An Academic Hospital’s In-patient Dialysis unit’s staff and patient experience with use of Tablo Hemodialysis System

Ranil DeSilva MD, Patricia Seddon RN, Duncan Johnstone MD, Thomas Kleyman MD
Renal - Electrolyte Division, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, PA

Introduction

- Tablo Hemodialysis system is shown to be successfully adapted by patients for home hemodialysis.
- With aim of developing a health plan - hospital system based dialysis transition care unit at our academic center – we conducted a 2 month in-patient trial utilizing Tablo technology.

Tablo Trial Objectives

1. If dialyzing using Tablo would reach hemodialysis (HD) clearance adequacy for existing ESRD and AKI hospitalized patients.
2. As representing a large hospital in-patient dialysis unit, to assess the unit’s operational staff satisfaction to the use of Tablo.

Methods

- Conducted Tablo trial at our hospital over course of 2 months early Fall 2020
- HD adequacy assessed by urea reduction ratio measurements for each Tablo treatment.
- HD prescription was the same preceding prescribed treatment time and dialyzer used on our conventional Fresenius 2008T machines.

Results - Adequacy

- 60 HD treatments were completed during 2 month trial using Tablo
- Proper URR assessments were completed in 53 of the treatments
- Mean URR was 69.3% with average treatment time – 3 hours and 51 minutes.
- 11 of the 53 treatments had a URR<65%, 9 of these had subsequent treatments, where 6 of 9 achieved URR>65% without change in prescribed time or dialyzer.

Results – Staff Satisfaction

- 21 unique staff members participated in the trial with 3 of the nurses completing 5 or more Tablo treatments.

Results – Staff Satisfaction

- Aggregate dialysis nurse evaluation of ease of treatments was 4.4 (scale 1-5).
- Aggregate dialysis technician evaluation of ease of use and disinfection process was 4.6.

Conclusion

- At our academic hospital’s in-patient dialysis unit – we were able to provide a quantified description of our staff’s experience in adapting to the use of Tablo, along with measure our patients’ dialysis adequacy – which was largely adequate with Tablo.

Future Direction

- Will use Tablo hemodialysis system as means to provide hemodialysis at our developing health plan – hospital based transitional dialysis care unit.

Correspondence: Ranil DeSilva, MD
E-mail: desilvan@upmc.edu
Address: 200 Lothrop Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213