

# Hemodialysis Unit Rules and Guidelines

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- Your hemodialysis access (catheter site) needs to be visible at all times during treatment. Make sure your shirt allows the catheter site to be visible or your nurse may ask you to change into a gown.
- The parent or guardian may leave the unit while the child is on dialysis but they must remain on the hospital campus and be readily available. For a hemodialysis patient less than 5 years old, we strongly encourage a parent or guardian to stay with them throughout the treatment.
- There may be times during your child's dialysis treatment that staff will request your assistance. Please be available for this so we can provide the best care possible for your child.
- If your child is over 16 years old and independent, they may come to dialysis alone pending provider approval. However, a parent/ guardian should always be available for consenting and emergency purposes.
- Ask the unit how many visitors are currently allowed with a patient due to Covid-19 hospital visiting restrictions before bringing anyone other than the parent or guardian in.
- Each patient receives a treatment time based on availability. Changes in treatment schedule are based on seniority, please contact the dialysis supervisor or a Clinical Care Coordinator if a change is needed.
- School aged children are encouraged to work on schoolwork during their treatments. We are pleased to be able to provide an education specialist to support them. Refer to the Dialysis Education Agreement.
- No food or drink is allowed in the dialysis unit. Please keep food or drink in the triage room or family waiting room across the hall.
- During your monthly clinic appointment please refrain from cell phone use.
- When planning a vacation, please talk with dialysis social worker at least 1

**month** in advance for help in finding a dialysis center that may accommodate your dialysis needs.

- Please notify a Clinical Care Coordinator **48 hours** before you need a prescription refill.
- If your child has a dental appointment and an HD catheter, please let your nurse or Care Coordinator know. Your child will need to take a prophylactic antibiotic 30-60 minutes before any dental procedure.
- Patient information is confidential and dialysis staff cannot share with other patients and families.

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by Michigan Medicine for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by Michigan Medicine and for which Michigan Medicine does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition or your treatment plan.

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