



## MANITOBA RENAL PROGRAM

<b>SUBJECT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discharge Criteria for Hemodialysis Patients from the Dialysis Unit following Treatment</li> </ul>	<b>SECTION</b> 80.20 Guidelines – Hemodialysis
	<b>CODE</b> 80.20.03
<b>AUTHORIZATION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Professional Advisory Committee, Manitoba Renal Program</li> <li>Nursing Practice Council, St. Boniface Hospital</li> </ul>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b> March 1999
	<b>REVISION DATE</b> December 2007, April 2013, April 2015, <b>April 2017</b>

### PURPOSE:

- To establish criteria for safe discharge of hemodialysis patients from the dialysis unit.

### POLICY:

- Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses working in hemodialysis are responsible for individual patient assessment prior to the patient's discharge post-treatment.
- Medical authorization for discharge is required where the patient does not meet discharge criteria.

### PROCEDURE:

#### **A. The patient leaving the unit must meet the following discharge criteria:**

- Vascular access hemostasis is achieved.
- Blood pressure, pulse, respiration, temperature and weight are within acceptable post dialysis range for the individual patient.
- No major inter or intradialytic problems which persist after discontinuation of dialysis.

#### **B. If the patient is hospitalized, the unit receiving the patient must be advised of:**

- Any pertinent or relevant changes in physician's orders.
- Patient's condition through a written and verbal report including:
  - Assessment of vital signs, including fluid removal and relationship to dry weight.
  - Course of dialysis treatment.

### KEY POINTS:

#### **Notify the physician if criteria are not met.**

- Verify bruit/thrill if prolonged bleeding from fistula needle puncture sites.
- Follow 60.20.06 *Documentation Standard- Manitoba Renal Program and Long Term Care Communication Record* as required.
- Follow 80.20.06 *Guidelines for Assessing Monitoring, and Documenting Patient Care Pre Post and During the Hemodialysis Treatment*

## **PROCEDURE:**

- iii. Medications given during treatment
- iv. Diagnostic tests performed

## **KEY POINTS:**

### **C. When patient does not meet discharge criteria, the dialysis nurse will:**

- 1. Notify the nephrologist/physician on-call with relevant information.
  - 2. Provide a verbal and written report to the receiving area.
- For transfer of care within the facility, follow site specific policies.

### **D. If a patient leaves the unit against medical advice:**

- 1. Notify the nephrologist/physician on-call.
- 2. Document on the appropriate facility form. Document in *Integrated Progress Notes* of the Manitoba Renal Program patient health record

## **DOCUMENTATION:**

- Hemodialysis Treatment Record
- Integrated Progress Notes (as required)
- 60.20.06 *Documentation Standard- Manitoba Renal Program and Long Term Care Communication Record*

## **REFERENCES:**

Robbins, K. C. (2006). Hemodialysis: Prevention and management of treatment complications. In A. Molzhan & E. Butera (Ed.), *Contemporary Nephrology Nursing: Principles and Practice* (pp. 583-601). Pitman, NJ: American Nephrology Nurses' Association.