

Spotlight on OT...

Lana Hochman, Occupational Therapist with the Manitoba Renal Program at Health Sciences Centre

Where do you work?

I am an occupational therapist with the Manitoba Renal Program at Health Sciences Centre. This is a position that encompasses clients accessing a variety of nephrology services, which includes the Renal Health Clinic at Health Science Centre, In-Centre Dialysis at Health Science Centre, the Sherbrook Dialysis Unit, and the 16 local centres in Manitoba.



Who is on your team?

My interprofessional team is comprised of another occupational therapist, nephrologists, nurses, dietitians, social workers, pharmacists, an aboriginal liaison coordinator, and a kinesiologist.

What is the purpose of OT in the Renal Program?

- Provide assessment and intervention to clients living with chronic kidney disease who are experiencing limitations in activities of daily living;
- Facilitate referrals to community based supports, as appropriate;
- Consult with interdisciplinary team members and other occupational therapists as to the impact of chronic kidney disease on ADL participation and intervention strategies.

What is your role?

- Home visits especially when accessibility and safety are concerns
- Wheelchair seating and mobility particularly when skin integrity is a priority
- Assist with transition planning (i.e. from central dialysis unit to a local centre)
- Cognitive assessments to assist with determination of need for community supports

What is the best part of your job?

As an OT with the Manitoba Renal Program, I am able to work with clients and their families on the dialysis unit and in their homes to build long lasting relationships. There is variety within the role and everyday looks different for me. It is a position that is consistently challenging me to learn about new resources and interventions to implement with my clients to meet their individual needs.

If you have any additional questions about the Manitoba Renal Program and/or the occupational therapy role please contact me by e-mail at lhochman@hsc.mb.ca.

Submitted by: Lana Hochman, O.T. Reg. (MB)