

ROO DEFENDER™ CATHETER COVER REDUCES CATHETER CARE NURSING TIME

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Introduction (or Background)

The prevalence of catheter use in hemodialysis (HD) patients remains high at ~20%. Despite focused efforts by nephrologists to reduce these numbers, catheters continue to be used as a “bridge” access while AVF mature, in patients either unwilling or unable to have a graft or fistula; and in “emergency” dialysis treatments for patients otherwise unprepared for ESRD. The resultant direct and indirect costs as well as morbidity & mortality remain high. Roo Defender™ Catheter Cover is a disposable antimicrobial catheter cover that acts as a protective & comfortable barrier against environmental contamination and is designed to replace traditional gauze and tape coverings.

Purpose

To determine the impact of Roo Defender™ Catheter Cover on nursing time and on patient comfort/satisfaction.

Materials and Methods

A total of 33 patients were enrolled. A time & motion study was performed by an independent observer who recorded staff time required to prepare the catheter to initiate and terminate dialysis in a blinded fashion (the staff was unaware he/she was being observed). Patient and staff survey scores [1-5(best)] were recorded. (Table)

Results

Time (minutes)	Without Roo	With Roo	% change
Dialysis Initiation	6:32	5:26	-17%
Dialysis Termination	3:07	3:22	8%
Total Time	9:39	8:48	-8.8%



Question	Ave. Patient	Ave. Staff
Do You like the way the Roo cover looks?	4.2	4.6
Do you like the way Roo cover feels?	4.5	3.9
Do you feel the Roo cover is an improvement over previous dressings?	4.4	4.3
Do you consider the Roo cover safe?	4.4	4.5
Did the use of the Roo cover save you time?	3.9	4.3
Would you recommend the Roo devise to other patients?	4.2	4.3
Do you feel the Roo cover is securely attached?	3.9	3.8

Summary

- The use of the Roo Defender™ Catheter Covers resulted in total time savings (8.8%) compared to standard use of tape/gauze.
- Initiation of dialysis had the greatest time savings compared to dialysis termination.
- Increased dialysis termination times were related to facility-specific storage of covers not at chair side whereas gauze & tape were available chair side.
- There was excellent patient & staff acceptance.

Conclusions

- The use of the Roo Defender™ Catheter Cover resulted in significant time saving when initiating dialysis with excellent patient & staff acceptance, including very high scores for comfort and overall improvement in the standard of care.
- The impact of catheter infections rates were not studied in this short term study

Future Directions

- Improved experience with Roo Defender™ Catheter Covers should result in improved staff efficiencies.
- Additionally, catheters no longer covered with excessive tape adhesive will ease the use of Roo Defender™ Catheter Covers.
- Further studies need to be performed to determine of the impact of Roo Defender™ Catheter Covers on infection rates.