



Tasks a nurse may delegate to a dialysis technician to perform:

1. Assemble any necessary supplies at the bedside;
2. Rinse and prime dialyzer and attach and install all required tubing according to dialysis prescription and unit protocol. Test and set monitors and alarms according to unit protocol;
3. Obtain pre-dialysis vital signs, weight, and temperature and inform RN of abnormal or unusual findings;
4. Inspect access site and report condition to RN;
5. Perform venipuncture to initiate dialysis including the administration of local anesthetics by the intradermal, subcutaneous, or topical routes;
6. Obtain blood samples and blood cultures from peripheral blood lines, access site, or graft;
7. Administer loading and maintenance doses of heparin according to prescribed protocol. May perform clotting times and shall report results to the RN;
8. Measure and adjust blood flow rates according to prescribed protocol;
9. Calculate, determine, and adjust fluid removal rates according to prescribed protocol;
10. Monitor and record dialysis treatment parameters and make treatment adjustments including dialysis equipment settings, client positioning, and the administration of normal and hypertonic saline, as directed by the RN. Report all changes to the RN;
11. Monitor equipment for safe and proper functioning, respond to alarms, and make appropriate adjustments;
12. Initiate cardiopulmonary resuscitation measures in the event of a cardiac and/or pulmonary emergency. Respond to dialysis-related emergencies immediately seeking assistance from the RN;
13. Discontinue dialysis and establish hemostasis upon direction of the RN;
14. Inspect, clean, and dress access according to unit protocol, reporting any unusual finding or occurrence to the RN; and
15. Discard dialysis supplies and sanitize equipment.

Tasks a nurse *may not* delegate to a dialysis technician to perform:

1. Initiation or termination of dialysis via central catheter;
2. Administration of intravenous medications, other than normal saline, hypertonic saline, or heparin, which may only be administered in the course of a routine hemodialysis treatment.
3. Administration any medications by the oral, topical, or rectal route. (To administer medications an unlicensed person must be registered as an Unlicensed Medication Aide by the South Dakota Board of Nursing. Contact the BON for more information if desired).
4. Administration of blood or blood products; and
5. Acceptance of physician orders.

Access the following website for the Administrative Rules of South Dakota on the Delegation of Nursing Tasks to Dialysis Technicians at:

<http://legis.sd.gov/Rules/DisplayRule.aspx?Rule=20:48:04.02>