



### Scope of Practice

The Nephrology Technologist maintains and services dialysis equipment, provides technical support to patients, nursing, and medical staff, initiates, monitors, and terminates dialysis treatments, functions as a renal perfusionist and coordinator for kidney transplants, and is responsible for ministry reporting of all program activities.

The Non-Registered Technician, through the DTC role, is responsible for tracking patient movement throughout their journey within the program.

# Dialysis Technology

**Professional Practice Leader (Charlton, King, Offsite):**

Denis Rabbat

**Number of Members of Discipline:**

SITE	FTE	PTE	POSITION
Charlton	21	19	Registered Technologist (RT), Non-Registered Technicians (NRT). Administrative Assistant, Data Traffic Controller (DTC)
King	18	7	RT & NRT
OFFSITE			
Ohsweken	2	2	RT & NRT
Brantford	4		RT & NRT

## Clinical Practice Achievements

### Quality & Safety

- Utilized Electronic Medical Record (EMR) documentation from renal EMR (NIS) to acquire correct supplies for treatments and verification of patient identifiers.
- Developed inter-disciplinary dependencies to ensure data accuracy for ministry reporting (NIS).
- The Charlton Hemodialysis Team was awarded the Mission Legacy Award in 2019, recognizing their outstanding contributions in living out the legacy of the Sisters of St-Joseph's amid the turmoil of an ongoing redevelopment project.

### Change

- Completed the Jack and Jean Marchese Charlton Dialysis redevelopment project.
- Commissioned a new Reverse Osmosis System in tandem with the Charlton Redevelopment project, bringing state-of-the-art water treatment technology to Charlton.
- Launch of Acute Hemodialysis services in the Critical Care Unit at the Brant Community Healthcare System, Brantford General Hospital.
- Commissioned 29 new Dialysis machines (Baxter - Physio model), with an additional 25 to be commissioned in 2020.



## Community

- Partnered with HNH B L H I N and community nursing to provide training and support for assisted home hemodialysis.
- Salvaging parts from decommissioned machines and donating proceeds to patients and families in need.

## Interconnection

- Supported numerous research activities within the department including ongoing application development to assist in tracking and timing of intervals.
- Working with Digital Solutions, developed “Therapy Plans” in Dovetale for Hemodialysis, thus streamlining order sets, ensuring accuracy in the delivery of care to our patients.



# Academic Pursuits

## Formal Teaching:

- Orientation to Dialysis and Water Treatment Technology for Nursing, Infection Control, Pharmacy, Physicians and other new staff. (Charlton and King)
- Ongoing training and support of patients undergoing hemodialysis in the home setting. Where traditionally an activity performed at King Campus exclusively, we have begun to provide this service at our Brantford site, thus providing care closer to home for our patients.
- Several standing agenda sessions as part of the Nephrology Residents curriculum. (Charlton)

## Internal Teaching:

- Provide placement for Learners from Durham College Biomedical Engineering Technology program.
- Kidney Fair demonstration for U1 medical students.
- “Take your kids to work day” sessions. (Charlton & King)

## Clinical Teaching:

- Activities other than placements.
- Cardinal Newman Job Shadow program. (King)



## Continuing Education:

- With the implementation of the new Reverse Osmosis system, all technical staff to undergo training on its operation and maintenance.

# Scholarly Pursuits

## Research:

- MyTemp Study, DSALT Study resulting in practice changes within the program.
- EQOL: Assisting the safe and effective delivery and monitoring of peritoneal patients in the home setting.
- W. Booth School of Engineering Practice partnership to develop innovative methods for Hemodialysis patient training in the home setting. 2019 saw the development of a new platform for training that will be further developed in 2020.

## External Committees:

- ORN – Ontario Renal Network.
- Durham College – Biomedical Advisory.
- CANNT – Canadian Association of Nephrology Nurses and Technicians.

## External Presentations:

- At the Canadian Association of Nephrology Nurses and Technicians (CANNT) Conference in Edmonton, AB, presented in the “Canada’s Funniest Home Hemo” session.

## Leadership:

- Developing ORN provincial reporting software package with Clinical Computing.
- Durham College biomedical engineering curriculum development focus. Took on an active teaching role in 2019.

## Discipline Goals 2020

### Quality & Safety

- Sunset Renal EMR (NIS) and transition all clinical activities to Dovetale exclusively.
- Development of the Kidney and Urinary Program Dashboard in Dovetale.

### Change

- Transition ministry reporting from Renal EMR (NIS) to Dovetale.
- Replacing all dialysis recliners with state-of-the-art electric models, designed with ergonomics and patient comfort in mind.
- Further expansion of Acute Hemodialysis Services at BCHS to include all in-patients.



### Community

- Develop regional plans pertaining to emergency planning for renal services.
- Provide care closer to home by expanding Nephrology and Transplant clinic services to the Brantford and Niagara areas.
- Working closely with the Six Nations Health Team to improve the quality of care we provide to our Indigenous population.
- Working in tandem with our Niagara Health System partners to improve Home therapy rates, in alignment with ministry objectives.

### Research & Education

- Enhance the learning experience for new staff and residents utilizing a variety of delivery methods.
- Further development of training platform for Home Hemodialysis patient training, using technology aids, based on the work already completed in 2018.