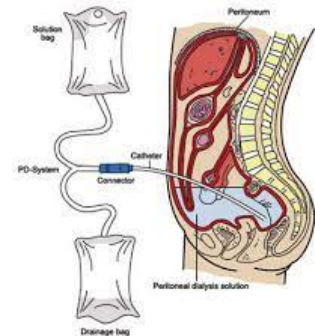


# Tenckhoff catheter

June 2021

A Tenckhoff catheter is a long, narrow tube inserted into the peritoneal cavity. The peritoneal cavity is the space in the body that contains the stomach, bowel, liver, bladder etc – see diagram<sup>1, 2</sup>. This catheter is commonly used for peritoneal dialysis.

Peritoneal dialysis uses the peritoneal membranes as the dialyser. Dialysate solution is introduced into the peritoneal cavity via a Tenckhoff catheter. Solute clearance occurs by diffusion while water removal occurs via ultrafiltration. Ultrafiltration is achieved by using hypertonic dialysate which creates an osmotic gradient for ultrafiltration<sup>3</sup>.



## What does a Tenckhoff catheter do?

The Tenckhoff catheter has many small holes in it for dialysis fluid to run in and out of the peritoneal cavity. Dialysis fluid contains sterile water, salts and sugar (glucose). This fluid draws out waste products and water from the blood vessels covering the surfaces of the peritoneal membrane, acting like a filter. This is usually done at night while connected to a dialysis machine.<sup>4</sup>

## Coding the elective removal of Tenckhoff catheter

Where a Tenckhoff catheter (or any other peritoneal dialysis catheter) is removed electively during an admitted episode of care, the principal diagnosis is Z49.0 Preparatory care for dialysis<sup>5</sup>.

### Removal (from) (of)

...

- dialysis catheter Z49.0

Assign U87.1 *Chronic kidney disease, stage 3-5* if the CKD does not meet the criteria in ACS 0002 *Additional diagnoses* (see also ACS 0003 *Supplementary codes for chronic conditions*, Example 4).

## Related Australian Coding Standards

ACS 0003 *Supplementary codes for chronic conditions*

ACS 1438 *Chronic kidney disease*

<sup>1</sup> Queensland Health 2021, 'Tenckhoff catheter diagram', retrieved 24 March 2021, <[https://health.qld.gov.au/%2F\\_data%2Fassets%2Fpdf\\_file%2F0028%2F392086%2F2016-fs-tenckhoff-catheter.pdf&usq=AOvVaw17J\\_RNV5xhJi\\_FQou4\\_CRx](https://health.qld.gov.au/%2F_data%2Fassets%2Fpdf_file%2F0028%2F392086%2F2016-fs-tenckhoff-catheter.pdf&usq=AOvVaw17J_RNV5xhJi_FQou4_CRx)>

<sup>2</sup> Queensland Health 2021, 'Tenckhoff catheter diagram', retrieved 24 March 2021, <[https://health.qld.gov.au/%2F\\_data%2Fassets%2Fpdf\\_file%2F0028%2F392086%2F2016-fs-tenckhoff-catheter.pdf&psig=AOvVaw1lenkfLjepPBX6sEd1ryOS&ust=1622239950183000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=2ahUKEwj-84Tx8OrwAhXBFysKHTViAXYQr4kDegUIARDIAQ](https://health.qld.gov.au/%2F_data%2Fassets%2Fpdf_file%2F0028%2F392086%2F2016-fs-tenckhoff-catheter.pdf&psig=AOvVaw1lenkfLjepPBX6sEd1ryOS&ust=1622239950183000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=2ahUKEwj-84Tx8OrwAhXBFysKHTViAXYQr4kDegUIARDIAQ)>

<sup>3</sup> Sidebotham, D, McKee, A, Gillham, M and Levy, JH 2007, *Cardiothoracic Critical Care*, Elsevier Health Sciences, Philadelphia

<sup>4</sup> Children's Health Queensland, 2021, 'Caring for a Tenckhoff catheter', retrieved 30 June 2021, <<https://www.childrens.health.qld.gov.au/fact-sheet-caring-for-a-tenckhoff-catheter/>>

<sup>5</sup> IHPA Query response, Removal of Tenckhoff catheter after kidney transplant (Q3627), 24 March 2021