Title: **HEPARIN-FREE HEMODIALYSIS**

**Responsibility:** Hemodialysis Registered Nurse (RN)

**Purpose:** To provide hemodialysis to patients at high risk for bleeding.

**Equipment:**
1. Several bags of 1000 ml 0.9% Normal Saline (NS)
2. Blue clamp

### Procedure

1. Review physician order.  
   Frequency and amount of NS may vary with physician orders.

2. Confirm the patient’s identity with two patient identifiers.  
   Using two patient identifiers will reduce the number of medical errors.

3. Explain procedure to patient and/or family.  
   Review of education will help alleviate anxiety, fears and frustrations.

4. At specified time, clamp arterial bloodline below level of NS line attachment and then unclamp NS line and allow the specified amount of NS to flow through.  
   Greater blood flow rate (BFR), less chance of clotting.  
   This procedure adds approximately 10% risk of clotting the system.

**NOTE:** Include Membrane Flushes in Ultrafiltration Calculations

5. Clamp NS line and then unclamp arterial blood line.

### Documentation

1. Document date, time, amount of Normal Saline used and dialyzer appearance on Hemodialysis Flow Sheet.

### Charges

1. Total number of Normal Saline 1000 ml bags used.

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**Reviewed by:** Trish Carter, DNP, RN, ACNS-BC  
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**Reviewed by Policy & Standard Committee, 5/11, 7/17, 5/18

**References:** ANNA Core Curriculum for Nephrology Nursing, 6th Edition 2015, Caroline S. Counts, Editor.