



Arkansas Department of Health

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Governor Asa Hutchinson
Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health

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Guidance For COVID-19 Infection Prevention in Outpatient Hemodialysis Units

COVID-19 is a new disease and there is limited information regarding risk factors for severe disease. Based on currently available information and clinical expertise, older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

Based upon available information to date, those at high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19 include:

- People aged 65 years and older
- People who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility
- Other high-risk conditions could include:
 - People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
 - People who have serious heart conditions
 - People who are immunocompromised including cancer treatment
 - People of any age with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] ≥ 40) or certain underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, such as those with diabetes, renal failure, or liver disease might also be at risk

CDC has issued interim guidance for infection prevention and control recommendations for patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 in outpatient hemodialysis facilities. The Arkansas Department of Health encourages providers to follow the CDC recommendations, which can be found here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/dialysis.html>

For questions or further assistance, call the ADH Health Care Provider call line at 1-844-930-3023.