



The Florida ESRD Network

Preventing Antimicrobial Resistance in Dialysis Patients - An Educational Series

This information, obtained from CDC, is the **first** of four educational series targeted to raise awareness about the escalating problem of antimicrobial resistance in healthcare settings and high-risk patients.

Infections are the second most common cause of mortality in ESRD patients, accounting for 15% of deaths. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports that vascular access infections (in hemodialysis patients) and peritonitis (in peritoneal dialysis patients) are the most common infections.

According to CDC, Key Prevention Strategies to Prevent Antimicrobial Resistance among Dialysis Patients are:

- ❖ Prevent Infection
- ❖ Diagnoses & Treat Effectively
- ❖ Use Antimicrobials Wisely
- ❖ Prevent Transmission.

Prevent Infection:

- ❑ **Step 1. Vaccinate Staff and Patients – Fact: *Influenza/pneumococcal vaccine given to both staff and patients will help to prevent infections requiring antimicrobial therapy.***
 - ✓ Get influenza vaccine
 - ✓ Give influenza and pneumococcal vaccine to patients in addition to routine vaccines (e.g. hepatitis B)

- ❑ **Step 2. Get the catheters out – Fact: *Indwelling catheters are the single most important factor contributing to bacteremia in hemodialysis patients.***
 - Hemodialysis:**
 - ✓ Use catheters only when essential
 - ✓ Maximize use of fistulas/grafts
 - ✓ Remove catheters when they are no longer essential
 - Peritoneal Dialysis:**
 - ✓ Remove/replace infected catheters

- ❑ **Step 3. Optimize Access Care – Fact: *Careful infection control prevents peritoneal dialysis related infections.***
 - ✓ Follow established KDOQI and CDC Guidelines for access care
 - ✓ Use proper insertion and catheter-care protocols
 - ✓ Remove access device when infected
 - ✓ Use the correct catheter

CDC resource: http://www.cdc.gov/drugresistance/healthcare/dialysis/12steps_dialysis.htm

The Florida ESRD Network (Network 7) is providing this fax blast as a technical assistance activity for the Florida renal community.

FMQAI: The Florida ESRD Network
5201 West Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 900 • Tampa, Florida 33609
813-383-1530 • 813-354-1514 Fax