



“You were always worried you might get peritonitis”

Patients’ perspectives on the prevention and treatment of peritonitis in peritoneal dialysis: a semi-structured interview study

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Supplemental Table S1 – Interview Guide

Patient Interview Schedule

Patient experiences and views on peritoneal dialysis: a qualitative study

Introduction/briefing (interviewer)

How are you?

Thank you very much for agreeing to be interviewed. I am a PhD student enrolled with Sydney University and am conducting research about patients' perspectives on peritoneal dialysis. The interviews conducted through this study, with people who have/ have had experience with peritoneal dialysis, will hopefully generate information which will help doctors provide better care and support for people receiving peritoneal dialysis.

I will be asking you questions about your experiences with peritoneal dialysis, to get a sense of what life is like on peritoneal dialysis and what impact it has had on you and your family/carers. It shouldn't take more than one hour. I would like to record the interview with my voice recorder because this will help me later on to analyse the information generated. The recording will be kept confidential. What you tell me will be de-identified and will not impact the care you receive. Please let me know if you want me to stop recording at any time.

Before we begin, would you like to ask me any questions?

1. Introduction
 - a. Explain study information sheet and obtain informed consent
 - b. What is your date of birth?
 - c. Where were you born?
 - d. Who lives with you? (married, single, divorced, widowed)
 - e. How long have you been/ were you on peritoneal dialysis?
 - f. Which type of PD are/ were you on? (APD, CAPD)
 - g. Are you now on haemodialysis? Have you received a kidney transplant?
 - h. Are you on the waitlist for a transplant? Do you have blood sent to the Red Cross each month?

2. General experiences and perspectives of peritoneal dialysis
 - a. How did you come to be on peritoneal dialysis?
 - b. What are some of the biggest challenges or difficulties you face with peritoneal dialysis and how do you cope with them?
 - c. Has peritoneal dialysis made an impact on your life - how? (work, social life)
 - d. Has going on peritoneal dialysis changed the way you see yourself and how you feel - how? (positive and negative impact on identity, self-esteem, emotions)
 - e. Do you think that being on peritoneal dialysis affects the people close to you - how? (family, close friends)



3. PD technical aspects/ complications/ modality failure
 - a. What aspects of doing peritoneal dialysis are/were you most/least confident about? Why?
 - b. What dialysis complications are/were you most concerned about? Why?
 - c. You have been on both APD and CAPD – what do you think are the main differences between the two in terms of managing your dialysis? Do you feel one is easier to do than the other? How?
 - d. Why would you switch/have you switched to haemodialysis?

4. Perspectives on peritonitis
 - a. What is the first thought that comes to your mind when I say peritonitis?
 - b. Can you describe to me your most recent episode of peritonitis? What was your initial thought/feeling when you were told you had peritonitis?
 - c. How did having peritonitis impact your day to day living? (work, family, social activities)
 - d. What do you think caused your peritonitis? Did your healthcare provider explain why they think you got peritonitis – what were you told?
 - e. What sorts of things do you think makes a person on peritoneal dialysis have a higher chance of getting peritonitis?
 - f. What do you do to prevent yourself from getting peritonitis again?
 - g. What were the most difficult things to deal with when you had peritonitis? What did you do to cope with those issues?

5. Support and education
 - a. What advice would you give to someone who was about to start peritoneal dialysis?
 - b. What would you tell them about your experience of peritoneal dialysis?
 - c. What programs/initiatives can you suggest that might help to improve the patient experience of PD? (education, support groups)

6. Healthcare service provision
 - a. What aspects of care are/were most important to you? (access to PD nurses, access to nephrologists, home visits by PD staff)
 - b. In an ideal world, what would be 1 or 2 things that you would do to improve peritoneal dialysis treatment? (healthcare, technical, support)

Closing question:

Is there anything else that you think is important about peritoneal dialysis that you want to add before we finish?

Thank you for your time.



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