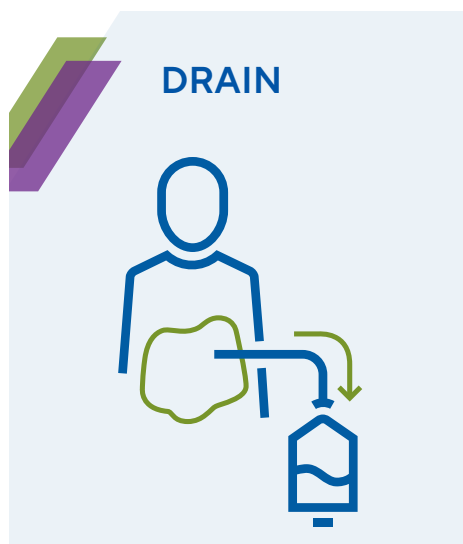


Understanding Peritoneal Dialysis

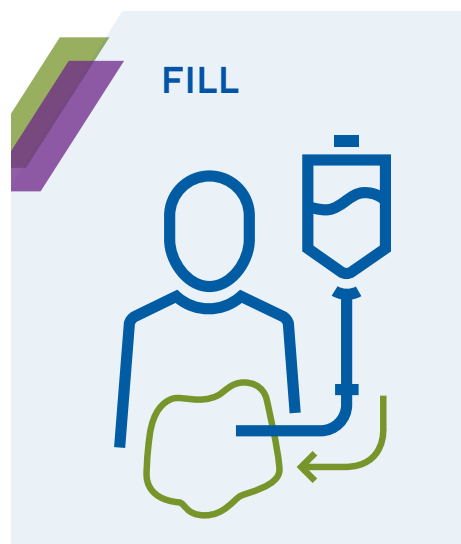


Once kidney function has declined to the point that your body isn't able to sufficiently remove waste products or excess water, dialysis can help to perform those functions. Peritoneal dialysis (PD) is a type of dialysis that you can do at home without a care partner. PD can be done manually or with the help of a machine.

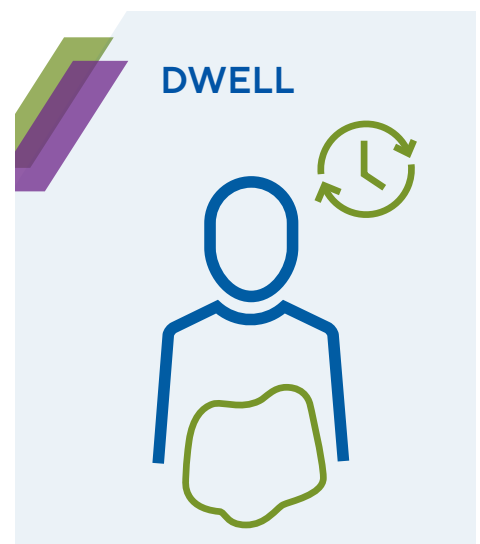
A PD exchange consists of three phases, a drain, a fill, and a dwell phase.



At the end of each dwell, the used PD solution is drained out of the abdomen through the PD catheter.



During the fill, new pre-warmed PD solution flows into your empty abdomen through the same PD catheter.



During the dwell, waste products and extra fluid from your blood move into the PD solution. The time that the PD solution dwells in your abdomen is part of your PD prescription.



To help you stay feeling well, your physician will create a PD prescription to meet your needs. Your PD team will explain how often an exchange is needed and how much PD solution to use each time.

Understanding Peritoneal Dialysis



Your PD Exchange

CONTINUOUS AMBULATORY PERITONEAL DIALYSIS (CAPD)

CAPD is one of two ways to do peritoneal dialysis. CAPD is done without the help of a machine. A tubing set connected to a bag of PD solution and an empty drain bag is used for the exchange. One exchange takes about 30 minutes to drain and fill with new solution. During the dwell, you are disconnected from the tubing set and can perform all your usual daily activities, such as work or hobbies. Most people do five exchanges in one day. You're free to go about your normal activities while the fluid dwells in your abdomen.



AUTOMATED PERITONEAL DIALYSIS (APD)

In APD, a machine known as a cycler will automatically perform multiple exchanges at night. You'll need to be connected to the cycler through a tubing set. You are typically connected between 8–10 hours during the night while you sleep. When the treatment is complete, you'll disconnect from the PD cycler and be able to continue with your daily activities.



CAUTION: Peritoneal dialysis does involve some risks that may be related to the patient, center, or equipment. These include, but are not limited to, infectious complications. Patients should consult their doctor to understand the risks and responsibilities of performing peritoneal dialysis.

