



IDPN Quick Facts for the Clinician



Easy Phos-Free Protein

IDPN is a non-invasive infusion of amino acids, dextrose, and sometimes lipids given to patients on hemodialysis. By using the dialysis access site IDPN complements oral intake to help treat and prevent malnutrition and protein-energy wasting.



Readily Absorbed

90% of amino acids are absorbed and utilized by the body during and after dialysis (1). Note, this can cause BUN to rise as urea is a byproduct of protein utilization.



Stabilize Patients

IDPN can stabilize or increase albumin levels, weight, lean body mass, and may support reduced oxidative stress and inflammation (2) allowing patients to feel better and focus on other aspects of their care.



Helpful for Liver Disease

An estimated 20% of compensated and 60% decompensated liver disease patients have malnutrition. They require 1.2-1.5g protein/kg/day and may have more difficulty eating enough to meet daily requirements (3).



Adequacy

Commonly used Kt/V equations do not account for urea generation during dialysis; thus the increase in BUN from amino acids can cause a false lowering of Kt/V in some, not all, patients (4).



Side Effects

In studies, patients receiving IDPN did not experience more or worsening symptoms such as N/V, diarrhea, or abdominal pain compared to controls (5, 6). When a patient experiences symptoms we recommend ruling out the following as possible causes: new medications, acute illness like the flu, constipation, meal skipping, eating high fat foods, motion sickness, and stress. Once ruled out, please contact Patient Care America at 866-348-0441 and ask to speak with Pharmacy to discuss options.



Qualifying criteria

Albumin <3.5g/dL OR BMI <20 OR Weight Loss >5% over a 3-month time frame.

References

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