

Renal Glossary

Listed below are some words you may hear when your child is treated by the Renal Team. It is important that you understand everything that is happening to your child, please ask questions about anything you do not understand.

Anti-Hypertensives: Dugs used to reduce high blood pressure - examples are Nifedipine, Captopril, Enalapril.

Biopsy: Removal and examination of a tiny piece of kidney tissue to help diagnosis and monitor kidney disease.

Calcium: A mineral that is stored in our bones and is necessary for healthy growth. It is found in some food including dairy products.

Chronic Renal Failure (CRF): A gradual reduction in kidney function over months or years.

Creatinine: A normal waste product of muscle. It is removed from the blood through the kidneys

Dialysis: A process of removing waste products and excess fluid from the blood stream of a person with kidney disease.

End Stage Renal Failure: Kidney Failure that is so advanced that it is necessary to begin /dialysis or receive a transplant to allow a person to live a healthy life.

Erythropoietin (EPO): A hormone normally produced by the kidneys, which is involved in the production of red cells. Artificial EPO can be given by injection.

Haemodialysis: The process of circulating blood through a machine to remove excess waste and fluid.

Haemoglobin: The pigment in red blood cells which carries oxygen around the body.

Immunosuppression: Medicines to suppress the body's response to the transplanted kidney; medicine such as Tacrolimus, Mycophenolate and Prednisolone.

Intravenous Line (Freddie): A soft plastic cannula or tube that is inserted into a vein that can be used to give medications and fluids.

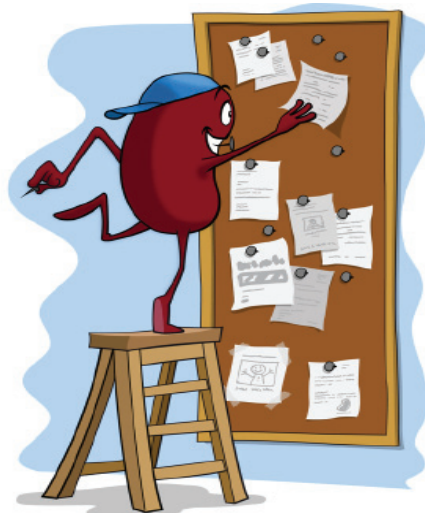
Live Related Donor: A relative who donates a single kidney when they are alive.

Peritoneal Dialysis: A form of dialysis done at home in which fluid is placed into the peritoneal cavity in the abdomen/ tummy area. This fluid then draws waste products and excess fluid from the blood. The fluid is then drained out and disposed of.

Renal Replacement Therapy: Treatment to take over the work of a kidney when it is at end stage renal failure. This treatment can be peritoneal dialysis, haemodialysis or transplant.

Thrombus: A blood clot that forms within a blood vessel which can reduce blood flow to a kidney or other part of the body.

Ultrasound Scan: A painless test in which a scan shows the size and shape of a kidney or other part of a body.



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