

Dialysis

- Dialysis is a medical procedure for people who do not have functioning kidneys.
- There are two type of dialysis:
 - Hemodialysis
 - Peritoneal Dialysis
- Hemodialysis:
 - Performed on a hemodialysis unit (artificial kidney).
 - A shunt (small hole for fluid) is implanted into the patient's arm and connected to the unit.
 - Blood flows through the filter to the unit.
 - Filters contain dialysate—a solution made of water and electrolytes.
 - The solution cleanses the blood—like the kidneys do.
 - Blood is returned to the body through a vein.
 - Each treatment takes several hours and must be completed about three times a week.
- Peritoneal Dialysis
 - Lining of the peritoneal cavity (abdomen) acts like a filter.
 - Fluid flows through the peritoneal cavity and is exchanged through a catheter.
 - **Continuous Peritoneal Dialysis**: patient wears a bag that holds the used solution.
 - **Continuous Cycling Peritoneal Dialysis**: machine cycles the dialysate fluid while the patient sleeps.

