

Essential steps to keep patients safe from COVID-19 in Haemodialysis Units



Patients are at risk from other patients, staff and home contacts

Strong, supportive leadership



Clear communication



PATIENT AND STAFF EDUCATION

- Symptom reporting
- Local practices to stay safe
- Importance of compliance



VACCINATION

- Encourage vaccination
- Discuss vaccine hesitancy
- Answer questions/ concerns



SYMPTOMS-INFORM HD UNIT

- Symptomatic patients dialyse in isolation or cohorted
- PCR test ASAP



PATIENTS WEAR MASKS

- During travel, waiting and dialysis
- Try not to touch face mask



ISOLATE / COHORT 10 DAYS

- Symptomatic or COVID positive
- Immunosuppressed need negative test before de-isolation



HAND HYGIENE (wash / gel)

- On entry and exit from HD unit
- Before and after snacks
- Before and after touching mask



MAXIMISE SOCIAL DISTANCING

- During travel
- In waiting areas
- Between dialysis chairs



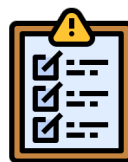
OPTIMISE CLEANING

- All shared equipment
- Dialysis chair, all surfaces
- Communal areas, toilets



MAXIMISE FRESH AIR

- Increase intake of fresh air
- Open windows at changeover
- Keep windows open if possible



LOCAL RISK ASSESSMENT

- Audit practice and compliance
- Identify areas for improvement



COVID-19 TESTING

- Patients** – regular asymptomatic screening PCR tests
- Staff** – regular asymptomatic screening as per local policy



RECOGNISE COVID OUTBREAKS

- 2 linked people within 14 days
- Test all staff & patients
- Report to local IPC team
- Perform root cause analysis