Tying it all together: Haemodialysis, Isolated Ultrafiltration and Plasma Exchange

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Plasma exchange may be required for patients with various auto-immune diseases, or post transplantation to remove unwanted antibodies; additionally, haemodialysis may be required for fluid removal and solute management. Hence tandem treatments, when both are attended together are increasingly being considered. Recently a patient receiving this treatment required only minimal dialysis time, but additional fluid removal hence isolated ultrafiltration was requested. The question arose would this be effective, and what impact this would have? To understand this the principles of treatment will be discussed, the current evidence and an overview of the implications of each modality.