

My Choice, Home Dialysis

MYTH VS. REALITY

Peritoneal Dialysis (PD)

MYTH

You'll get an infection!



REALITY

Peritonitis (an infection of your abdomen) is preventable and rare in good PD Clinics (occurs about once every seven years). An infection from a hemodialysis access is more common and more likely to be fatal.

You have to get rid of your pets to do PD at home.



Lots of people do PD at home and still have pets. Clean well and ensure your pets stay out of the room when you connect or disconnect.

If you had previous abdominal surgery, you can't do PD.



Routine abdominal surgeries, such as hernia repairs, C-sections, and some transplants, do not prevent PD as an option.

If you have vision or hearing problems, you can't do PD.



Assist devices are available to help with most tasks involved in doing PD.

You need to have some kidney function to do PD.



Kidney function will always be checked, but PD can be done without any kidney function.

If you are overweight, you can't do PD.



A catheter placed differently into your abdominal cavity may be a better option. PD can still be done.

If you are non-compliant in your dialysis center, you can't do PD.



People with a high need to control situations may actually do better at home.

You need to have a lot of space at home to do PD.



You do need some space for PD, but many people who live in efficiency apartments, trailers and other small spaces find a way to make PD work if they want it.

Only one kind of PD is available.



Yes and no. PD involves having a special fluid in your abdomen, but you can choose how to handle the process, for example, manually or automated (while you sleep).

When you do PD, you can eat and drink whatever you want.



Dietary and fluid intake limitations remain in place, but you have a bit more "wiggle-room" with your limits and choices.

When you do PD, you are free to take either a bath or a shower!



A bath is not permitted unless you have a pre-sternal catheter placement. A shower is permissible and you will be taught how to care for your catheter site after your shower.

**Icons courtesy of Vecteezy.com*

