5. establish consent and access information on carrying out, and concluding, dialysis therapy for individuals
- P6. confirm that dialysis equipment and material are appropriate to the procedure and fit for purpose
- P7. initiate dialysis correctly and safely according to the individual's plan of care
- P8. recognise any problems with the dialysis access site promptly and take the appropriate action without delay
- P9. monitor the progress of dialysis effectively and adjust the process correctly in accordance with the individuals plan of care
- P10. take physiological measurements accurately using the correct technique and equipment at appropriate times according to the plan of care
- P11. seek immediate advice if any change or unexpected occurrence in the physiological readings are observed
- P12. interpret the measurements accurately, record them correctly using the required format and report them to the appropriate member of the care team
- P13. inform an appropriate member of the care team without delay if you are unable to obtain the measurement in the specified way
- P14. record any unexpected change in the individual's behaviour or condition or the equipment parameters accurately and report them to the appropriate person without delay
- P15. report any condition or behaviour which may signify an adverse reaction to dialysis without delay and take action appropriate to the individual's condition
- P16. conclude the dialysis safely and correctly when specified in the plan of care
- P17. disconnect the dialysis equipment from the individual safely and correctly, and in line with manufacturer's instructions and protocols
- P18. complete all relevant documentation required for carrying out, and concluding, dialysis therapy for individuals with established access

## Knowledge and understanding

### *You need to know and understand:*

- K1. how to access and interpret all relevant work instructions, legislation, guidelines, policies, procedures and protocols needed to carry out, and conclude, dialysis therapy for individuals with established access
- K2. the scope and limitations of your own competence, responsibilities and accountability as it applies to your job role
- K3. specific procedures for reporting issues which are beyond your competence, responsibilities and accountability
- K4. the principles, practice and procedures associated with informed consent
- K5. the needs of individuals including issues relating to dignity, confidentiality, and privacy
- K6. the importance of applying standard infection control precautions to carrying out and concluding dialysis therapy for individuals with established access and the potential consequences of poor practice
- K7. the normal anatomy of the kidney and physiology of blood filtration and urine formation
- K8. the principles of diffusion and osmosis in relation to dialysis
- K9. fluid and electrolyte balance
- K10. the reasons for undertaking dialysis
- K11. the information contained within the plan of care
- K12. how to recognise contra-indications which mean that you should seek advice before continuing with preparation of individuals
- K13. the types of emotional and physical support which different individuals may need during, and following, dialysis
- K14. the types of change which may happen to individuals - both physical and emotional - and why it is important to recognise and report any changes
- K15. what information needs to be recorded and reported in relation to preparing individuals for dialysis
- K16. what aspects of dialysis need to be monitored and adjusted
- K17. which physiological measurements need to be measured at which stage(s) of dialysis, why it is important to take the relevant physiological measurements, and why they need to be recorded at the times specified in the plan of care
- K18. the range of results which would be expected for different individuals and what constitutes an abnormal result

K19. why unexpected or abnormal results should be reported immediately and how the measurements obtained can affect the therapy being undertaken

K20. how individuals and relevant others could be involved in taking measurements and why it is important to encourage their involvement

K21. the common adverse reactions to dialysis, how to recognise them and what action to take if they occur

K22. the common concerns which individuals may have regarding dialysis and the way in which it affects their lives

K23. the importance of timing for dialysis, and the reasons why the length of therapy may be altered in the plan of care

K24. the nature and function of haemodialysis machines and related equipment, the different types of machine which are available and their advantages and disadvantages for different individuals' conditions and needs

K25. the equipment used in peritoneal dialysis and how this method of dialysis works

K26. the different types and sites of dialysis access which individuals may have and the advantages and disadvantages of each

K27. the reasons why:

- a. a safe, treated water supply is needed for haemodialysis
- b. specific sterile fluids must be used for peritoneal dialysis

K28. how to check whether the machines and related dialysis equipment are functioning properly

K29. relevant procedures for reporting faults and other problems with equipment and materials

K30. what parameters on haemodialysis machines have to be set according to each individual's care plan and methods of setting controls

K31. the sorts of access problems which may occur, how to recognise them and what action to take

K32. the techniques and equipment to use for taking the different physiological measurements

K33. how to disconnect the individual from dialysis

K34. how to clean and/or disinfect machines and equipment, including what materials and cleaning techniques to use

K35. how to complete and safely store all relevant documentation in accordance with organisational requirements

SFHCHS26

Carry out, and conclude, dialysis therapy for individuals with established access



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