Evaluate the patient's capabilities regarding their proposed renal replacement therapy



#### **Overview**

This standard is about assessing a patient's ability to manage different forms of renal replacement therapy in the short and long term and in the light of any existing co-morbid condition. It involves the whole multidisciplinary team helping the patient to make an informed decision for themselves.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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# Performance criteria

#### You must be able to:

- P1 assess the patient's ability and readiness to try to manage different forms of renal therapy
- P2 assess how the patient is likely to respond to different forms of renal therapy in the medium term
- P3 review any surgical and co-morbidity issues that may hinder treatment options
- P4 assess the suitability of the patient's home as a location for dialysis
- P5 consult other members of the care team to gain their information on and evaluation of the needs and wishes of the patient and carer
- P6 discuss with the patient the practical feasibility of each option they favour based on the evidence derived about them and identify their preference
- P7 evaluate with members of the team and the patient whether the patient's choice is theirs and is not subject to pressure or persuasion from a third party (e.g. excessive encouragement or discouragement from a family member, healthcare practitioner)

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# Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 procedures for checking and documenting consent to a choice of therapy
- K2 renal disease, its symptoms and progression
- K3 methods of treatment and management before, after and without renal replacement therapy
- K4 evidence on patients' ability to make decisions in different states of health (e.g. depression)
- K5 predicting when renal replacement therapy will be needed
- K6 ways of presenting evidence to non-expert patients and carers (e.g. about types of therapy, location of dialysis)
- K7 ways of weighing up evidence and patients' preferences
- K8 methods for evaluating the suitability of a patient for different therapies (e.g. clinical, psychological and social suitability)
- K9 how to ensure that the choice is the patient's within necessary constraints (e.g. of medical history, current condition, co-morbidities)
- K10 availability of treatment facilities in the local area
- K11 means of accessing local facilities
- K12 how information obtained from individuals should be recorded and stored
- K13 how to obtain full and accurate information about individuals
- K14 procedures and criteria for prioritising limited facilities
- K15 how to ask open-ended questions, listen carefully and summarise back
- K16 methods of communicating sensitive information to individuals
- K17 the importance of providing individuals with opportunities to ask questions and increase their understanding
- K18 how to adapt communication styles in ways which are appropriate to different people (e.g. culture, language, or special needs)
- K19 the importance of identifying how the individual wishes to be addressed and communicated with, and how to do so
- K20 how to highlight the individual's abilities in a positive way
- K21 the importance of treating individuals fairly, and how to do so
- K22 the effects of culture, religious beliefs, age and disability on individual communication styles
- K23 the different features services must have to meet people's gender, culture, language or other needs

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## **Additional Information**

**External links** 

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB6 Assessment and treatment planning

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