

Module 9 – Giving Yourself Medications

This section will discuss how to give medications while on dialysis.

EPREX® or ARANESP®

1. Prepare you medication

- Check medication (Right drug, right dose, expiry date)

2. Injecting Medication

If you are injecting the medication into the blood line:

- a) Look for medication port
- b) Swab medication port
- c) Remove cap if your machine has a cap
- d) Inject the medication slowly over 3 seconds

3. Record your medication dose and date on your run log or calendar.



Important to note:

What medication are you receiving?

Dose of medication:

Giving yourself iron



Supplies:

- 2 alcohol swabs
- 1-10ml syringe
- 1- 21 gauge needle
- IV medication infusion line
- "Y" connector
- 100ml normal saline mini bag
- Prescribed IV Iron
- IV medication label



↑
saline
bag

↑
IV medication
infusion line



Important to note:

I use _____ iron. I use _____ vials. My dose is _____.

1. Check iron (right drug, right dose, expiry date).
2. Draw up medication into syringe.
3. Swab medication port on saline bag.
4. Inject medication.
5. Invert the medication bag (turn upside down) and withdraw air.
6. Close medication infusion line roller clamp.
7. Spike medication line into normal saline mini bag.
8. Attach medication line to one side of the "Y" connector.
9. Squeeze chamber until half full.
10. Open roller clamp (slowly) until medication is at the end of the "Y" connector tail.

11. Close roller clamp and the clamp on the “Y” connector.
12. Attach medication label to mini bag.

Attach to “Y” connector, IV line and medication mini bag to the machine prior to dialysis.

1. Stop pump.
2. Clamp saline infusion line and arterial infusion line clamp if it is not already clamped.
3. Carefully separate the saline infusion line and attach it to the free side of the “Y” connector.
4. Attach tail end of the “Y” connector to the saline infusion port.
5. **Keep medication line closed until you are on dialysis.**

Once on dialysis (and first checks have been completed):

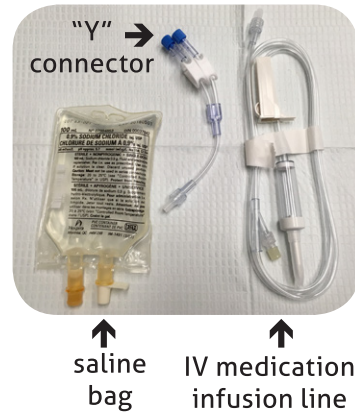
1. Open clamp on saline infusion port and the clamp on the “Y” connector attached to the medication bag.
2. Slowly open roller clamp on the medication infusion line.
3. Allow iron infusion to run at one drop per second. Give slowly over the first hour of dialysis.
4. Close medication roller clamp when iron infusion is completed and clamp the “Y” connector it is attached to.
5. Open saline infusion line clamp briefly to rinse out the “Y” connector and arterial infusion port.
6. Clamp saline infusion line and saline infusion port.
7. Record iron on your medication log or calendar.

Giving yourself antibiotics



Supplies:

- 2 alcohol swabs
- 1-10ml syringe
- 1- 21 gauge needle
- IV medication infusion line
- "Y" connector
- 100ml normal saline mini bag
- Prescribed antibiotics
- IV medication label



1. Check antibiotics (right drug, right dose, expiry date).
2. Draw up medication into syringe.
3. Swab medication port on saline bag.
4. Inject medication.
5. Invert the medication bag (turn upside down) and withdraw air.
6. Close medication infusion line roller clamp.
7. Spike medication line into normal saline mini bag.
8. Attach medication line to one side of the "Y" connector.
9. Squeeze chamber until half full.
10. Open roller clamp (slowly) until medication is at the end of the "Y" connector tail.
11. Close roller clamp and the clamp on the "Y" connector.
12. Attach medication label to mini bag.

CV Adding phosphate to an acid jug

1. Prepare medication.

- Check medication (right drug, right dose, expiry date).
- Unscrew tip.
- Measure prescribed amount into medication cup.

2. Add to dialysate jug.

- Pour into full jug.
- Re-cap and shake.

3. Connect jug to machine and proceed with dialysis set-up.



Important to note:

I add _____ mL to my acid jug.

- Phosphate enema is used as a phosphorus additive for dialysis.
- Once opened the phosphate enema can be used for several treatments.
- Ensure you start with a full jug of dialysate.
- Mix thoroughly to avoid conductivity alarms.
- Please refer to machine flip chart on page _____.

CV Adding calcium to an acid jug (for conventional machines)

1. Prepare medication.

- Check medication (right drug, right dose, expiry date).
- Open package.
- Measure prescribed amount into medication cup.

2. Add to dialysate jug.

- Pour into full jug.
- Re-cap and shake.

3. Connect jug to machine and proceed with dialysis set-up.



Important to note:

I add _____ mL to my acid jug.

- Ensure you start with a full jug of dialysate.
- Mix thoroughly to avoid conductivity alarms.
- Please refer to machine flip chart on page _____ .

