

10/9/07 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MATCH-D: A New Tool to Assess Kidney Patients' Suitability for Home Dialysis

Madison, Wisconsin – The choice of a dialysis modality dramatically affects every aspect of patients' day-to-day lives. As part of its Home Dialysis Central website (<http://www.homedialysis.org>), the non-profit Medical Education Institute (MEI) has developed a new assessment tool to help dialysis clinic staff systematically evaluate whether each patient is a good candidate for peritoneal dialysis or home hemodialysis.

The Method to Assess Treatment Choices for Home Dialysis (MATCH-D) was developed by Dori Schatell, MS, and Beth Witten, MSW, ACSW, LCSW, with multiple reviews from a multidisciplinary team of home dialysis experts from the U.S. and around the world. The tool includes an explanatory page as well as a page for peritoneal dialysis and one for home hemodialysis, each with information to help triage patients into those who could readily do home treatment, those who would require help to overcome barriers, and those who might not be well-suited for a particular home option.

The MATCH-D is now available for free download from the Home Dialysis Central website at <http://www.homedialysis.org/files/pdf/pros/MatchD2007.pdf>.

The mission of the MEI is to help people with chronic disease learn to manage and improve their health. MEI launched Home Dialysis Central (www.homedialysis.org) in July 2004 to raise awareness and use of PD and home hemodialysis. Home Dialysis Central is made possible by support from corporate sponsors.

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