BEDSIDE CONTROL UNIT FOR HOSPITAL DIALYSIS*

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A complete control unit on monitoring dialysis in hospital designed for a batch blended static tank dialysate supply system has been successfully in operation for the past six months. The unit is a console with a master switch panel operating all systems in the static tank and has power supplies for heparin, protamine and blood pumps.

In addition, sensitive pressure gauges permit the monitoring of dialysate pressure and the air pressure on the return blood line from the dialyser. Needle valves control dialysate flow and negative pressure, and an effluent pump is the power source for negative pressure dialysis. The visible flow meter indicates dialysate flow. Automatic cut-out devices for all pumps with persistence of visual alarm signals and optional muting of auditory alarm signals, with a need for manual restarting of the pump following automatic cut-out have produced a ‘fail safe’ system of monitoring dialysis.