

Patient criteria for dialysis of chronic haemodialysis patients currently inpatients or in Accident and Emergency units, in hospitals other than QEHB, at satellite units

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

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• Essential Reading for:	The registered nurses and medical staff at QEHB renal units and satellite dialysis units
• Information for:	Hospitals near to dialysis satellite units dialysing QEHB patients

Patient criteria for dialysis of chronic haemodialysis patients, currently inpatients (or in accident and emergency (A&E)) in hospitals other than QEHB, at satellite dialysis units

Introduction:

Chronic haemodialysis patients under the care of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham (QEHB renal service), who normally dialyse in QEHB satellite dialysis units are medically stable, have reasonable mobility and are able to transfer with minimum nursing assistance. When one of these patients requires admission to hospital and/or are being assessed in an A&E department or clinical assessment unit they will usually undergo their dialysis treatment at QEHB on 301 acutes dialysis unit. However, in certain, defined circumstances, as laid down in this document, dialysis at a satellite unit may be permitted.

Criteria guidance

Any requests for dialysis of chronic haemodialysis patients at their usual satellite unit when they are currently a hospital in patient or in an A&E department or clinical assessment unit must be directed in the first instance to Consultant Nephrologist for responsible for the satellite dialysis unit where the patient usually receives their dialysis treatment; if that consultant is not contactable then the request should be directed to the renal consultant on-call for QEHB. Early referral to the consultant ensures patients are appropriately assessed in a timely manner ensuring the safest venue is identified for their treatment dependant on their current medical needs.

Staff working within the satellite unit or in the non-QEHB hospital, are not permitted to make any decision as to whether a patient is suitable to receive treatment within the unit; this decision remains the sole responsibility of QEHB renal team. On being notified that one of their patients is currently an inpatient (or has been sent to A&E unit as an emergency) in a hospital other than QEHB, the satellite nurses must refer the admitted patient's details to the usual unit renal consultant or on call consultant and satellite liaison nurses at QEHB and email 301acutes@uhb.nhs.uk

Satellite dialysis units are not equipped to cater for Inpatients at other hospital that have not been assessed / examined by a QEHB renal consultant or Spr registrar.

Chronic haemodialysis patients that are in hospital outside the QEH site, may only be dialysed in a satellite unit under the following criteria

- Must be a current known patient of the satellite unit
- Approval to dialyse in a satellite unit must be sought from either the renal consultant responsible for the satellite unit or the Renal On call consultant at the time
- Be haemodynamically stable and have a systolic blood pressure (BP) of greater than 100mmHg (unless usually lower when should be at level normal for patient) or not more than 30 mmHg below their usual pre-dialysis systolic BP
- Have no requirement for oxygen and sustained oxygen saturation levels on air of greater >95%
- Must not be suffering with acute confusion or deterioration of normal mental state
- Have suffered no acute coronary syndrome within the previous 72 hours or have any ongoing ischaemic chest pain
- Be free of acute pain beyond need for their usual analgesia
- Have no diagnosis or suspected (and not as yet ruled out) pulmonary embolism within the previous 72 hours
- Have had no open surgical procedures within the previous 72 hours
- Have no cerebrovascular accidents within the previous 7 days
- Have no Glasgow coma score of less than 15
- Have no ongoing gastroenteritis (unless agreed by QEHB renal team)
- Have no intravenous infusions on transfer to the unit
- Serum potassium levels must be less than 6.5mmol/L
- The patient must be sufficiently mobile and able to transfer from chair to chair with the aid of one person only.
- A bed will not be provided unless the patient normally dialyses on a bed at the satellite unit.
- Wound dressings (other than renal dialysis catheter exit dressings) are the responsibility of the patients inpatient ward and not the dialysis unit

Contact details

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