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Follow up care after renal replacement therapy on PCCU

Information for parents/carers

Children's Renal & Urology Department

This document can be provided in different languages and formats. For more information please contact:

Children's Renal and Urology Department
Nottingham Children's Hospital
Queen's Medical Centre

Aim of the leaflet

This leaflet is aimed at parents/carers of a child who has received renal replacement therapy for Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) during their stay on PCCU, and aims to tell you about the follow up care your child will receive.

What is AKI?

The kidneys control the amount of water in the blood and makes sure it has the right balance of chemicals, including salt and acid. They also remove waste products from the body and make urine. AKI is when the kidneys stop working over a short period of time. There are many different causes for this and usually kidney function should return to normal once the cause has been resolved.

Renal Replacement Therapy

Whilst your child was poorly they required help from a special dialysis machine to support the function of their kidneys. This is called renal replacement therapy and is designed to remove water and waste products from your child's blood until their condition improves. For any child who has undergone dialysis follow up is very important to ensure that their kidney function improves and is maintained.

The staff on PCCU would have explained to you the cause of your child's AKI and the type of dialysis they received but please ask if you have any further questions.

AKI follow up

- You will receive a letter inviting you to a clinic appointment at least one year after admission to PCCU
- At this appointment, a blood test will be taken to determine the level of kidney function your child has
- We will also take a sample of urine and measure their height, weight and blood pressure
- As far as possible we will try and see you and your child in a clinic that is close to home
- The follow up appointment will be with one of the paediatric doctors
- The need and likely schedule for further follow up will be discussed with you at this appointment
- All children will receive lifelong follow up after discharge, for most children they will only need to be seen once a year
- After the first five years this can then be with the GP if everything is stable

