

## NURSING SERVICE GUIDELINES HEMODIALYSIS

**Guideline:** Heparin-free Hemodialysis

**Policy Number Superseded:**



**Responsibility:** Hemodialysis Registered Nurse

**Effective Date:**  
June 2024

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

**Initial Effective Date:**  
August 1989

**Equipment:**

Several bags of 1000 ml 0.9% normal saline  
Blue clamp

**Procedure:**

Procedure	Point of Emphasis
(A) Review physician order.	Frequency and amount of normal saline (NS) may vary with physician orders.
(B) Confirm the patient's identity with two patient identifiers.	Using two patient identifiers will reduce the number of medical errors.
(C) Explain procedure to patient and/or family.	Review of education will help alleviate anxiety, fears, and frustrations.
(D) At specified time, clamp arterial bloodline <u>below</u> 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.
<b>NOTE: Include membrane flushes in ultrafiltration calculations.</b>	
(E) Clamp NS line and then unclamp arterial blood line.	
(F) Documentation: Document date, time, amount of normal saline used and dialyzer appearance in hemodialysis flow sheet of Epic.	
(G) Charges: Total number of normal saline 1000 ml bags used.	

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

Approved by:

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*Review/Revision Completed by:*

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