How Dialysis is Safely Offered to Patients with COVID-19

Notify your dialysis facility if you think you may have COVID-19, have tested positive for COVID-19, or if you may have been in contact with someone that may have COVID-19. The facility will then make a plan for your next dialysis treatment. There are three ways to safely dialyze COVID-positive patients:

Dialyze COVID-19 patients together on one shift.

This option may require a patient to be transferred to a different clinic if his/her clinic doesn't have the capacity to offer a COVID shift. COVID shifts are usually the last shift of the day.





Dialyze COVID-19 patients together in a designated area of the treatment floor.

Treatment for patients with COVID should be provided at least 6 feet from other patients and performed in a designated section of the facility. The healthcare workers caring for these patients should be kept separate and should not care for non-COVID-positive patients on the same shift. Patients seated closest to anyone with COVID should be fully vaccinated.

Dialyze COVID-19 patients in an isolation room.



Additional Precautions



Everyone in the dialysis facility should wear a medical grade mask. Cloth masks alone are not adequate.



The healthcare workers caring for COVID-positive patients should be wearing a N-95 or higher level respirator, eye protection (e.g., goggles or face shield), gloves, and an isolation gown.

Waiting areas should be divided for patients with symptoms and patients without symptoms.

Get vaccinated.



Source: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/hcp/Preparing-Dialysis-Facilities.pdf

This material was prepared by Quality Insights Renal Network 5, an End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Network under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Views expressed in this material do not necessarily reflect the official views or policy of CMS or HHS, and any reference to a specific product or entity herein does not constitute endorsement of that product or entity by CMS or HHS. Publication No. ESRD5-013122