

Hemodialysis (HD), which uses a dialyzer composed of 90% polyethersulfone, requires nearly 200 liters of water per treatment.^{1,2} Water contamination or a water supply disruption in a hospital can constitute an emergency for dialysis patients.

Danbury Hospital's Water Emergency

On April 23, 2018, the municipal water supply in Danbury was disrupted when a water main broke. Danbury Hospital, which partnered with DaVita Hospital Services to provide services for dialysis patients. Without reliable water, DaVita and Danbury Hospital's facilities were challenged with providing a safe HD alternative that was effective and of minimal impact on hospital operations.

3 Dialysis Alternatives Considered

DaVita Hospital Services and Danbury Hospital's facilities team considered the following three HD alternatives:

1. Transfer all hospitalized patients requiring HD to a chronic dialysis facility.
2. Transfer these patients to a hospital an hour away.
3. Provide a modified form of continuous veno-venous hemodialysis (CVVHD) with a nafex® system.

The teams decided to pursue the third option.

About DaVita Kidney Care, Hospital Services

- First and only national Joint Commission-accredited provider of inpatient kidney care and apheresis therapies³
- 1.2M treatments performed annually⁴
- ~925 inpatient partners⁵



Kidney Care

Dialysis Alternatives Quickly Organized and Delivered

Factors that Contributed to Success

DaVita Hospital Services, in partnership with Danbury Hospital, quickly:

- Identified the most-viable treatment option
- Recruited expert CVVHD support to train on-site personnel on CVVHD and to help care for patients
- Created custom HD order sets

1. Layman-Amato RL, Curtis J, Payne GM. Water treatment for hemodialysis: An update. *Nephrol Nurs J*. 2013;40(5):383-404, 465.
2. Saha M, Allon M. Diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of hemodialysis emergencies. *Clin J Am Soc Nephrol*. 2017;12(2):357-369.
3. Ambulatory Health Care Accreditation was based on a survey of 177 DaVita acute programs, which included Joint Commission-accredited hospitals and other hospitals permitting Joint Commission access for purposes of the survey process (a limited number of hospitals declined to participate).
4. Internal DaVita data. August 2018.
5. Internal DaVita data. January 2019.