

Decreasing The Incidence Of Peritonitis In Peritoneal Dialysis

Patients: By Improving the Recognition and Technique

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Abstract

Peritonitis is a common and potentially lethal complication in peritoneal dialysis (PD) patients. It mainly results from malpractice of dialysate exchange. The purpose of our study is to improve the recognition and aseptic technique in PD patients. The infection rate of PD peritonitis in our center obviously increased during 2006. According to our analysis, 40.5% of pathogens are related to the contamination experienced while exchanging dialysate. Therefore, we wished to emphasize once again the importance of patient learning. The principle of learning included recognition, technique and emotions. Our investigation revealed poor recognition and low technique accuracy in PD peritonitis patients. Our improvement methods comprised poster handouts, revising the PD home care manual, education medium (handouts and DVD) advocating, and reinforcing the follow-up system. Our results revealed better recognition (from 55.9% to 99.7%) and a more accurate aseptic technique (from 17.6% to 80%). In our opinion, the infection rate of PD peritonitis will be lowered even further by reinforcing patient education.

Key words : peritoneal dialysis (PD), peritonitis, recognition and technique

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