The Hemodialert comprises a monitor and a sensor (which plugs into the monitor).

All patients must be issued with their own 'sensor' to prevent the spread of blood borne viruses and bacterial skin/blood infections. Monitors can be shared.

The sensor can be stored in a specimen bag which will be labelled with the patients name and CHI number stored on the trolley next to the nurses' station.

Monitors and sensors must be disinfected before and after use, first with a detergent wipe, followed by an alcohol wipe which must be allowed to dry for at least 30 seconds. Bleach or chlorhexidine based solutions must NOT be used on the sensor, but can be used on the monitor should it become contaminated with blood.

If the sensor becomes contaminated with blood, it must be disposed of.

Patients with known Blood Borne Virus must be issued with their own monitor.

The sensor must be wrapped in sterile gauze and then secured over the venous needle using tape.

Prior to use, the sensor must be tested. The monitor should emit an audible alarm when the sensor is plugged into the monitor. If this does not occur, the batteries should be replaced. Once batteries replaced, test again by wiping the sensor with an alcohol wipe. If an alarm is still not emitted, the sensor must be disposed of and replaced.

If batteries need to be changed, please inform Renal Technicians.

While in use, if the monitor emits a 'beep' at approximately 10 second intervals, this means that the battery needs to be changed.

If the monitor alarms during treatment, this must be responded to immediately and treated as a clinical emergency (depending on the cause of the alarm).

Storage of Hemodialerts when not in use
Hemodialert monitors must be stored in a lidded plastic container.
Sensors must be removed from monitor after use to switch off the monitor circuit and preserve battery life.
Spare new sensors stored on trolley
Individual named sensors stored in specimen bags labelled with the patients name/CHI