



Safety Alert

Unplanned Permacath Removal

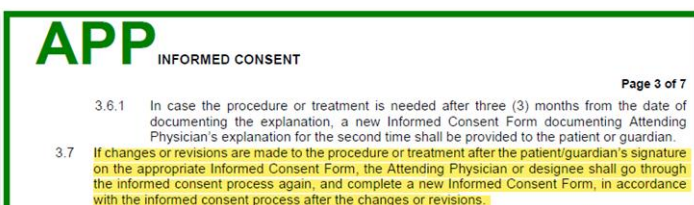
“Sharing Lessons Learned”

Situation:

The patient had a planned peritoneal dialysis catheter insertion procedure. However, the patient underwent an unplanned removal of the previously inserted hemodialysis catheter (Permacath), utilized as access for hemodialysis.

Background:

The patient presented with a history of End-Stage Renal Disease (ESDR), Anemia, and Hypertension, planned to have a peritoneal catheter insertion procedure as an alternative for hemodialysis as agreed upon and discussed previously between the multidisciplinary team. During the peritoneal dialysis catheter insertion an additional procedure for Permacath removal was done to reduce the patient’s risk of further general anesthesia. The primary team was not informed about the removal of Permacath before the procedure. The informed consent signed by the guardian was secured based on peritoneal catheter insertion only.



Assessment:

After the case review, the following contributing factors identified:

Communication:

A communication gap between the multidisciplinary teams.

Documentation:

- Lack of documentation “no order in the power chart for Permacath removal, no documentation in ICIS about the reason for adding the procedure nor the communication with the patient family”.
- Discrepancy between the preoperative procedure name (PD catheter insertion and removal of Permacath) and the perioperative Procedure (PD catheter insertion only).

Policies and procedures:

Noncompliance to the Informed consent form APP since removing Permacath was added to the previously signed consent form.

Recommendation:

- Reinforce the awareness and compliance of informed consent APP (**APP-67**): **A new informed consent must be secured if any modification is required.**
- Reinforce the documentation compliance for surgical procedural verification forms (Time out/Site Marking).
- Follow up on the implementation of the informed consent automation initiative.
- Reinforce effective communication between MDs from different disciplines
- Adhere to documentation standards by improving physician clinical notes, documentation compliance, and entries.