

ADDENDUM TO THE DISABILITY TAX CREDIT CERTIFICATE

For Patient: _____

To: Canada Revenue Agency

I am writing in support of this patient's application for the Disability Tax Credit. This patient has End-Stage Renal Disease and requires kidney dialysis as a life-sustaining therapy.

This patient is a: (check one) **hemodialysis patient**
 peritoneal dialysis patient

Hemodialysis requires that patients are attached to a dialysis machine in order to cleanse the blood of toxins. This involves attending a dialysis unit three times per week, fifty-two weeks per year. On average, patients will spend 5 hours at the unit each time. Some patients may perform hemodialysis at home, with an equivalent or greater time commitment.

Peritoneal Dialysis (PD) requires patients to have dialysis fluid in their peritoneal cavity so that the blood is constantly cleaned.

There are two types of **peritoneal dialysis**:

➤ **Continuous ambulatory (CAPD)**

- Patient infuses 2-3 litres of dialysis fluid in their peritoneal cavity
- Exchange of fluid is done manually 4-6 times per day, seven days per week
- Each exchange takes approximately 30-45 minutes

➤ **Automated or Continuous Cycler (APD or CCPD)**

- Patient is connected to an automatic cycler that performs the fluid exchanges while they sleep
- 2-3 litres of fluid are left in the peritoneal cavity during the day and then drained prior to connecting to the cycler again for the night
- The patient is attached to the cycler machine every night for 8-10 hours
- Some people are required to do additional manual exchanges during the day

All PD patients must follow a strict daily procedure:

- Take and record their temperature
- Weigh themselves and record their weight
- Take and record their blood pressure, both lying down and standing up
- Consider the results of the above and choose the appropriate strength of dialysis solution, referred to as dialysate
- Warm the bag of dialysate prior to infusion
- Prepare a sterile area to lay out the equipment required
- Wait 30-45 minutes for the dialysate to infuse and drain
- Dispose of “used” dialysate and disinfect surrounding area

In addition:

- Patients must assess and clean the abdominal catheter site (daily)
- A certain percentage of patients require additional time to prepare and inject medication (e.g. antibiotic, heparin, insulin) into the dialysate prior to infusion

In summary, dialysis treatment of any type is a life-sustaining therapy that requires a large investment of time.

Doctor's signature: _____

Date: _____