

THE NEW ZEALAND BOARD OF DIALYSIS PRACTICE

SCOPES OF PRACTICE (COMPETENCIES) FOR CERTIFIED HAEMODIALYSIS TECHNICIANS

1 Pre-dialysis assessment

Performance Criteria

Performs a full pre-dialysis patient assessment to ensure that the patient can be safely dialyzed.

- History – any change in patient condition or medication since the last haemodialysis treatment (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Assessment – Includes the physical, biochemical and metabolic status of the patient (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Documentation – Appropriate and accurate recording of all data. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Evaluation, interpretation and decision making based on patient history, patient assessment and investigations. (Levels 2,3,4.)

2 Preparation and initiation of dialysis treatment

Performance criteria

Ensures that preparation of the dialysis machines, priming of extracorporeal circuit and initiation of the treatment are carried out safely.

- Preparation – Ensures that appropriate disinfection was carried out on the dialysis machines, appropriate lines and dialysers are used and primed. Machine safety checks completed. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Establishing treatment parameters – Ensures that all treatment parameters are established as per dialysis prescription taking the patients pre-dialysis assessment into consideration. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Vascular access – Shows competency with the use, management, assessment and care of all types of access. Provides patient with information and instruction for care and maintenance of access. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Dialysis initiation – Is able to initiate dialysis safely within established parameters and within unit protocols. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Documentation - Appropriate and accurate recording of all relevant information. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Evaluation, interpretation and decision-making based on assessment, initiation of treatment and documentation. (Levels 2,3,4.)

3 Management Of Dialysis Process

Performance Criteria

Competent in the principles of haemodialysis and the monitoring of the dialysis procedure, maintains patient safety and well being and responds appropriately to complications.

- Dialysis Procedure – Monitors dialysis procedure and recognises intra dialytic complications and undertakes appropriate interventions. Provides timely and appropriate information and education to patient. (Levels 2,3,4.)
- Equipment – Monitoring, adjusting and trouble shooting of equipment to ensure safe and appropriate delivery of treatment. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Documentation - Appropriate and accurate recording of all relevant information. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Evaluation, interpretation and decision-making based on assessments, treatment parameters and documentation. (Levels 2,3,4.)

4 Termination (discontinuation) of dialysis treatment

Performance Criteria

Ensures safe termination of dialysis treatment as per unit protocols

- The termination of dialysis is undertaken safely with management of vascular access as per unit protocols. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Documentation - Appropriate and accurate recording of all relevant information. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Evaluation, interpretation and decision making based on assessment of patient's condition and dialysis parameters. (Levels 2,3,4.)

5 Post dialysis assessment of the patient

Performance Criteria

Undertakes assessment of the patient after termination of the dialysis treatment.

- Assessment - includes the dialysis history and the physiological and psychological response to treatment. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Documentation - Appropriate and accurate recording of all relevant information. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Evaluation, interpretation and decision making based on assessment of patient's condition and dialysis parameters incorporated into an on-going treatment plan.

Provides patient with information and instruction for the inter-dialytic period.
(Levels 1,2,3,4.)

6 Water quality assessment and treatment

Performance Criteria

Comprehensive knowledge of water quality and treatment systems

- Recognises and understands the need for water treatment. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Knowledge of the required standards for dialysis water and the clinical and technical implications of water contaminants. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Knowledge and understanding of the available methods for water treatment and their appropriate use. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Monitors the quality of the source and treated water. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Documentation - Appropriate and accurate recording of all relevant information. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Evaluation, interpretation and decision making based on collected information. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)

7 Equipment maintenance and management of dialysis supplies

Performance Criteria

Ensures equipment is properly maintained according to manufacturers recommendations and Unit standards.

- Undertakes preventive maintenance of dialysis machines and water treatment plant. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Ensures adequate and accurate stock holding, in an appropriate environment, and rotation of dialysis supplies. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Documentation - Appropriate and accurate recording of equipment service and stock movement. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Evaluation, interpretation and decision making based on service requirements. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)

8 Clinical pharmacology

Performance Criteria

Knowledge of drugs used for dialysis patients including the actions of the drugs, contraindications, drug interactions, doses and route of administration and side effects as per Unit protocols.

- Assessment of patient history, current medications and allergies. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Appropriate administration of prescribed drugs as per Unit protocol. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Documentation - Appropriate, legible and accurate recording of the time and administration of drugs and other relevant information as per Unit protocol. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)
- Evaluation, interpretation and decision making based on medication response and Unit protocol. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)

9 Professional practice

Performance Criteria

Is responsible for own professional development and maintenance of standards of practice.

- Must be certified by the New Zealand Board of Dialysis Practice. (Levels 1,2,3,4)
- Incorporates into practice the principles of cultural awareness, patient privacy, patient rights and confidentiality. (Levels 1,2,3,4)
- Maintains professional standards of behaviour within the work environment. (Levels 1,2,3,4)
- Supports the activities of appropriate professional organisations. (Levels 1,2,3,4)
- Participates in a continuing education programme (levels 1,2,3,4)
- Is involved in the teaching and training of patients and staff. (Levels 2,3,4).
- Is involved in research and development activities. (Levels 2,3,4.)
- Documentation –documents appropriately all relevant professional information. (Levels 1,2,3,4.)