

Dialysis While You Are In The Hospital

Information for Patients from Community Dialysis Units

Where do I have dialysis while I am in the hospital?

If you are admitted to hospital, we will give you dialysis at St. Paul's Hospital or Vancouver General Hospital until you can go back to your community unit. Once you have been discharged from the hospital you may need to continue having your dialysis here for a time.

When can I go back to my community dialysis unit?

Once the nephrologist has assessed your medical condition and you are stable on dialysis, it may be possible for you to move back to the community dialysis unit. In making this decision we consider many different factors. We look at changes in your health while you have been in the hospital, how well you can get around, whether you are stable on dialysis, what transportation you have available and how well your access functions. We would like to return you to your community unit as soon as possible.

What if it is not convenient to have my dialysis in the hospital?

We understand that dialyzing in hospital may not be the best match for you once you have been discharged, because of our location and schedule. We must make sure that patients are stable and that community dialysis will work for them before they go back.

Who can I talk to if I have questions?

If you have any questions please ask a member of the hemodialysis team and we will work to address your concerns. Our hemodialysis team will have the most current information about your transfer back to the community dialysis unit. We will be able to tell you more than the staff on your ward.

What happens if I have problems after I go back to the community dialysis unit?

If your health changes once you have returned to a community dialysis unit, the community dialysis team may send you to a hospital Emergency Department for immediate help.

Community Dialysis Units: Sechelt • Richmond • Powell River • Squamish • North Shore • Vancouver • East Vancouver

The information in this document is intended solely for the person to whom it was given by the health care team.

This material has been
reviewed and approved by
patients, families and staff.



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