



MY CHOICE, HOME PERITONEAL DIALYSIS (PD)

Myths

vs.

Reality



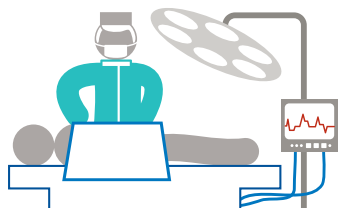
You'll get an infection!

Peritonitis, an abdominal infection, can be prevented by following what you were taught during training and promptly informing your nurse of any concerns. Hemodialysis access infections are often more common and severe.



You'll have to get rid of your pets to do PD at home.

Many people do PD at home with pets. Discuss your pets during PD training to learn how to prevent infections. Keep your treatment area clean and keep pets out of the room when connecting and disconnecting.



If you've had previous abdominal surgery, you can't do PD.

Routine abdominal surgeries, like gallbladder removal and c-sections, don't prevent you from doing PD. If you've had abdominal surgery and are interested in PD, talk to your doctor—you may still be a candidate.



If you have vision or hearing problems you can't do PD.

Assistive devices can help with most PD tasks. If you're interested in home dialysis, talk to a home nurse. They can teach you about these devices and let you practice connecting and disconnecting before starting PD to help you and your doctor decide if it's right for you.



You need to have some kidney function in order to do PD.

Kidney function will always be checked, but PD can be done without any kidney function. Peritoneal dialysis is considered as effective as hemodialysis when it comes to removing waste products from the blood for most people.



If you are overweight, you can't do PD.

PD can still be done. The surgeon will evaluate the best placement of the catheter based on your shape and size.

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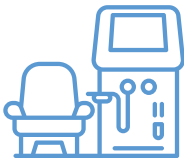
You can't do PD if you are noncompliant in your dialysis center.

Each individual will be evaluated, but people with a high need to control situations may actually do better at home.



You need to have a lot of space at home to do PD.

You do need some space for PD supplies, but many people who live in efficiency apartments, trailers, and other small spaces find a way to make PD work. Talk with a home nurse if you are interested in PD but have concerns about storing supplies in your home.



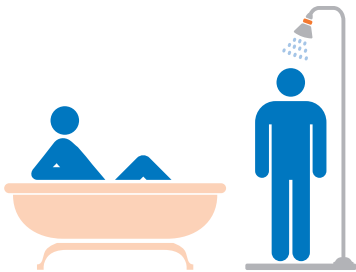
There is only one kind of PD.

PD involves having a special fluid in your abdomen, but there are some choices in how to handle the process, like manually or automated (while you sleep).



When you do PD, you can eat and drink whatever you want.

There are still limitations on your diet and fluid intake, but you have more choices. Your dietitian will guide you.



When you do PD, you will be free to take either a bath or a shower.

Your PD nurse will teach you how to care for your catheter. Showers are allowed, but you can't bathe or submerge your catheter under water. If you enjoy baths, ask about a pre-sternal catheter that avoids submersion. Your nurse will also guide you on safe showering and answer questions about swimming.



To file a grievance, please contact us: IPRO End-Stage Renal Disease Network Program

Corporate Office: 1979 Marcus Avenue, Lake Success, NY 11042-1072

Patient Services: (516) 231-9767 • Toll-Free: (800) 238-3773

Data Management: (516) 268-6426 • Administration: (516) 686-9790

Support Portal: help.esrd.ipro.org/support/home • Website: esrd.ipro.org



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