

Guidelines for Hemodialysis Triage

Indications & Urgency Criteria: Radiology (Provincial)

Finding		< 24 hours	< 48 hours	< 1 week	< 2 weeks	< 1 month
<i>Flow/Hemodynamics</i>	Access Flow: • AV Fistula		< 300 ml/min or > 50% drop from baseline	300-500 ml/min or > 20% drop from baseline		
	Access Flow: • AV Graft	< 400 ml/min	400-500 ml/min or > 50% drop from baseline	500-650 ml/min or > 20% drop from baseline		
	Blood Pump Speed		< 200 ml/min with 15g needle or > 50% drop from baseline	<300 ml/min by week 3 of initiating HD or < 350 ml/min for established HD (in 2 consecutive runs).	25-50% drop from baseline	
	Venous Pressures		> 30% increase (3 consecutive runs)	> 125-150 mmHg using 15- 16g needles @ BPS 200 ml/min (3 consecutive runs) > 50% above baseline in 3 consecutive runs	25-50% above baseline (AVF)	
	Arterial Pressure			Less than -220 (e.g., -240) mmHg using 15-16g needles @BPS 200 ml/min (3 consecutive runs)		
<i>Dialysis Adequacy</i>	Urea Reduction Ratio			< 66% without other obvious cause.		
	KT/V			< 1.2 without other obvious cause		
	Uremic Symptoms			Present without other obvious cause		
<i>Physical Findings</i>	Cannulation	Unable to cannulate		Difficult to cannulate	Prolonged bleeding post needle removal	
	Arm Swelling		Acute (AVG)	Acute (AVF)		Chronic
	Pulse/Thrill	Loss of thrill		Significant decrease in thrill		
<i>Clinical Scenarios</i>	Post-op Thrombectomy			Fistulogram		
	Pre AVF/AVG Creation					Ipsilateral arm venography (high risk patients)
	Steal Syndrome	Arm arteriogram or CT angiogram based on VA clinic assessment				
	Failure to Mature					Fistulogram

Note: Unless stated, refers to AV fistulas and AV grafts.



		CATHETERS				
Finding		< 24 hours	< 48 hours	< 1 week	< 2 weeks	< 1 month
<i>Flows</i>	Absolute Pump Speed (after TPA x 2 and forceful saline flush)	<250 ml/min (acute clinical need for dialysis)	<250 ml/min (subacute need for dialysis)	<250 ml/min	<2 prescribed pump speed	
<i>Dialysis Adequacy</i>	Urea Reduction Ratio			>66% without other obvious cause		
	Kt/V Ratio			< 1.2 without other obvious cause		
	Uremic Systems			Present without other obvious cause		
<i>Physical Findings</i>	Arm Swelling		Acute	Subacute	Chronic	
	Catheter Migration/Extrusion	> 5 cm (also order CXR)	< 5 cm (also order CXR)			