

## Glossary of Frequently Used PD Terminology

**Catheter irrigation:** A procedure using a large syringe containing heparinized dialysis solution or normal saline in a push/pull technique in attempts to flush the blockage in a PD catheter. The blockage is frequently created by fibrin formation or omentum blocking the PD catheter.

**Catheter (PD):** A small flexible tube surgically placed in the abdomen that allows dialysate to move in and out of the peritoneal cavity.

**Cell count:** A measure of the number of white blood cells in a specimen such as dialysate effluent.

**Chronic kidney disease (CKD):** Kidney function that is less than normal and will never get better. It may be mild or progressive.

**Clean:** free from foreign or extraneous matter

**Continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (CAPD):** Manual form of peritoneal dialysis that requires no machine. The client performs 4 (or more) manual PD exchanges per day .

**Continuous cycling peritoneal dialysis (CCPD):** uses a machine called a cyclor to perform the PD exchanges. CCPD is performed at night when the patient is sleeping. Also referred to as automated peritoneal dialysis (APD) or cyclor dialysis.

**Culture and sensitivity:** Identification of microorganisms in a clinical specimen such as dialysate effluent to determine the type of

microorganism present and the susceptibility of the microorganism to specific antibiotics.

**Dextrose:** A substance found in PD solution that enables removal of fluid from the blood.

**Dialysis:** A treatment that removes the waste products and excess fluid from the blood by using a filter, or membrane, in much the same way kidneys would. The patient's peritoneal membrane acts as the semi permeable membrane in peritoneal dialysis.

**Dialysate:** A solution used to draw waste products and extra fluid out of the blood.

**Drain:** The process of removing the used dialysate solution form the peritoneal cavity.

**Drain bag:** The bag into which fluid (effluent) from the peritoneal cavity drains.

**Dwell:** The period of time that the solution (dialysate) remains inside of the peritoneal cavity. This is when dialysis is occurring.

**Effluent:** The drained fluid that has dwelled in the patient. It contains waste products from the client.

**End stage renal disease (ESRD):** Stage 5 chronic kidney disease requiring treatment such as dialysis, transplant to live. Conservative management may be an option for some patients if they do not choose dialysis treatment or transplant.

**Exchange:** Refers to PD cycles that include a fill,

dwell and drain phase/cycle.

**Exit site:** The area surrounding the peritoneal catheter where it exits the abdomen.

**Fill:** The process of filling the patient's peritoneal cavity with new dialysate solution.

**Fill volume:** The amount of fluid to be delivered to the patient's peritoneal cavity during each exchange/ cycle.

**Fibrin:** A stringy substance, often described as cotton like fibers, or cooked egg whites that can block the catheter.

**Gram stain:** A lab test used to detect bacteria or fungi in a sample such as dialysate effluent taken from the site of a suspected infection. Distinguishes and classifies bacterial species into gram positive and gram negative.

**Inflow failure:** PD solution will not flow from the dialysate bag into the peritoneal cavity.

**Kidney:** One of two organs at the back of the abdominal cavity on each side of the spinal column. Kidneys remove water and waste, produces hormones, regulates blood pressure, and makes red blood cells.

**Medication port:** A re-sealable rubber injection site for adding medications into the PD dialysate solution bag.

**Nephrologist:** Doctor who specializes in diseases of the kidneys.

**Outlet port clamp:** Clamp used to prevent the out

flow of solution.

**Outflow failure:** The dialysate or effluent drainage volume is substantially less than the dialysate inflow volume with no evidence of pericatheter leakage. Usually occurs soon after catheter placement. Often preceded by irregular effluent drainage, increased fibrin in the dialysate or constipation.

**Pericatheter leakage:** Evidence of leakage of PD solution around the PD catheter exit site.

**Peritoneal cavity:** An enclosed cavity which contains all the abdominal organs (except kidneys). The peritoneal cavity holds the fluid for PD to take place.

**Peritoneal dialysis (PD):** A form of dialysis that uses the peritoneal membrane to filter wastes and excess fluid. The form of dialysis most often occurs in the patient's home and is performed daily.

**Peritoneal membrane:** A thin membrane that lines the abdominal and pelvic cavities. This membrane acts as a filter to remove waste products and excess fluid from the blood in PD.

**Peritonitis:** An infection of the peritoneal membrane lining the peritoneal cavity. It is a serious complication of peritoneal dialysis which occurs when bacteria enters the peritoneal cavity.

**Phase:** A part of a cycle. Each cycle is divided into a fill phase, a dwell phase and a drain phase.

**Pull ring:** A color coded rubber covering that protects the sterile patient connector on the solution bag.

**Solution bags:** Solution bags contain the dialysate

that is delivered to the peritoneal cavity during therapy. Solution types manufactured by Baxter are:

- **Dianeal:** The standard type of solution that allows dialysis to occur. Dianeal is supplied in various strengths/concentrations and volumes.
- **Extraneal/icodextrin:** A special type of solution that removes more fluid and requires a dwell time of 8 hours or more. Used as the last fill for patient's who are on CCPD.
- **Nutrineal:** A special type of solution that removes minimal fluid from the patient while providing extra protein.
- **Physioneal:** A bicarbonate based solution which also contains dextrose.

**Sterile:** Free from living germs as a result of a sterilization process that kills all forms of life from an item or field.

**Strength:** Used to refer to the concentration or percentage of dextrose in the dialysate. Examples of PD solutions strengths are: 0.5%, 1.5%, 2.5%, and 4.25%.

**Target weight:** Patient's ideal weight with no evidence of excess fluid or dehydration.

**Transfer set:** A disposable plastic tube that is attached to the end of the patient's PD catheter. It has a twist clamp and the sterile end is always covered with a minicap.

**Ultrafiltration (UF):** Refers to the additional fluid that was removed from the patient's body as part of dialysis therapy.