# Can CVC Boost Home HD Acceptance? - Pro

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# Disclosures

- Member of the KDOQI Vascular Access Guidelines Workgroup (2020)
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A well-informed patient is willing to consider HHD but only with a CVC

Will you deny him this choice?

### Is there evidence that HHD is superior to ICHD?



Trusted evidence.
Informed decisions.
Better health.

**Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews** 

[Intervention Review]

#### Home versus in-centre haemodialysis for people with kidney failure

Editorial group: Cochrane Kidney and Transplant Group.

Publication status and date: Edited (no change to conclusions), published in Issue 5, 2024.

## Cochrane review results

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# Key message

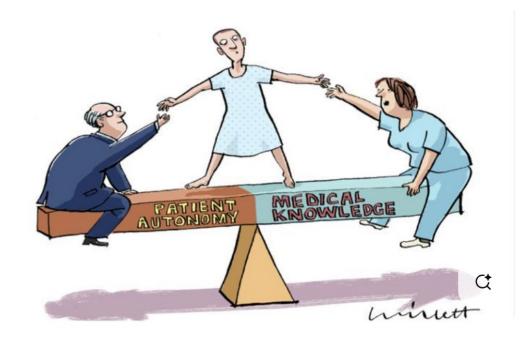
HHD may be preferred by some patients. However, the research gives us very uncertain answers.

Decres

There was insufficient as association of HHD and ICHD with fatigue or vascular access outcomes.

# So then why HHD?

- Provides patients with greater autonomy
- Possibly improves patient experience
- Lower healthcare cost burden
- Address nursing shortage



# Patient perspective to choosing HHD

Anxiety of self care

Fear of needles, pain, cosmetic reasons

Psychological burden of learning to self-cannulate

Caregiver burden

Dialysis Needle-Related Distress: Patient Perspectives on Identification, Prevention and Management



#### Aim



Exploring the impact of needle-related distress on hemodialysis patients' quality of life and treatment decisions

#### Methods



Semi-structured interviews with 15 patients from an Australian Tertiary Centre



People with current or recent experience of haemodialysis



Dialysis cannulation, needle related distress & potential solutions were explored



Thematic analysis of transcripts

#### Four themes & eleven subthemes identified **Hidden Distress** Suffering in Silence



Educational preparedness



Empathic communication: **Psychosocial** support



Results

#### Coping with Pain



Nursing Skill & cannulation technique



Self-Management



Self-management tools & distraction strategies



Duncanson E et al. 2023

Visual abstract by: Dr PS Vali, MD DM M @ DrPSVali

Conclusion Needle-related distress is an often-hidden element of the hemodialysis experience. Patients learn to tolerate it as an inevitable part of dialysis for survival. Nurses' technical skills and the dialysis environment they create are key determinants of the patient cannulation experience. Proposed solutions include psychological screening, education for patients to self-manage distress and training for nurses in communication and providing relevant psychological support.

# Patient perspective on vascular access

Standardized Outcomes in Nephrology (SONG – HD initiative)

Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation, Volume 35, Issue 4, April 2020

# Top 3 outcomes important to patient

- Vascular function avoid multiple interventions
- Aneurysm/pseudoaneurysm (appearance)
- Infection

### CVC use prevents delay in transition to HHD

AVF maturation failure in the US is between 20-40%

Multiple interventions prior to first use of AVF

Average of 5 interventions as reported by DOPPS (Am J Kidney Dis. 2021)

Delay in transition from ICHD to HHD

Longer the patient dialyzes in ICHD – higher the inertia to transition to HHD

<4% transition to HHD after receiving ICHD for > 90 days (USRDS 2022)

Failed PD transitioning to HD

# Non-infectious complications

#### **AVF/AVG**

- Infiltrations, hematoma
- Aneurysm formation
- Needle dislodgement
  - exsanguination, death
  - 1:11,000 -20,000 HHD
  - 1:60,000 -70,000 ICHD
  - (Seminars in Dialysis. 2021;34:269–274)
- Incidence increases with number of HD sessions per week

#### **CVC**

Thrombosis

# Elephant in the room – Infection

What is the evidence?

Do we have a better alternative?

## CVC and Infection

Infection rate is higher with CVC compared to AVF /AVG

Is it higher in the HHD compared to ICHD population?

#### Multiple confounders

- Observational, retrospective analysis
- Patient phenotype is inconsistent
- Duration and frequency of HD session is unclear or not reported
- Change in vascular access type over time is often unknown

# CVC infection in HHD - Are we interpreting the data correctly?

**EDITORIALS** 

# The Burden of Harm—What Is the Ideal Vascular Access for Home Hemodialysis?



Trinh, Emilie; Chan, Christopher T. Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology 11(2):p 205-206, February 2016.



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Home versus in-centre haemodialysis for people with kidney failure

# Lockridge et al – Hemodialysis Int 2015

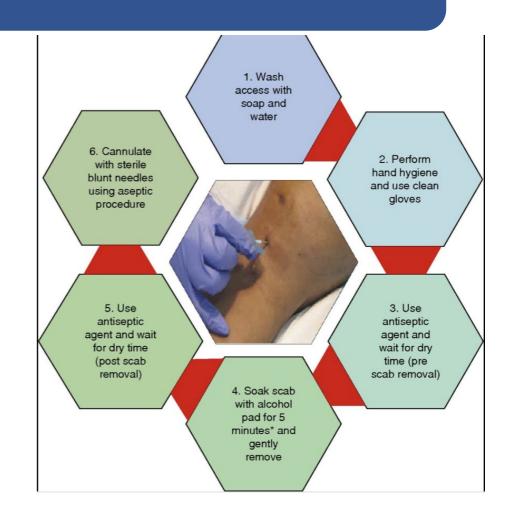
- Single center nocturnal HHD vs ICHD
- 63 patients on nocturnal HHD
- No difference in the rate of catheter-related sepsis
  - NHHD (1.77 per 100 patient months) vs IHD (2.03 per 100 patient months; P = 0.21).

# Canadian data on CVC use for HHD

- 30% of Canadian HHD population use CVC
  - Perl, Lok, Chan Kidney Int. 2006;70(7):1348-1354
- Low adverse event rates irrespective of vascular access type
  - 0.049 per AVF year (Tennankore et al. Am J Kidney Dis 2015)
  - 0.015 per AVG year
  - 0.022 per CVC year

# AVF Cannulation nightmare BH vs RL

- Button hole cannulation is generally preferred by patients and caregivers
- AVF infection can be prevented with education and training
- Real life data
  - 3-fold higher risk of AVF infection when compared to rope-ladder
  - Muir et. al Clin J Am Soc Nephrol 2014



### Consensus recommendations from Experts

### Vascular Access for Home Hemodialysis: A Perspective on Tunneled Central Venous Catheters at Home

Kidney Med Vol 7 | Iss 1 | January 2025

Michael Alexander Aragon, Osama El Shamy, Sijie Zheng, Glenn M. Chertow, Joel Glickman, Eric Weinhandl, Paul Komenda, Stephan Dunning, Frank Liu, and Charmaine Lok

#### Table 1. Key Take-Away Points

- Tunneled CVC will continue to play a vital role in the care of patients with ESKD.
- Home hemodialysis provides an avenue to improve outcomes and reduce the cost of ESKD care.
- The ESKD Life-Plan and vascular access recommendations consider tunneled hemodialysis catheters a reasonable approach at times during the patient ESKD journey.
- Outcomes in patients using CVCs, in-center and at home, are similar.
- We recommend that the decision to dialyze at home should be independent of the patient's current or long-term vascular access plan.

If 80% of patients can receive ICHD with a CVC why are we so reluctant and resistant when it comes to HHD?

**AVF** 

CVC

Training needs

Lack of evidence

Patient experience

Prevent delays in transition

Patient autonomy

### Time to rethink and reevaluate our practice

- Patient centric approach
- Aligns with the federal initiatives
- Prevent delays in transition of care
  - New start to HHD
  - Failed PD to HHD
  - Failed transplant to HHD
  - Prevalent ICHD to HHD
- Aligns with KDOQI Vascular Access Guidelines ESKD Life Plan
- Supported by a panel of experts

