

PD CATHETER FLOW DYSFUNCTION ALGORITHM

STEP 1

- Evaluate for extraluminal issues
- Check for and open kinks, closed clamps on catheter, transfer set and tubing/drain lines
- Check for positional flow by changing body position (side-to-side, sitting/standing)
- Check catheter transfer set as potential origin of blockage
- Recheck flow. Discuss potential of constipation
- If normal flow, process complete
- If no flow continue to Step 2

STEP 2

- Evaluate for intraluminal issues
- Rule out clots and/or fibrin
- Flush catheter with 50 cc normal saline or dialysate using push/pull maneuver
- If normal flow, process complete
- Consider intraperitoneal anticoagulant therapy for prevention¹
- If pain or cramping occurs stop push/pull maneuver. Continue to Step 3

- If no or poor catheter flow, consider use of intraluminal fibrinolytic protocol²
- If normal flow, process complete
- Consider intraperitoneal anticoagulant therapy for prevention¹
- If no flow continue to Step 3

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STEP 3

Perform abdominal x-ray (KUB) to evaluate catheter position

Catheter in correct position, continue to next step

Catheter displaced and/or stool present, continue to next step

- If substantial amount of stool present, begin cathartics until bowel cleared then implement/maintain an effective bowel regimen
- If no substantial amount of stool seen, continue to Step 4

STEP 4

- Evaluate for anatomical interference
- Consider ordering catheter dye study or catheterogram³ and discuss results with physician/surgeon:
 - To potentially perform laparoscopy and visualize position of the catheter
 - To potentially address omental encasement and/or consider repositioning or replacing the catheter
- Flow resumed
- Process complete

References:

1. Li PK, Szeto CC, Piraino B, Bernardini J, Figueiredo A, et al. Peritoneal dialysis-related infections recommendations: 2010 update. *Perit Dial Int.*, 2010;30:393-423.
2. Zorzanello M, Fleming W, Prowant B. Use of tissue plasminogen activator in peritoneal dialysis catheters: a literature review and one center's experience. *Neph Nurs J.* 2004;31:534-537.
3. Xie, J, Ren H, Kirylyuk K, Chen N. Peritoneal dialysis outflow failure from omental wrapping diagnosed by catheterography: *Am J Kidney Dis*, 2010;56:5, 1006-1011.

By its nature, this guide cannot be considered to be exhaustive, and users are encouraged to pursue specific issues that may not be covered herein. This guide is not intended to be the practice of medicine, nor does it replace medical clinical judgment.