

Peritoneal Dialysis May Be the Best Option for You



A resource focused on helping you understand the dialysis treatment option that may be best for you now or in the future.



Question: I have had surgery in my stomach area. Can I still do Peritoneal Dialysis (PD)?



Reality: You can still do PD if you've had abdominal surgeries like hernia repair, C-section, and some transplants. Your kidney doctor (nephrologist) and surgeon will let you know if PD is an option for you.



Question: What if I have problems with my vision or hearing? Can I still do PD?



Reality: There are aids, such as a hands-free magnifier with a battery-operated light or voice recorder to speak out instructions, available to help you with most tasks involved in doing PD.



Scan me for more information.



Question: Do patients need to have a lot of space to do PD at home?



Reality: Patients do need some space for PD. A closet-sized space is typically needed for supplies.



Scan me for more information.



Question: Can patients who are overweight perform PD?



Reality: While all PD involves having a special fluid in the abdomen, patients who are overweight should talk with their doctor about what is the best option for their circumstance.



Question: I have heard that the risk of infection is great with PD, especially in the stomach area. Is that true?



Reality: When you follow the directions you were taught to perform your dialysis treatment, the risk of infection is small. Do not cut out any steps you were taught by the home nurse.



Question: Can I take a bath or shower as a PD patient?



Reality: Once the PD catheter site has healed (about 10–14 days), patients may shower daily. Avoid swimming or baths unless approved by your doctor.



Scan me for more information.



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