



2018 ANNA NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

APRIL 15-18 ~ WESTGATE LAS VEGAS RESORT, LAS VEGAS, NV

Utilizing a New Model of Care to Improve Patient Experience on Hemodialysis

Erica Kang, BScN, RN, The Scarborough Hospital, Scarborough, Ontario

At a community hospital in Toronto, Canada, a new innovation developed with the utilization of home design hemodialysis machines for in hospital-based patients. The goal was to develop a new model of care for patients that could not tolerate conventional hemodialysis 3 times a week.

Patients who were exhibiting frequent episodes of eventful hypotension, Restless Leg Syndrome, and fluid removal challenges did not cope well on conventional hemodialysis. This led to an increase in emergency room visits and hospitalizations, impacting overall quality of life.

Developing the new model of care resulted in a pilot project of 2 groups of patients who were selected based on the above symptoms while on conventional hemodialysis. Group 1 consisted of 4 patients on a short run daily dialysis, and Group 2 consisted of 4 patients on 3 times a week dialysis. Evaluations include baseline blood works based on patients' clearances before and after the new model of care, blood pressure monitoring trends, patients' reports on symptoms and monitoring hospitalization rates.

At the end of the trial run, the efficacy of this model revealed that there was a reduction in emergency room visits and hospitalizations based on fluid overload symptoms, resulting in improved patient quality of life. The pilot project was successful and led to an expansion of the unit in January 2017, accommodating 14 patients including those with congestive heart failure.

Abstract selected for presentation at ANNA National Symposium, Las Vegas, 2018