



## ALH866A Dialysis Technician Program

### **Dialysis Technician**

Dialysis Technicians, also called Hemodialysis or Renal Dialysis Technicians, operate kidney dialysis machines, which filter normal waste products and excess fluids from the blood of patients whose kidneys can no longer perform this function. Dialysis Technicians are responsible for direct patient care. While it is troubling that kidney failure is a growing national health problem, kidney disease continues to drive the growing demand for Dialysis Technicians. As a Dialysis Technician, you are the person providing direct patient care within the dialysis unit. Under the direction of senior technicians, nurses and doctors, Dialysis Technicians play a vital role as part of the dialysis team. Dialysis Technicians initiate, monitor, and discontinue dialysis treatments for the renal failure patient.

### **Dialysis Technicians – Employment & Education**

Dialysis Technicians are employed in hospitals, out patient clinics and other medical facilities. The demand for Dialysis Technicians continues to grow and is expected to grow at a steady pace over the next several years. This high demand is on the increase due to an aging population resulting in an increase in kidney disease. While historically, this position was trained on the job, today's employers are seeking well-trained individuals that possess a knowledge in the field of dialysis.

### **Educational Requirements**

Students should have a high school diploma or GED. National certification is obtained after 6 mo. of employment as a DT and within 18 months of hire. Additionally, there is no clinical externship arranged or offered as part of this program. **Pre- req: CNA, CMA or Phlebotomist background preferred.**

### **Dialysis Technician Program**

This 50-hour Dialysis Technician Program provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to perform the duties required of Dialysis Technicians.

This introduction to the field of hemodialysis will provide the necessary introduction to dialysis which is required for all aspiring

Dialysis Technicians. This program will provide you with a foundation to pursue a career in the field of hemodialysis.

### **Detailed Course Information:**

- Knowledge and use of aseptic techniques and standard precautions
- Renal physiology and the pathology of renal failure
- Perform, and record physical measurements including weight and vital signs both pre, intra and post treatment
- Evaluate and perform vascular access to circulation
- Principles of hemodialysis
- Hematological aspects
- Dialyzer reuse preparation
- Basic body chemistry, fluid and electrolyte balance
- Dialyzers, dialysate and the delivery systems
- Clinical manifestations of end stage renal disease
- Routine aspects of hemodialysis
- Dietary regulation
- Medication problems and dialysis
- Acute renal failure and dialysis
- Kidney transplantation
- Peritoneal dialysis
- Diabetes and hemodialysis
- Psychological aspects of dialysis therapy
- Pediatric hemodialysis
- End stage renal disease in the elderly
- Management of quality in dialysis care
- Laboratory data: analysis and interpretation
- Understand composition of dialysate solution
- Anticoagulation and heparin administration
- Knowledge of the components of blood that are important in hemodialysis
- Handling of hazardous materials