



## Considerations to Minimize the Risks of Infection

Hemosphere medical advisors, implanting HeRO<sup>®</sup> surgeons, and referring nephrologists suggest the following considerations to reduce the risk of bacteremia with the HeRO Device:

### Pre-Implant

- Obtain screening blood cultures to rule out asymptomatic bacteremia prior to HeRO implant for any patient dialyzing on a catheter; treat patient with antibiotics per culture outcome and ensure infection is resolved prior to HeRO implant procedure.
- Swab the patient's nose prior to HeRO implant for potential methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus; treat accordingly.

### Implant and Bridging-Period

- Prophylactically treat the patient in the peri-operative period with antibiotics based upon the patient's bacteremia history:
  - **Ancef or combination Vancomycin and Gentamycin for native stick Venous Outflow Component placement**
  - **Vancomycin and Gentamycin for over-the-wire exchange of a tunneled cuffed dialysis catheter**
  - **Vancomycin and Gentamycin for femoral catheter placement and atypical HeRO placement**
- If an existing catheter is removed, suture the tract closed from the existing catheter prior to placing the HeRO Outflow Component.
- Consider covering any catheter extensions with an antimicrobial incise drape to protect the sterile area.
- Plan for increased bacteremia risk after an ipsilateral HeRO placement or with femoral bridging catheters and treat prophylactically with antibiotics knowing patients are at higher infection risk.
- Culture any catheters removed at the time of HeRO implant.
- Apply antibiotic ointment to the bridging catheter exit site or antimicrobial bridging catheter lock.
- Remove the bridging catheter as soon as possible once the HeRO device is being cannulated to decrease the risk of an infection related to the bridging catheter.
- All bridging catheters should be cultured upon explant. In the event catheter tip cultures are positive, treat the patient with appropriate antibiotics to decrease the risk of the HeRO device becoming infected.

**For additional information, please refer to the HeRO Instructions for Use or contact Hemosphere Customer Service at 888.313.8233.**