

Big Red Kidney Bus

Admission Criteria

Before your holiday on the BRKB can be confirmed you must meet the required admission criteria listed below. The BRKB Coordinator will liaise with your Dialysis Unit to obtain the necessary documentation which includes consent from your Nephrologist and Dialysis Unit.

- You must be over 16 years of age and be established on haemodialysis for 3 months without any significant complications.
- You must have an established functioning fistula or graft, problem free for 5 weeks post any corrective procedure. There must be no infection at the vascular access site.
- As there is only one nurse you must be able to hold your fistula/graft needle insertion sites at the end of your treatment, or have someone present to assist you.
- Unfortunately we are unable to accept patients who have a Permacath or similar temporary access.
- You must be able to arrange your own transport to and from dialysis.
- You must be ambulant or be able to transfer independently from a wheelchair. There is a hoist available if you use a walking aid. Assistance from nursing staff to help you transfer to the chair will be limited as there will only be one nurse on the Bus.
- For dialysis sessions that may finish at night, holidaymakers must be escorted to their accommodation by a family member/friend, as terrain can be uneven, wet and slippery, and lighting can be limited depending on each location.
- You must be medically and psychologically stable and be able to tolerate the prescribed dialysis treatment.
- You must provide your own anticoagulant therapy (eg. Heparin, Clexane and Fragmin), erythropoietin (eg. Neorecormon, Aranesp or Micera), and any other medication that you require for the duration of your stay.
- You must not require administration of any IV medications including antibiotics during your dialysis on the Bus (apart from anticoagulants and EPO).
- You must not have any active drains or wounds that will require nursing intervention or dressing changes.
- Your unit is required to provide your most recent serology including Hep B and Hep C (taken within 6 months), Biochemistry and Haematology (taken within 1 month).
- Your unit is required to provide Current Multi-Resistant Organism Status (taken within 3 months) such as VRE and MRSA swabs.

We recommend that you take holiday/travel insurance to cover your travel expenses in the event your dialysis cannot be accommodated.

This form was originally produced by Monash Health.