



The Florida ESRD Network

Preventing Antimicrobial Resistance in Dialysis Patients - An Educational Series

This information, obtained from CDC, is the **fourth** 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 Transmission

- ❑ **Step 1. Follow Infection Control Precautions** – *Fact: Following the recommended infection control precautions for hemodialysis patients can prevent transmission of infections from patient to patient.*
 - ✓ Use standard infection control precautions for dialysis centers
 - ✓ Consult local infection control experts
- ❑ **Step 2. Practice Hand Hygiene** – *Fact: Hand hygiene is the single most important infection control measure for preventing the spread of antimicrobial resistant organisms.*
 - ✓ Wash your hands or use an alcohol-based handrub
 - ✓ Set an example
- ❑ **Step 3. Partner With Your Patients** – *Fact: Dialysis patients share in the responsibility for preventing access-related infections.*
 - ✓ Educate on access care and infection control measures
 - ✓ Re-educate regularly

Prevention is Primary

Protect Patients....Protect Healthcare Personnel.....Promote Quality Healthcare!

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