

HOME HAEMODIALYSIS PROTOCOL

Supplementary Information about Home Haemodialysis

COST:

The dialysis machine, water treatment equipment, dialysis fluids, disposables and an automatic blood pressure machine are supplied at no cost to the patient. However some items must be provided by the patient and ongoing costs are minimal. A rebate on electricity costs and extra water usage is payable to HHD patients.

Some of the set up costs for HHD are subsidised by The Department of Health. The high cost items such as recliner chair, weighing scales and power point modification may be covered with this one off payment (approx \$2000). The cost of the plumbing installation required for the machine (up to \$800) is included under PPT (Patient per Treatment). Evidence of purchase items are required.

SUPPLY OF DIALYSIS FLUID AND CONSUMABLES:

Fresenius Medical Care (FMC) delivers the dialysis fluid and disposables to the patient's residence monthly.

MEDICATION:

The patients are trained to self administer intravenous iron polymaltose 100mg, Darbopoetin alpha or Erythropoietin alpha as prescribed by their nephrologist. Contact SDC or STGH home training nurse Re: Self administration of Iron & Aranesp/EPO protocols.

TISSUE TYPING COLLECTION:

Transplant waiting list patients collect a specimen pre dialysis. It is then posted to the Red Cross on the 15th of every month using special packaging (Lab mailer) and labelling supplied by Fresenius Medical Care (FMC). Alternately, patients have the sample collected at pathology. The Red Cross tissue typing form is stored in RISCDOC (Go to RISCDOC, Transplant Update, Monthly TT samples). Yearly supplies of the forms are supplied by the clinic. Labels for blood tubes are supplied

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by SDC or STGH home training nurse. Specimen posting packages (Lab mailer) are supplied with other consumables.

MANAGEMENT OF WASTE AND SHARPS:

- Dialysers, blood lines and any blood stained equipment must be sealed and securely double-bagged to prevent leakage and then placed in the household garbage bin. Cardboard packaging and plastic concentrate bottles can be recycled.
- Community sharps should be placed in the sharps bin which is provided with other consumables. When full, the sharps container should be returned to STGH.
- Contact SDC or STGH home training nurse when cytotoxic waste and infectious waste management is required.

THE BENEFIT OF MORE FREQUENT AND / OR LONGER HOURS DIALYSIS:

The benefit of more frequent and /or longer dialysis is discussed with patients during training. A minimum dose of 5- 6 hours alternate day/night dialysis is recommended. If the patient is interested in nocturnal dialysis, 8-10 hours on alternate nights is recommended.