**Definitions:**

**Hemodialysis Dual Lumen Catheter** - Is a central venous catheter used for the sole purpose of hemodialysis. May also be called Pemcath, Hemocath, or Equistream™.

**Certified Staff** - for staff to be considered certified in accessing a hemodialysis CVC, they must have been certified by a Renal Services CNE. Critical Care staff trained for Code Team or CRRT will also be considered certified for the purpose of this policy.

**Emergent situation** - is a life threatening situation where immediate IV access is crucial, such as a Code Blue, major trauma, where rapid intubation is required, etc.

1. **POLICY**

1.1 Hemodialysis dual lumen catheters will ONLY be accessed by staff who have been certified in hemodialysis central venous catheter care, 

**EXCEPT:**

in a Code Blue or near Code Blue situation, when attempts at obtaining IV access have been unsuccessful. Then, any CVC certified RN or MD may access the line.

2. **PURPOSE**

2.1 To define what qualifies as an emergent situation.

2.2 To ensure the safe use of a hemodialysis dual lumen catheter in an emergent situation.
3. **PROCEDURE**

3.1 Gather the following supplies:

- 1- disposable sterile drape
- 1-pack of 4 x 4 gauze
- 2-6ml luer lock syringes
- 1-surgical mask with splash guard
- 1-pair of appropriate size clean gloves
- Appropriate IV solution/medication
- NS flushes
- Bottle of Chlorhexidine 2%/Isopropyl Alcohol 4% (may use chlorhexidine pledgettes in place of 4x 4 and solution if solution unavailable)

3.2 To access the hemodialysis CVC

3.2.1 Pull off any dressing covering the lumens

3.2.2 Wash hands, apply gloves and surgical mask

3.2.3 Place sterile drape under hubs of catheter

3.2.4 Ensure clamps are closed and take any medication labels off

3.2.5 Select lumen to be accessed

3.2.6 Apply Chlorhexidine to sterile gauze and scrub connection for one full minute.

3.2.7 Remove cap from selected lumen, keeping end sterile

3.2.8 Attach a 6 ml syringe

3.2.9 Open clamp

3.2.10 Aspirate a minimum of 3 ml from catheter

**Note:** Hemodialysis dual lumen catheters **MUST be aspirated prior to use in ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.**

3.2.11 Close clamp and remove syringe, keeping lumen sterile.

3.2.12 Flush lumen with 10ml normal saline in a 12 ml syringe, using start-stop method.

3.2.13 Lumen is now ready to use. Lumen should always be either locked by certified staff or have fluid infusing (minimum at TKO rates).

   If second lumen is to be used the procedure must be repeated for that lumen. Use a new syringe for each lumen.

   **Note:** contact Hemodialysis unit to notify them that the patient has had their dialysis catheter accessed.
3.3 Discontinuing Access to Hemodialysis CVC

3.3.1 Contact Nephrologist on call for orders to discontinue/lock the hemodialysis CVC.

3.3.2 Certified staff may lock the catheter without consulting the renal unit.

3.4 Document lock solution administration on appropriate record.

4. REFERENCES

Central Venous Catheters Learning Package, Saskatoon Health Region, March 2011


Northern Saskatchewan Renal Services Policy and Procedure Manual, Saskatoon Health region, April 2012