

## **Study shows Evodial dialyzer may allow reducing anticoagulation dose in hemodialysis**

**The results from an international clinical study (RHODES), presented at the American Society of Nephrology Renal Week 2010, Denver, USA as a free communication<sup>1</sup>, indicate that a dialyzer with a heparin-grafted membrane can be beneficial for HD patients requiring tight heparinization to reduce bleeding risk and other side effects of heparin administration.**

Evodial, the only dialyzer with heparin grafted to the membrane, was evaluated on the possibility to lower the systemic heparin anticoagulation during hemodialysis. In a prospective multicenter clinical study in regular HD patients (n=41) the Evodial dialyzer was used to stepwise reduce the heparin dose, given as unfractionated or low molecular weight heparin. The dose reduction was stopped when two or more treatments in a week showed early signs of clotting (increased circuit pressures, signs of clot formation in the circuit, quality of rinse-back using a visual scale).

In most patients involved in the study (71% of all), it was possible to reduce the amount of administered heparin, by on average 45% compared to the initial dosing (from  $68 \pm 17$  to  $38 \pm 14$  IU/kg). As a result the patients' plasma antiXa level at treatment end decreased from  $0.45 \pm 0.26$  to  $0.22 \pm 0.11$  IU/ml ( $p < 0.001$ ), showing a significantly lower anticoagulation effect after dialysis. Patients for whom it was not possible to reduce the heparin dose already had with the regular dose a low antiXa level in blood at treatment end. As noted in the Study Abstract, failure to further decrease the heparin dose was mainly related to signs of clotting in the blood lines.

“Our data indicate that a dialyzer like Evodial, having a heparin-grafted membrane, is a valuable tool when dialyzing patients who require tight heparinization. Thereby the bleeding risk and possibly other heparin side effects can be reduced”, says Professor Michèle Kessler, the University Hospital of Nancy (Hôpital Brabois), France.

### **References:**

- 1. Heparin-Grafted Dialysis Membrane Permits Minimal Systemic Anticoagulation and a Lower Anti Xa Level at Treatment End** Michele Kessler, Thanh Cao Huu, Alberto Gutierrez, Marie-Jeanne Coudert-Krier, Jan T. Kielstein, Concetta Gangemi, Roula Galland, Françoise Moussion-Schott., ASN Renal Week 2010, Abstract TH-FC037

**\*\*\* This product is not available for sale in the U.S \*\*\***

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