

# Dialysis Patient Responsibilities

ESRD NETWORK 13



## You have the responsibility to:

- Be an informed patient. Try to learn all you can about your disease, symptoms, treatment options, and your rights and responsibilities as a kidney patient. There are resources and people to help you with this.
- Be prepared for an emergency in the dialysis unit or at home, recognize what an emergency is, what actions must be taken in emergency situations, and have a plan.
- Be a part of your health care team by talking with them and providing them with all your current health information. Make sure to keep your team informed of any changes because correct information and communication helps your quality of care.
- Obtain and take the medications prescribed to you, as this is in your best interest. Please let your health care team know if you have trouble affording your medication or why you are unable to take it, because there may be resources to help you. Learn what medications you take, why you take them, the medication strength and how they should be taken. This will help you be an important part of your health care team.
- Try to follow your diet and fluid restrictions for better health. If you do not understand or are unable to follow your diet, ask for more instructions. There are people to help you.
- Make every effort to arrive for your scheduled dialysis treatment on time and/or inform the unit if you are unable to come. This will help the facility stay on schedule for other patients. Stay for the entire treatment to complete the prescribed dialysis. This is a very important part of your health care that you control.
- Try to be considerate of others by following facility rules and regulations. Speak respectfully to other patients and staff so you can contribute to a positive environment.



If you have any questions or would like to contact ESRD Network 13, please refer to the following information:

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