

## SFHRenRR4

### Enable a renal patient to make an informed choice about vascular access



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#### Overview

This standard is about enabling patients to make a choice about vascular access that is right and manageable for them. It involves giving the patients full and balanced information about the different types of access and what is involved in these options. It also includes supporting patients in dealing with the question of access as a highly significant event that entails a good deal of emotion and reflection.

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 provide the patient with information in a variety of forms on:
  - P1.1 the types of access possible for the dialysis they have chosen (e.g. that the 'gold standard access' is an arterio-venous fistula)
  - P1.2 the preparation and operation needed to provide permanent access (e.g. that venography of ipsilateral subclavian/brachiocephalic veins will be performed before subsequent arterio-venous fistula surgery to exclude catheter induced central vein stenosis)
  - P1.3 the benefits, drawbacks and risks of different types of permanent access
  - P1.4 the likelihood of having to have the operation more than once
  - P1.5 the immediate and longer-term access care that will be needed
- P2 exchange information with the patient and carer at a pace and level suitable for them and in a way that encourages discussion, participation and feedback
- P3 discuss the need for timely establishment of access
- P4 assess whether the patient has understood the options and their impact, by means of questions and discussion and taking into account evidence on patient health and ability to make decisions and views of other members of the multidisciplinary team
- P5 record your discussions and make them available to relevant members of the care team
- P6 identify and acknowledge the patient's concerns, help them come to terms with them and advise other members of the team who will be involved in the access
- P7 offer to arrange further psychological support if the patient wishes it
- P8 obtain the individual's informed consent to the plan of care prior to its implementation, having discussed any issues that they have
- P9 provide information to family and carers about the need for emergency dialysis access during an acute illness episode

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#### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 methods of involving others, and how to do so in a way that causes minimum disruption
- K2 the range of specialist advice and support people may require, and how to access specialist advice and support to address relationship issues
- K3 the need for informed consent for establishing access, and how to obtain it
- K4 evidence on patients' ability to make decisions in different states of health (e.g. depression)
- K5 renal functioning and renal disease and failure
- K6 conditions associated with renal failure and its treatment
- K7 anatomy and physiology related to vascular and peritoneal access
- K8 methods and functions of peritoneal dialysis (PD/CAPD/APD) and haemodialysis
- K9 methods of providing permanent, temporary and emergency access for dialysis (e.g. A-V fistula, A-V graft, via jugular, femoral veins or subclavian veins, peritoneal access)
- K10 evidence of advantages, disadvantages and risks of different access methods
- K11 lifestyle and psychological impact
- K12 the impact on patients of different types of dialysis
- K13 monitoring, recognising and minimising complications of establishing access (e.g. infection, blockage, thrombosis, stenosis)
- K14 the actions necessary should complications occur
- K15 access statistics (e.g. type of access at the start of dialysis, time from referral to surgery and complication rates for each procedure)
- K16 how to train patients, carers and members of the team in caring for different types of vascular access
- K17 the treatment programme that patients will experience
- K18 how to ask open-ended questions, listen carefully and summarise back
- K19 methods of communicating sensitive information to individuals
- K20 the importance of providing individuals with opportunities to ask questions and increase their understanding
- K21 how to adapt communication styles in ways which are appropriate to different people (e.g. culture, language, or special needs)
- K22 the importance of respecting individuals' privacy, dignity, wishes and beliefs, and how to do so
- K23 the importance of treating individuals fairly, and how to do so
- K24 the effects of culture, religious beliefs, age and disability on individual communication styles
- K25 the different features services must have to meet people's gender,

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culture, language or other needs

K26 how information obtained from individuals should be recorded and stored

K27 the importance of obtaining full and accurate information about individuals, and how to do so

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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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<b>Developed by</b>	Skills for Health
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<b>Originating organisation</b>	Skills for Health
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<b>Relevant occupations</b>	Health, Public Services and Care; Health Professionals; Healthcare and Related Personal Services
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<b>Suite</b>	Renal
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<b>Key words</b>	kidney, kidneys, donation, diabetes, donor, renal, transplant
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