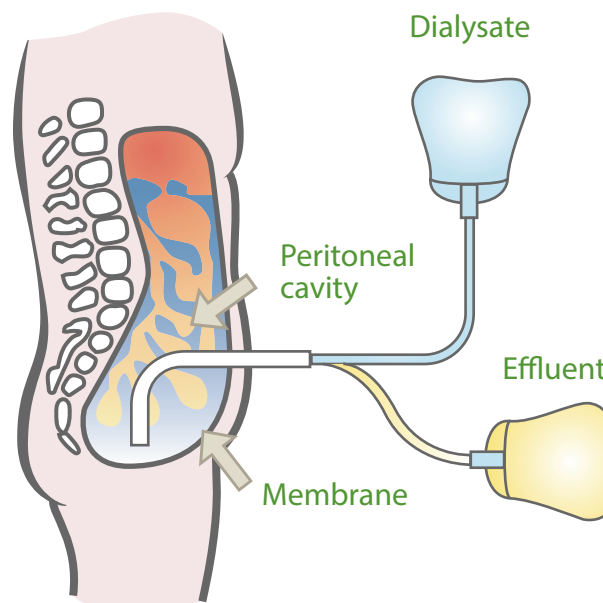


# PERITONEAL DIALYSIS

Peritoneal Dialysis (PD) is a medical treatment that uses the lining inside your abdomen (called the peritoneal membrane) to remove waste and extra fluid from your blood, since your kidneys no longer do it properly. PD is done at home after successfully completing some training. Compared to other types of dialysis, PD has fewer dietary restrictions and allows for more flexibility with work and travel.



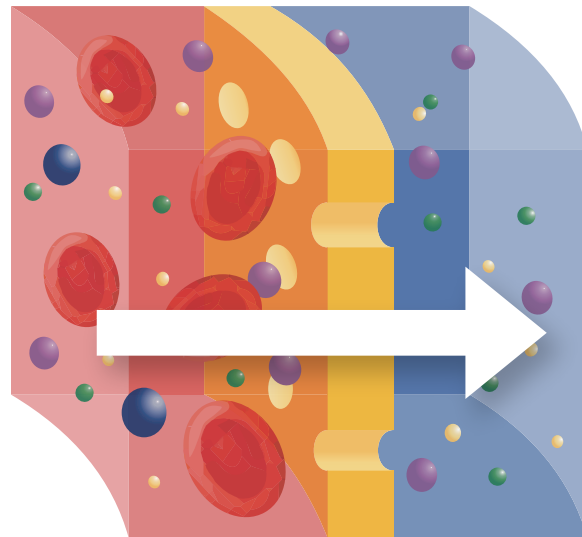
The peritoneal membrane forms a sac called the peritoneal cavity, located in your abdomen. Through a PD catheter, the peritoneal cavity is filled with a special solution called dialysate. During dialysis, waste products and extra water from the surrounding blood vessels are drawn through the walls of the peritoneal membrane into the peritoneal cavity, acting like a filter.

# PERITONEAL DIALYSIS

After a set period of time, the used solution (called effluent) that contains waste products and extra water is drained, discarded and replaced with fresh dialysate. This process, called an exchange, is repeated a few times manually during the day or automatically by a machine at night while you sleep.

An exchange has three steps:

- Drain the used solution or effluent from the peritoneal cavity
- Fill the peritoneal cavity with fresh dialysis solution
- Dwell or allow solution to remain in the peritoneal cavity for a set period of time. This is when dialysis happens.



#### About the Chronic Kidney Disease Vascular Access Fact Sheets:

This Fact Sheet was created by the Ontario Renal Network ("ORN"), a work unit within Cancer Care Ontario ("CCO"), in collaboration with the Provincial Vascular Access Working Group ("PVAWG") to provide patients with standardized educational material about Catheters. This Fact Sheet is to be used for informational purposes only. This Fact Sheet is not a substitute for medical advice. This Fact Sheet may not include all relevant information and is not an exhaustive resource. Always consult with your healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns. The information in this Fact Sheet does not create a physician-patient relationship between CCO/ORN/PVAWG and you.

#### Need this information in an accessible format?

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