

# 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: \_\_\_\_\_