COVID-19

An End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) National Coordinating Center (NCC) Patient Education Quickinar

July 14, 2020
• What is this call about?
• Today’s speakers
  ▪ Lynda K. Ball, MSN, RN, CNN
    − Quality Improvement Director
    − Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG), ESRD Network 13
  ▪ Julie Glennon
    − Hemodialysis patient
• Topic: Dialysis Access Care During COVID-19
• Questions and answers (Q&As) from chat and Q&A panels
What Is This Call About?

• Hear from experts who share tips for coping in a COVID-19 environment.
• Provide real-world experiences for others to put into use.
• Engage in weekly calls on varying topics.
Lynda K. Ball, MSN, RN, CNN
Quality Improvement Director
HSAG, ESRD Network 13
What to Look for in a Properly Working Access

- Adequate dialysis
- Ordered blood-pump speed
- Arterial and venous pressures readings
- No difficulty with inserting needles
- Strong thrill (purring or vibration)
- Continuous bruit (whooshing sound)
Signs and Symptoms of an Access Infection

- Tender to touch
- Redness
- Drainage
- Pus
- Swelling
- Fever and/or chills
- Skin erosion (catheters and grafts)
My Access Is Not Working ... Now What?

• Do not go to the emergency room.
• Call the dialysis unit, if it is open.
• Request a telehealth visit with your kidney doctor so he/she can evaluate your access.
• Request direct scheduling for either surgery or access center.
• Know that you may need a temporary access (catheter).
• Do not delay—you need dialysis!
Tips on How to Avoid Hospitalization

• Prevent infection.
  ▪ Exercise proper hygiene.

• Immunize.
  ▪ Get flu and pneumococcal vaccinations

• Dialyze.
  ▪ Do not miss or shorten your dialysis treatments.

• Know your access.
  ▪ Check daily for signs and symptoms of infection.
Essential vs. Non-Essential Surgery During COVID-19

- On March 18, 2020, CMS recommended suspension of non-essential surgery.¹
- On March 26, 2020, CMS clarified dialysis access is essential surgery.²
- The U.S. College of Surgeons developed its 3-tier, COVID-19: Elective Case Triage Guidelines for Surgical Care (released March 24, 2020).³

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure</th>
<th>Tier with definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clotted or non-functional dialysis access</td>
<td>3—Do not postpone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infected dialysis access</td>
<td>3—Do not postpone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fistula revision for ulceration</td>
<td>3—Do not postpone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidney failure—need dialysis</td>
<td>3—Do not postpone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunneled dialysis catheter</td>
<td>3—Do not postpone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVF revision for malfunction or steal</td>
<td>2b—Postpone, if possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fistulogram for malfunction</td>
<td>2b—Postpone, if possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVF/AVG for ESRD, Stage 4 or 5</td>
<td>2a—Consider postponing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AVF = arteriovenous fistula; AVG = arteriovenous grafts

Sources:
Let Us Hear From You

• Q&As from chat and Q&A panels
Visit www.TheKidneyHub.org

- Secure, mobile-friendly web tool for patients and professionals.
- Developed by the ESRD NCC with assistance from patient subject matter experts (SMEs).
- Links to important resources, such as:
  - COVID-19, infection prevention, transplant, home dialysis, and new ESRD patient education.
  - New features include access to the Patient Grant Library, an informative Understanding High-Kidney Donor Profile Index (KDPI) and Increased Risk Kidneys video, and more.
- Visit today and bookmark to your device’s home screen.
Our Next COVID-19 Quickinar Events

• Save the dates for our next events.
  ▪ Provider-focused event: July 15 at 5 p.m. ET
  ▪ Patient-focused event: July 21 at 5 p.m. ET

• Visit www.kidneyCOVIDinfocenter.com for information and to register.
Thank You!

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Additional COVID-19 resources for patients and providers:

www.thekidneyhub.org/covid19/
www.kidneyCOVIDinfocenter.com