(A) Policy Statement

CRRT treatments are available upon order of a nephrologist for patients in Critical Care Units.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To delineate responsibility of ordering, initiation, maintenance and discontinuation of the CRRT treatment.

(C) Procedure

1. Orders for the hemofiltration treatment must be written by a nephrologist on the physician order sheet. Note that there is a pre-printed order sheet available (HD021).

2. Informed consent will be obtained by physician.

3. Critical Care RN will be responsible for:
   a. Priming the hemofilter and lines.
   b. Initiating the procedure in the Critical Care Unit.
   c. Withdrawing Heparin from Quinton Ports before starting CRRT.
   d. Administering the heparin bolus, if indicated.
   e. Assisting with setting up of drips or other prescribed fluids.
   f. 24 hour availability for problems, or new hemofilter.
   g. Discontinuation of CRRT as ordered.
   h. Collaborating with the Nephrology MD and Attending MD regarding stopping or restarting CRRT System.
   i. Assistance with establishment of appropriate arterial and venous vascular access.
   j. Maintenance of vascular accesses.
   k. Hourly monitoring of patient's hemodynamic status.
   l. Hourly measuring of fluid removal with appropriate administration of prescribed fluid replacements.
   m. Obtaining of serum chemistries and ABG's, as ordered.
   n. Frequent assessment and intervention for problems.
   o. Titration of heparin infusion based on coagulation results if required.
   p. Communicating the principles of CRRT to patient and/or family.
   q. Monitoring equipment. (CRRT)
   r. Explaining the principles of CRRT to patient and/or family.
   s. Termination of hemofilter if system is significantly clotted, or in an emergency situation.
   t. Perform saline rinse-back of patient’s blood.
   u. Disconnecting CRRT tubing from patient.
   v. Flush Quinton Catheter with saline, and administer the appropriate amounts of heparin (based on volume of catheter parts) to keep Quinton ports patent.
w. Aseptic maintenance of Quinton catheter (ports).

1. The Hemodialysis or Critical Care RN will initiate the procedure charge.

2. Central Service will maintain appropriate inventory of CRRT supplies.

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Revision Completed By: Mo Smith, BSN, RN.

Policies Superseded by This Policy: 9-15

It is the responsibility of the reader to verify with the responsible agent that this is the most current version of the policy.