

CARE OF THE PATIENT RECEIVING A HEMODIALYSIS TREATMENT

OBJECTIVE:

To provide patient with a safe and appropriate dialysis treatment

PROCESS STANDARDS:

Assessment

1. The nurse will assess the following parameters **pre**-dialysis, **during** treatment (*as patient's condition warrants*), and **post**-dialysis:
 - A. **Patient**
 - i. Weight (*pre and post only*), blood pressure, heart rate and rhythm, respiratory rate and quality, temperature (*pre/post and during as patient's condition warrants*), and dialysis vascular access.
 - ii. Assess patient's general condition including: edema, skin, mental status, ability to ambulate, level of functioning, general sense of well-being, and any change from baseline.
 - iii. Solicit complaints from patient and evaluate before initiation of dialysis, during dialysis, and prior to discharge from the Renal Unit the following:
 - headache,
 - dizziness, blurred vision,
 - nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, or tarry stools,
 - fever, chills,
 - shortness of breath, dyspnea,
 - chest pain, palpitations,
 - pain, bleeding,
 - insomnia,
 - weakness, fatigue, or change in level of activity, and
 - changes in appetite.
 - iv. Review laboratory test results prior to initiation of treatment.
 - v. In addition to the above, assess patient during dialysis for any of the following:
 - blood pressure and pulse outside of established parameters,
 - respiratory rate and quality outside of established parameters,
 - temperature outside of established parameters,
 - any new complaint reported by patient,
 - change in mental status,
 - hemodialysis access.
 - vi. Assess patient's response to the delivery of the hemodialysis prescription
 - vii. Assess patient's psychosocial adjustment to hemodialysis
 - viii. Assess patient's understanding of:
 - hemodialysis principles,
 - hemodialysis procedure,
 - current treatment prescription,
 - signs and symptoms of hemodialysis complications,
 - anticoagulation regimen,
 - vascular access,
 - routine laboratory test,
 - monitoring of hemodialysis adequacy,
 - medications,
 - prescribed diet,

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Assessment continued:

Patient

- sodium restriction and thirst management,
- reporting of occurrences,
- illnesses, or injuries since last treatment and emergency procedures while on hemodialysis.

B. Delivery system

- i. Integrity of extracorporeal circuit.
- ii. Pressure monitor readings
- iii. Anticoagulant delivery
- iv. Blood flow rate
- v. Alarm limits and/or conditions

INTERVENTION:

1. Notify physician of any assessment findings that might require modification of the Hemodialysis prescription.
2. Adjust and administer prescribed hemodialysis treatment based on predialysis assessment findings.
3. Based on patient assessment modify treatment plan to minimize complications, using sodium modeling, ultrafiltration profiling.
4. Administer medications as prescribed.
5. Provide or encourage diversional activity, as appropriate.
6. Monitor patient's response to the treatment plan and collaborate with the health care team and the patient to modify the treatment plan.
7. Encourage adherence to treatment regimen and provide ongoing skill development and support.
8. Identify resources to assist patient to achieve psychosocial adjustment and rehabilitation goals.
9. Initiate consultations or referrals, as appropriate.

PATIENT TEACHING:

1. Instruct patient regarding hemodialysis principles, hemodialysis procedure, current treatment prescription, signs and symptoms of complications, anticoagulation, vascular access, laboratory tests, monitoring of hemodialysis adequacy, medications, diet and fluid prescription including sodium restriction and thirst management, and reporting of symptoms, illnesses, injuries, or hospitalizations since last treatment. Instruct patient in emergency procedures while on hemodialysis.
2. Teach or reinforce the benefits of following the prescription for treatment, medication, exercise, and nutrition therapy.

OUTCOME STANDARDS:

1. The patient will receive an appropriate and safe hemodialysis treatment.
2. The patient will be free of treatment-induced complications, including hemolysis, pyrogen reaction, dialyzer reaction, air embolism, and exsanguination.
3. The patient will be free of complications of anticoagulation.
4. The patient will demonstrate knowledge of the dialysis equipment and procedures, and of potential treatment or equipment-related complications.

Standard 31

Revised: 2003, 2006, 2009
Reviewed: 1991, 1994, 1997, 2000

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HAVE I DOCUMENTED:

*Vital signs

Respiratory

Rate

Quality

Pulse

Rate

Character

Rhythm

Blood pressure (sitting and standing)

Weight

Temperature

Level of consciousness

*Access site

Redness

Pain

Swelling

Drainage

Catheter dressing

Bruit/Thrill

*Patient's response to treatment

Anxiety

Disturbed self concept

Fear of death

Adaptive

*Patient Education

Hemodialysis principles

Hemodialysis procedure

Current treatment prescription

Signs and symptoms of complications

Anticoagulation

Vascular access

Laboratory tests

Monitoring of hemodialysis adequacy

Medications

Diet and fluid prescription including sodium restriction and thirst management

Reporting of symptoms, illnesses, injuries, or hospitalizations since last treatment

Emergency procedures while on hemodialysis

Reference:

1. Burrows-Hudson, S., Prowant, B. American Nephrology Nurses Association Nephrology Nursing Standards of Practice and Guidelines for Care. (2005). Pp.71-72. Pitman NJ: Anthony J. Jannetti, Inc.