

Renal Services

Peritoneal Function Testing (PFT)

Abbreviations:

CAPD – Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis

APD – Automated Peritoneal Dialysis

PD – Peritoneal Dialysis

What is a PFT?

A PFT tells us how well your dialysis is working. We collect a sample of urine, of your PD fluid and a blood test and send them to the laboratories for analysis. We then put these results into a computer system to calculate how well the toxins and fluid are cleared from your body in a 24 hour period.

How often do I need to do a PFT?

Routinely, you will be asked to do this test every 6 months, however, you will also need to complete a PFT after any changes made in your dialysis. For example, if you change from CAPD (manual bags) to APD (machine) then you will need to repeat a PFT.

This enables us to make sure that any changes made are working well and that you are dialysing adequately.

We like to ensure that you have an up to date PFT for your clinic appointments with the PD team & consultant, in which case, you may need to do a PFT before 6 months.



Patient Information

How do I perform a PFT?

Your first PFT will be booked during your PD training and your appointment will be within 2-4 weeks of commencing dialysis. We will provide you with the equipment to collect a 24hour urine sample. If you are on CAPD we will need you to bring all of your fluid from the previous day or a small sample of fluid from the previous day if you are on APD.

You will attend the PD department where we will collect your samples, paperwork and you will have a blood test.

All of the samples are then sent to the laboratories for analysis. Results are usually available in 2-5 days.

What happens with my results?

Your results will be analysed and calculated by the PD nurses on a computer system. If there are no concerns with the results from your test, we will record them in your notes and you will continue with your current regime.

If we feel that you require any changes to your dialysis then we will contact you to discuss these. All changes are discussed with the PD consultant.

What if I cannot make my appointment?

If, for any reason, you are unable to attend your appointment, please telephone the PD department to inform them and rearrange. If you have started to collect samples, you must dispose of these and ask the team for more equipment.

If you have not started collecting samples, please arrange a new appointment.

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this Information in another language or format please contact the PD department on 02476 968308 and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke free policy

Document History

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