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### Peritoneal Dialysis Technique Failure Rate Is Decreasing Due to Fewer Deaths and Infections

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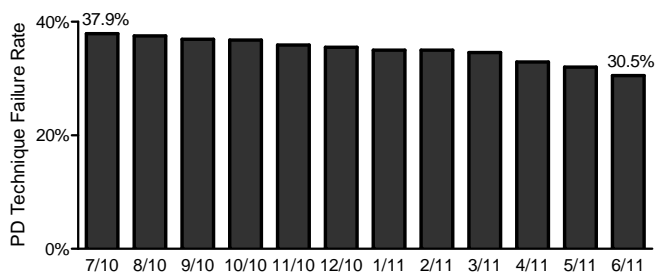
**Background:** Peritoneal dialysis (PD) enables patients to continue to live full and meaningful lives. Reducing the PD technique failure rate is an important component to maintaining access to PD. We determined PD technique failure rates between June 2010 and June 2011 to elucidate any recent trends.

**Methods:** In a retrospective analysis, we calculated the overall technique failure rate in a large dialysis organization. Technique failure rate was calculated on a rolling 12 month basis as

**Technique failure rate** =  $\frac{\text{total losses in past 12 months}}{\text{average census of month 1 and month 12}}$  and excluded transplants and divestitures.

Dialysis units reported reasons for PD patient losses monthly at quality improvement facility management meetings.

**Results:** The month-over-month overall PD technique failure rate has decreased (Figure). For the 12 months ending June 2011, the top reasons for stopping PD were death (8.6%), PD-related infections (6.5%), and transplant (6.1%). The PD patient losses due to PD-related infection decreased 26.1% between June 2010 (8.8% of overall technique failure rate) and June 2011 (6.5% of overall rate), a result of a major decrease in peritonitis rates.



**Conclusions:** Between 2010 and 2011, the overall PD technique failure rate has decreased steadily. Decreases in mortality rate and PD-related infections were the main reasons for the lower technique failure rate, thus lengthening the time patients persist on PD.

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