

## HOME HAEMODIALYSIS PROTOCOL

### Hospital Admission and Centre/Satellite Dialysis for Home Haemodialysis Patients

HHD patients sometimes require hospital dialysis due to hospitalisation or having dialysis related problems. A patient who is unwell may forget the routine dialysis procedures or they may not be fit for HHD after recovering from their illness. They will then require retraining or respite before returning to HHD. The STGH home training nurse or the STGH dialysis unit co-ordinator assesses the dialysis related issues using the checklist. (Go to RISCDOC, Dialysis Documents, Home Haemodialysis, Home haemo training, Home HDX Check List for Hospital HDX Home Patients)

#### **When the HHD patient requires hospital dialysis:**

- Print out the recent home visit report from the clinic letter file in RISCDOC.
- Inform the STGH home training nurse or SDC that the patient is in hospital.
- Continue Aranesp and Iron Infusion regime.
- Continue to send monthly tissue typing blood and inform the transplant co-ordinator that the patient is in hospital.
- Remind the patient that their HHD machine requires disinfection at least once a week, preferably twice a week.
- Contact an SDC technician prior to using the machine if patient's family or friends are unable to disinfect the machine.
- Continue self cannulation when the patient is well enough to self cannulate. Assess self cannulation technique.

#### **When the patient is able to return to HHD from hospital dialysis:**

- Inform SDC of patient's discharge. Home visit by SDC staff may be arranged if it is necessary. Contact the STGH Vascular Access Nurse or STGH home training nurse if the patient has self cannulation problems. Cannulation re-training sessions can be arranged. Arrange respite dialysis in 4 West or SDC before returning to HHD if the patient had extended hospitalisation or is recovering from serious illness.
- Remind the patient to check their dialysis stock (including expiry date) at home if the patient has been off HHD for an extended period (3 months or more). The patient may need to place an order with Fresenius.

## St George Hospital Renal Department Guideline: INTERNAL ONLY

- Check the content of home concentration stock and patient's recent blood results.
  - Consult with patient's nephrologist if home stock concentration is not suitable for current patient's blood results.
  - Contact SDC to change home stock.
  - Stable blood results are required for HHD because frequent changing of stock is not recommended.
  
- Remind the patient to continue the current Aranesp, Iron Infusion regime. Check the patient has the prescription.
- Remind the patient to disinfect their machine immediately prior to next dialysis. This is when their home machine has been disinfected regularly every week.
- Contact SDC technician prior to using the machine when the home machine has not been disinfected regularly every week. The machine may need to be serviced before using.
- Inform the transplant co-ordinator that the patient is discharged and confirm that the patient will continue to send in monthly tissue typing.