

**WAC 246-827-0500 Medical assistant-hemodialysis technician—**

**Qualifications and training.** (1) Applicants for a medical assistant-hemodialysis technician credential must complete the following requirements:

(a) Proof of a high school diploma or equivalent;  
(b) Basic math skills including the use of fractions and decimal points;

(c) Either:

(i) Complete a hemodialysis training program as described in subsection (2) of this section; or

(ii) Have a national credential as a hemodialysis technician which is substantially equivalent to the hemodialysis training program described in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) The hemodialysis training program may be facility based or a state recognized training facility or institution of higher education specific to training hemodialysis technicians that meets the following requirements:

(a) The training program must:

(i) Be approved by the program or facility medical director and governing body;

(ii) Be under the direction of a registered nurse;

(iii) Be focused on the operation of kidney dialysis equipment and machines;

(iv) Include interpersonal skills, including patient sensitivity training and care of difficult patients; and

(v) Provide supervised clinical experience opportunities for the application of theory and for the achievement of stated objectives in a patient care setting. The training supervisor must be physically accessible to the hemodialysis technician when the hemodialysis technician is in the patient care area.

(b) The training program must cover the following subjects:

(i) Principles of dialysis and fluid management;

(ii) Care of patients with kidney failure, including interpersonal skills;

(iii) Dialysis procedures and documentation, including initiation, proper cannulation techniques, use of central catheters, monitoring, and termination of dialysis;

(iv) Use and care of hemodialysis accesses;

(v) Common laboratory testing procedures and critical alert values;

(vi) Possible complications of dialysis and dialysis emergencies;

(vii) Water treatment and dialysate preparation;

(viii) Infection control;

(ix) Use of hazardous chemicals;

(x) Safety;

(xi) Dialyzer reprocessing, if applicable; and

(xii) Use of medications used in dialysis and their side effects.

(c) The medical assistant-hemodialysis technician applicant, upon completion of the hemodialysis training program, must demonstrate competency of the following:

(i) Dialysis procedures and documentation, including initiation, proper cannulation techniques, central catheter techniques, monitoring, and termination of dialysis;

(ii) Operation of hemodialysis equipment;

(iii) Calculation of patient fluid removal and replacement needs;

(iv) Preparation and mixture of additives to hemodialysis concentrates as required by facility procedure based on patient prescription;

(v) Preparation and administration of heparin and sodium chloride solutions and intradermal, subcutaneous, or topical administration of local anesthetics during treatment in standard hemodialysis doses;

(vi) Provide initial response to patient complications and emergencies prior to, during, and after treatment per facility procedures including, but not limited to, the administration of normal saline per facility protocol;

(vii) Use and care of hemodialysis vascular accesses;

(viii) Administration of oxygen; and

(ix) Initiation of cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

(d) Technicians who perform monitoring and testing of the water treatment system must complete a training program that has been approved by the facility medical director and governing body.

(e) The training program may accept documentation of a medical assistant-hemodialysis technician's successful completion of training objectives in another dialysis facility or accredited academic institution if it is substantially equivalent to the core competencies described in this subsection. The dialysis facility that accepts the documentation assumes responsibility for confirming the core competency of the medical assistant-hemodialysis technician.

(f) Upon successful completion of the hemodialysis training program, an authorized representative of the hemodialysis training program will sign an attestation of completion of the training described in this subsection. The attestation shall include documentation of the satisfactory completion of a skills competency checklist equivalent to, or exceeding the competencies required by these rules.

(g) Training programs that meet the requirements described in this subsection are approved by the secretary.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.360 RCW, RCW 43.70.280, and 2012 c 153. WSR 13-12-045, § 246-827-0500, filed 5/31/13, effective 7/1/13.]