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How To Successfully Train the Physically Impaired Patient to Perform Peritoneal Dialysis

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Statement of Practice Problem: Patient physical impairment may preclude the healthcare team from considering peritoneal dialysis (PD) as a viable renal replacement therapy option.

Purpose: To empower the PD nurse with the knowledge of a variety of tools and resources available to enable the physically impaired patient to successfully perform PD.

Methods: The following will be reviewed:

- *Discussion of the services available within the community for the physically impaired patient.
- *Examination of special aids available for the visually and hearing impaired individual.
- *Demonstration of a PD assist device for the arthritic or dexterity impaired person.
- *Training suggestions that can be incorporated during the learning of PD specific to the physical impairment.
- *Reimbursement considerations.
- *Key takeaways for long term success on PD.

Implications: By providing an overview of the resources and tools to the PD nurse, the physical impaired patient can now be considered a candidate to perform PD. This, in turn, can result in optimal long term success on PD.

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