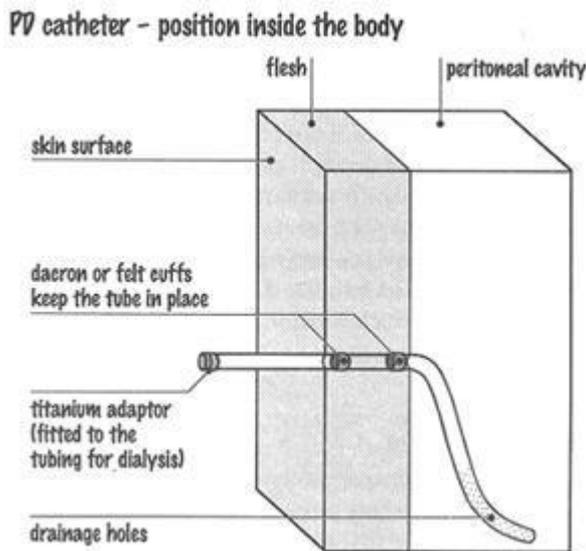


1 BACKGROUND

Peritoneal dialysis (PD) relies on a patient’s peritoneal membrane to act as a natural semi-permeable dialysis membrane. A permanent flexible silastic catheter is placed surgically in the peritoneal cavity through an abdominal wall tunnel through which dialysis solution can be drained into the peritoneal cavity. Catheter types vary but most have three segments;

- the intra peritoneal segment which has numerous drainage holes and sits inside the peritoneal cavity.
- the intramural segment which has Dacron cuffs which secure the catheter into position, preventing leakage and infection.
- The outer segment which has a titanium adaptor to connect to the extension or solution transfer set.

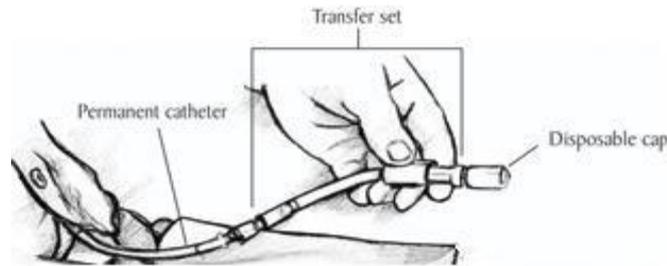


(NKF, 2008)

The transfer set which is attached to the titanium adaptor will differ depending upon the type of PD or the company supplying the dialysis fluid. This set is changed routinely every 6 months to decrease the wear and tear of the PD catheter during the disconnection and connection procedures (Cabralda et al, 2001) and also whenever there is the possibility of touch contamination. If a patient accidentally touches the exposed end of their catheter

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they are advised to put on a new minicap if they have one and to contact the hospital to arrange a transfer set change BEFORE their next dialysis exchange. If they do not have a minicap they should come to hospital immediately. This needs to be performed by an experienced dialysis nurse using aseptic technique.



The Trust is committed to managing risk and ensuring effective and safe practice throughout dialysis therapy. The aim of this protocol is to ensure that there is a consistent approach to the management of peritoneal dialysis catheter care ensuring set changes are performed safely and effectively and minimising the risk of infection.

2 SCOPE

Clinical guidelines are 'guidelines' only. The interpretation and application of clinical guidelines will remain the responsibility of the individual practitioner. If in doubt consult a senior colleague or expert.

These guidelines are applicable to patients directly under the care of University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust. Local guidance (for example for the inpatient care of kidney patients not in a Leicester hospital) may also exist and take precedence.

3 POLICY

This protocol applies to all individuals employed by the University Hospital of Leicester NHS Trust including nursing, medical and allied healthcare professionals involved with the care of patients undergoing peritoneal dialysis in the hospital or community setting.

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PERITONEAL CATHETER TRANSFER SET CHANGE PROCEDURE	University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust 
ISSUE 3	RRCV

Written by: Date:	Nicky Nichols April 2009	Title:	Specialist Sister Renal Community Team
Reviewed by	Nicky Nichols 17 th April 2019		
Ratified by: Date:	RRCV Quality & Safety Board	Review date	April 2022

REVIEW RECORD

DATE	ISSUE NUMBER	REVIEWED BY	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES (IF ANY)
19-Apr-12	2	J Medcalf	Changes to advice on touch contamination to fit with new telephone advice guidance document
08/06/16		N Nichols	Changes to cover dialysis systems available.
17/06/19	3	N Nichols	No changes

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