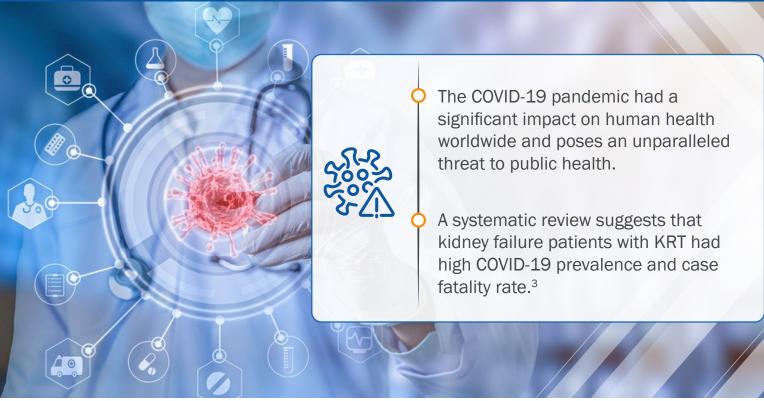


Peritoneal Dialysis Catheter Insertion is an Essential Medical Service for Kidney Failure Patients in COVID-19 Pandemic^{1,2}



The impact of COVID-19 pandemic on dialysis care



COVID-19: Coronavirus disease 2019; KRT: Kidney replacement therapy

COVID-19 and Acute Kidney Injury



KRT could be required to treat AKI due to severe COVID-19 infection.⁴

The sudden rise in COVID-19 cases has led to a critical and unexpected shortage of all resources and personnel in providing HD and CRRT.⁵

The scarcity of resources can be fulfilled by incorporating PD for AKI treatment by the nephrologist.⁵

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Peritoneal dialysis as a preferred therapy for kidney failure patients during COVID-19

Allows for easier self-isolation, potentially lowering the risk of cluster infection.

Simpler form of home therapy with less training time compared to home HD.⁶

Multiple studies suggest that COVID-19 infections are less common in patients on PD than on HD.⁷⁻¹⁰

For these reasons, it appears prudent to offer PD as a preferred therapy during the COVID-19 pandemic.⁶

PD: Peritoneal dialysis.

ISPD Recommendations



Peritoneal dialysis catheter can be inserted via the following methods

Open surgical

Peritoneoscopic/ laparoscopic Percutaneous with or without ultrasound or fluoroscopic guidance

For the use of healthcare professionals only.

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The need for percutaneous catheter insertion during COVID-19 pandemic

Open surgical and laparoscopic catheter insertion have been commonly used to gain PD access.¹



During the COVID-19 pandemic, surgical and laparoscopic catheter insertion was less favored because of reduced theater list, potential aerosol formation, and viral transmission.¹

The catheter can be placed percutaneously at the bedside by a surgeon, a nephrologist, or a radiologist.⁶



Image guidance by ultrasonography and fluoroscopy may be utilized to improve outcomes.¹¹

Requires local anesthesia, and is minimally invasive.⁶

Medical insertion pathways using percutaneous technique should be considered if available.1

Summary

PD should be considered as the preferred therapy in kidney failure patients during COVID-19.1



Nephrologists may have to incorporate PD for the treatment of AKI during the pandemic to efficiently manage the shortage of resources.⁵

Percutaneous PD catheter insertion is the preferred approach during the pandemic as it can be done at bedside and is minimally invasive.^{6,12}

Healthcare policy should prioritize PD catheter placement and PD catheter insertions should not be considered elective or routine procedures.⁵

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