

A Friendly Reminder from your Pharmacists...

With the return of the winter season we would like to remind you of the importance of keeping a supply of Kayexalate® powder (also called sodium polystyrene powder) at home.

What is Kayexalate®?

Kayexalate® is used to lower potassium levels in the blood.

How does it work?

Kayexalate® binds to potassium in your stomach and removes it from your body in your stools.

When do I need to take Kayexalate®?

If for any reason you can't make it to dialysis (for example, if there is a snow storm and you can't get to dialysis) you should call the dialysis unit to let them know you will not be there. The staff at the dialysis unit will look at your chart and let you know if you should be taking Kayexalate® to help lower your potassium levels until you can be dialyzed.

How much Kayexalate® should I take?

Each person's dose will be different based on their normal potassium levels. When you call the unit they will let you know how much Kayexalate® you should take and when. The powder is usually dosed in numbers of tablespoons and needs to be mixed with water before taking.

There should be a prescription for Kayexalate® waiting for you at your pharmacy so if you do not have a supply at home please have one filled. If there is no prescription at your pharmacy let us know and we will make sure that one is written for you. If you have a supply at home already please check the expiry date and refill it if it is expired.