



**ARROWHEAD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**  
**Department of Dialysis Policies and Procedures**

**POLICY NO. 648.00 Issue 1**  
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**SECTION: WATER POLICY**

**SUBJECT: HARDNESS TESTING**

**APPROVED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 NURSE MANAGER

**POLICY**

- I. For water treatment systems with water softener, portable or stationary, hardness testing should be done.
- II. Hardness testing is performed by trained staff.
- III. Hardness testing is done to ensure that
  - A. The water softener is functioning properly.
  - B. The water hardness levels remain  $\leq 0.6$  grain per gallon or  $\leq 10$  parts per million (ppm).
- IV. Procedures
  - A. Hardness testing of water is done each treatment day
    1. Prior to the first patient shift and after the Reverse Osmosis (RO) system has been using incoming water for no less than 15 minutes of operation.
    2. At the end of the day after the last patient shift.
  - B. Hardness testing is done using low-range water hardness reagent strips. Follow manufacturer's guideline when using the test strips.
  - C. The sample is obtained immediately post – softener or at the location as designated by the Arrowhead Regional Medical Center (ARMC) biomedical engineering services.
  - D. Testing is documented on a designated log each time it is done.
  - E. Completed logs are filed and maintained in the program's Water / Technical Master File.

**REFERENCES: Regulatory Standards**

**DEFINITIONS: N/A**

**APPROVAL DATE:**

<u>N/A</u>	<u>Policy, Procedure and Standards Committee</u>
<u>11/29/22</u>	<u>Nursing Standards Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
<u>12/16/22</u>	<u>Environment of Care Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
<u>1/25/23</u>	<u>Patient Safety and Quality Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
<u>2/9/23</u>	<u>Quality Management Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
<u>2/23/23</u>	<u>Medical Executive Committee</u> Applicable Administrator, Hospital or Medical Committee
	<u>Board of Supervisors</u> Approved by the Governing Body

**REPLACES:** N/A

**EFFECTIVE:** 2/23/23

**REVISED:** N/A

**REVIEWED:** N/A