

SCOTTISH RENAL ASSOCIATION

REMEMBER URR TODAY



REMEMBER BLOOD SAMPLES FOR
UREA REDUCTION RATIO TODAY

1. URR is an important measure of dialysis efficiency. It is a simple method of quality assurance which is used by all Scottish Renal Units.
2. Use the method normally adopted in your hospital for identifying the samples to the lab. Normally a separate request form should be sent with each bottle to ensure there is no confusion between the "pre" and "post" sample. The correct sampling times should be inserted on the Biochemistry Request form & on the sample bottles.
3. The "pre" sample is taken immediately after cannulation of the fistula with a dry needle and before the dialysis starts. For central venous cannulae, a sample can be drawn from the line after the Heparin lock has been removed. TAKE CARE NOT TO CONTAMINATE THE SAMPLES WITH SALINE.
4. To obtain the "post" dialysis sample:
 - a) at the end of the dialysis session, turn the dialysate flow Off
 - b) leave the blood pump running at the normal speed
 - c) Wait exactly 5 minutes (this allows time for the blood in the access to equilibrate with the central circulation, but not enough time for equilibration from the tissue pool)
 - d) Obtain the sample from the port in the arterial line

The blood samples should be sent to biochemistry laboratory for measurement of serum urea.

$$\text{URR} = 100 \times \left(1 - \frac{[\text{Urea post}]}{[\text{Urea pre}]} \right)$$

URR should be measured according to your unit guidelines and for the twice yearly SRA Audit.

*This card has been produced by the Scottish Renal Registry Office. Further supplies can be obtained at a cost of £1.50 each.
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