

A kidney treatment lifeline

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ANCHOR LEDE: Managing kidney failure is a huge task. But doing so while in a hospital critical care unit makes things even more challenging. Luckily, a lifeline exists in the form of continuous renal replacement therapy, OR CRRT. Tim Ditman of OSF HealthCare has more.

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It's a form of dialysis that typically runs 24/7 for five to seven days at a time. A person will be on CRRT until they show signs of improvement, like producing urine or a more stable blood pressure.

OSF critical care nurse manager Keely Kelson has experience with this.

**\*\*\*SOUNDBITE\*\*\***

**Keely Nelson, OSF HealthCare critical care nurse manager**

**"It's a very slow filtration of the kidneys while they're in this acute state. Their body may not be able to compensate for that shifting or removal of the toxins and fluids." (:13)**

I'm Tim Ditman.

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ANCHOR TAG: Nelson adds that CRRT was already becoming more common at hospitals in the past five years, but the pandemic accelerated things. The concept itself is around 40 years old, she says.