

Dialysis Patient Responsibilities

As an end stage renal disease (ESRD) patient, you have the responsibility to:

- **Be an informed patient.**
 - Try to learn all you can about your disease, symptoms, treatment options, and your rights and responsibilities as a kidney patient. There are resources and people to help you with this.
- **Be prepared for an emergency** in the dialysis unit or at home.
 - Recognize what an emergency is, what actions must be taken in emergency situations, and have a plan.
- **Be a part of your healthcare team** by talking with them and providing them with all your current health information.
 - Make sure to keep your team informed of any changes because correct information and communication helps your quality of care.
- **Obtain and take the medications prescribed to you**, as this is in your best interest.
 - Learn what medications you take, why you take them, the medication strength, and how they should be taken. This will help you be an important part of your healthcare team.
 - Let your healthcare team know if you have trouble affording your medication or why you are unable to take it; there may be resources to help you.
- **Follow your diet and fluid restrictions** for better health.
 - If you do not understand or are unable to follow your diet, ask for more instructions. There are people to help you.
- **Arrive for your scheduled dialysis treatment on time**, and/or inform the unit if you are unable to come.
 - This will help the facility stay on schedule for other patients.
- **Stay for the entire treatment** to complete the prescribed dialysis.
 - This is a very important part of your healthcare that you control.
- **Be considerate of others** by following facility rules and regulations.
 - Speak respectfully to other patients and staff so you can contribute to a positive environment.



If you have questions or wish to file a grievance, please contact:

ESRD Network 13

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