

The Effects of Repeated Hospitalizations for ESRD Patients

Mental Health

Hospitalizations may cause or exacerbate anxiety, depression, and other mental health conditions.

Respiratory Difficulty

Fluid overload causes shortness of breath and increased stress on the respiratory system leading to long-term, chronic damage.

Decreased Nutrition

Decreased appetite for a variety of reasons can lead to poor nutrition, which can lead to other complications and slow down the healing process.

Vascular Complications

Decreased movement and chronic swelling due to fluid overload can lead to development of blood clots and other vascular complications.

Risk of Skin Breakdown

Decreased activity can increase risk of skin breakdown, which can lead to infections. Frequent and/or chronic swelling can also decrease skin integrity and lead to breakdown.

Extremity Swelling

Swelling of the arms and legs can lead to decreased movement and skin strength, which can lead to other complications.

High Blood Pressure

High blood pressure from fluid overload may cause a long-lasting medical condition requiring medication or additional medication to manage.

Heart Failure

Fluid overload can often cause high blood pressure and additional strain on cardiac muscles leading to heart failure over time.

Anemia

Infections and decreased nutrition further decrease red blood cell production. Missing scheduled in-center treatments can cause missed doses of ESA medications to aid in red blood cell production.

Increased Risk of Vascular Access Complications

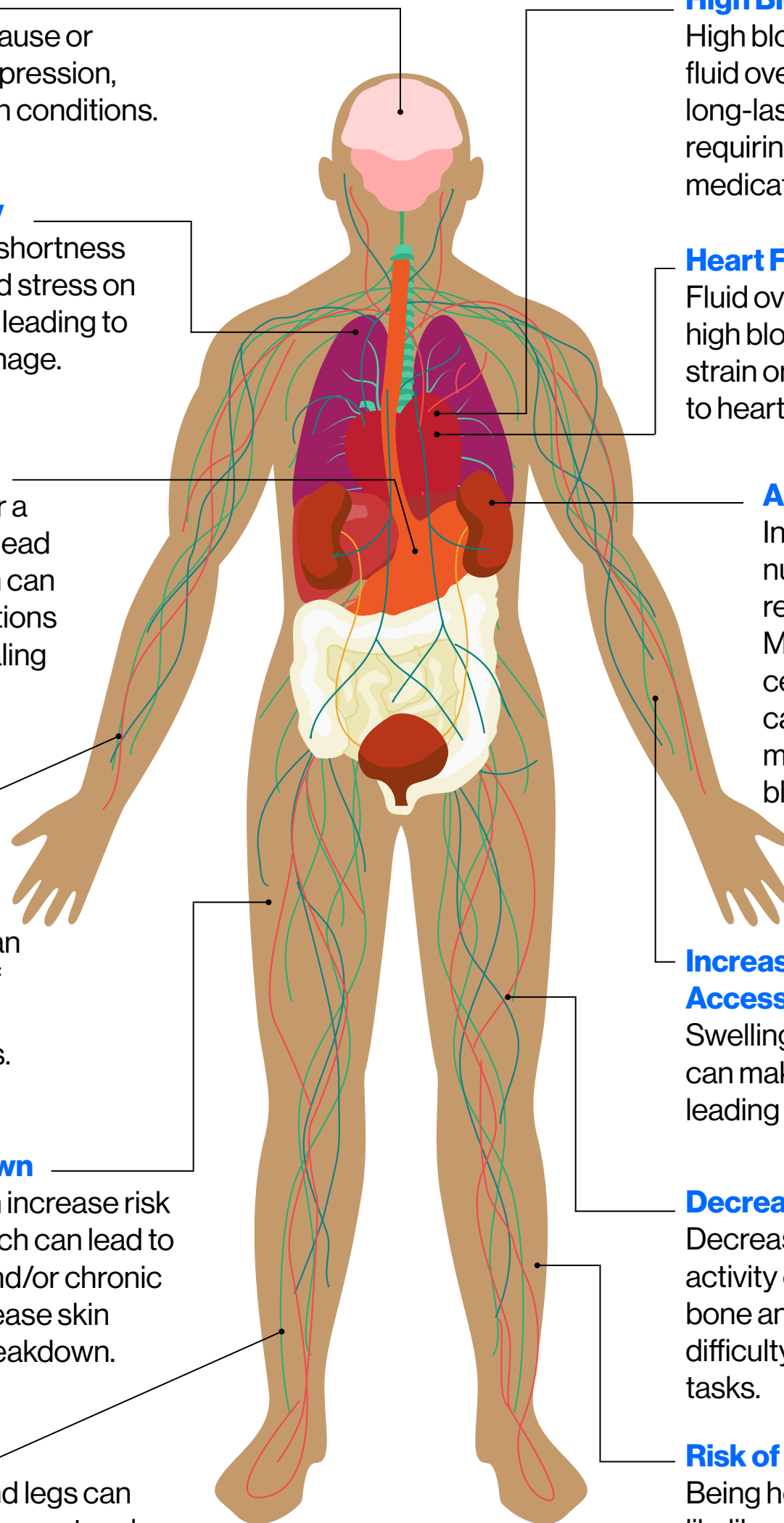
Swelling of the access extremity can make cannulation difficult, leading to access complications.

Decreased Strength/Mobility

Decreased movement and activity can lead to loss of bone and muscle strength and difficulty with other physical tasks.

Risk of Infection

Being hospitalized increases likelihood of being exposed to infection.



For more information or to file a grievance, please contact:

ESRD Network 10
911 E. 86th St., Ste. 30
Indianapolis, IN 46240
Toll-Free: 800-456-6919

ESRD Network 12
2300 Main St., Ste. 900
Kansas City, MO 64108
Toll-Free: 800-444-9965

