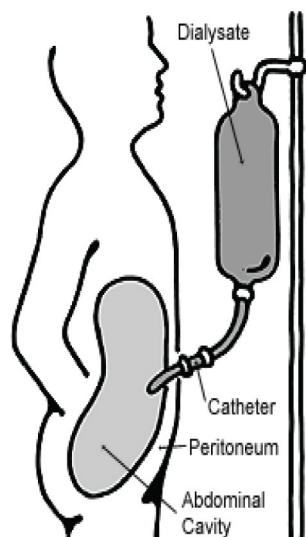


# So, You are Interested in PD

## What is PD?

- Form of dialysis treatment
- Removes waste and water from your body
- Special dialysis fluid is drained into the abdomen
- Excess water and wastes in your blood are drawn out into the dialysis fluid
- Fluid containing extra wastes and water is drained and new fluid is inserted to take its place
- Process is repeated 4-6 times in every 24-hour period.
- In the comfort of your own home

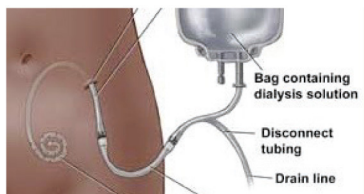


## Two Types of PD

1. **CAPD** (Continuous Automated Peritoneal Dialysis) is a manual method performed by you about 4 times a day.
2. **CCPD** (Continuous Cycler Peritoneal Dialysis) is an automated method performed by a machine while you sleep.

## The PD Catheter

A tube surgically inserted into your abdomen which stays there while you are on PD treatment.



## IMPORTANT:

- **Keep your catheter site clean to prevent infection**
- **Think of it as your lifeline**
- **Treat it with tender loving care**

## Managing Fluids

- Important to keep fluid balance

**Fluid in (food, drink) = Fluid out (urine)**

- When kidneys are not working, your body cannot control this fluid balance



## Too Much Fluid (Fluid Overload)

- Shortness of breath
- Increased weight
- Increased blood pressure
- Swelling

## Too Little Fluid (Dehydration)

- Tiredness
- Weakness
- Dizziness

## Avoiding Problems at Home

**Peritonitis:** infection in the abdomen

**Exit Site Infection:** where the PD catheter comes out of your body



### How to Prevent Infections:

- Good hand washing
- Good dialysis technique
- Good exit site care
- Avoiding constipation

### Signs of Infection:

- Cloudy dialysis fluid
- Stomach pain
- Fever
- Feeling unwell
- Diarrhea
- Redness or pain around exit site

**Talk to a nurse right away if you have these symptoms. Infection will not go away on its own.**

## Strengths of PD

- Relieves symptoms of uremia
- Less stressful on body
- More flexible diet
- Decreased time in hospital (decreased exposure to infection)
- Easier to travel
- Flexible treatment schedule
- Medical supply cost covered by government

## Limitations of PD

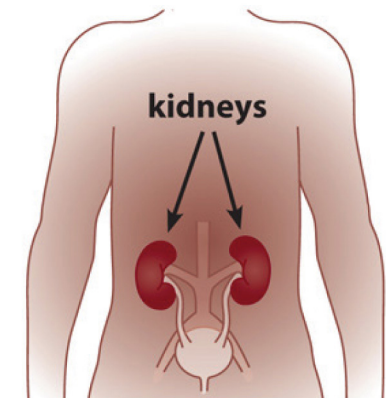
- Permanent catheter
- Risk for infection
- Daily part of life
- New food choices
- Space to store medical supplies

## Making a Decision

1. Nurse will meet with you to ask important questions
2. Healthcare team will review and decide if you are a candidate for PD
3. If you are a candidate, you will be referred to a surgeon for placement of the catheter
4. Arrangements will be made through the Renal Clinic for your training in Charlottetown
5. Remember, you always have support available to assist you (24 hour PD nurse on call, dietician, and social worker)

# Peritoneal Dialysis (PD)

What are the facts about PD?



**Provincial Renal Clinic  
Queen Elizabeth Hospital  
Charlottetown PE**

**Phone: 902-894-0019**

**Health PEI**  
One Island Health System