

Precautions for COVID-19 or Flu

Important information for kidney patients taking part in peritoneal dialysis (PD) or home hemodialysis (HHD) clinics

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To help keep everyone safe and provide you with the best care during COVID-19 and flu season, we are providing this handout to patients with kidney disease who attend:

- Peritoneal dialysis (PD) clinics
- Home hemodialysis (HHD) clinics

We want to reassure you that your care will continue. We're here to help and support you. Please read this handout carefully. Also please make sure the clinic you visit has your current contact information.

What to do before you come to the clinic

If you are scheduled for an in-person visit, please call the clinic if you have any of these symptoms (Clinic phone #: _____)

- Fever
- Cough (new onset or worsening chronic cough)
- Difficulty breathing / shortness of breath

If you have symptoms, you may be:

- Asked additional questions over the phone by a nurse and given instructions on what to do next
- Asked to postpone your appointment or provided the option of a virtual appointment

What to do when you get to the clinic

You will be required to wear a mask prior to entering the building. Please clean your hands before entering the clinic. Hand sanitizers are available in the patient waiting area. If you have symptoms of COVID-19 or the flu, clinic staff will direct you as to next steps.

For more information on COVID-19

Call 8-1-1 to speak with a nurse with HealthLinkBC Or
Visit the BC Centre for Disease Control website:

- Go to www.bccdc.ca > Health Info > COVID-19
- Or go direct to <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19>

In particular, see the heading “**Priority Populations**” and then the link “**People with Chronic Conditions.**”

Precautions in the unlikely event kidney care is not available

It’s always a good idea to be familiar with the steps you could take if treatment was temporarily unavailable, such as in the case of wildfire, flood, earthquake or other natural disaster.

The BC Renal website has helpful information for kidney patients, including an emergency diet plan and information about medications:

- Go to www.bcrenal.ca > Health Info > Kidney Care > Emergency Preparedness
- Or go direct to <http://www.bcrenal.ca/health-info/kidney-care/emergency-preparedness>

