

Financial Support

For home dialysis patients in Western Australia

This fact sheet provides information about financial concessions available to patients who receive their dialysis treatment at home. This resource has been developed on behalf of The HOME Network, a group of healthcare professionals who are working in partnership with Kidney Health Australia to address the low uptake of home dialysis in Australia.

Home haemodialysis patients face increased utility costs that result from elevated water usage and electricity requirements necessary to run their dialysis equipment. As this is a recognised medical requirement, the Western Australian Government provides a number of subsidies to assist home dialysis patients with the running costs of their dialysis equipment. Some states and territories offer ongoing financial assistance and/or a single set-up payment for home dialysis patients.

Household Assistance Essential medical equipment

To offset the electricity price impacts on home dialysis equipment, the Federal Government provides an Essential Medical Equipment payment of \$149 annually to Commonwealth concession card holders.

Refer to: humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/essential-medical-equipment-payment

Life support equipment electricity subsidy

The Western Australian Government subsidises the cost of increased electricity requirements for eligible home peritoneal dialysis patients with an annual rebate of \$83.

To be eligible home dialysis patients must hold a Pensioner Concession Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Health Care Interim Voucher.

Refer to: humanservices.gov.au/customer/subjects/concession-and-health-care-cards

Rebates for concession card holders

The Western Australian Government provides additional concessions on some utility costs for holders of various concession cards. Eligible card holders can receive a rebate of up to \$200 per year.

Refer to: watercorporation.com.au/my-account/your-bill-and-charges/pensioner-and-concession-discounts

Hospital payment

Home haemodialysis patients receive a payment of between \$624 to \$780, to assist with increased utility charges. This payment is administered monthly by hospitals in Western Australia.

For more information contact your home haemodialysis training unit.

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The HOME Network

The HOME Network is a national initiative to engage healthcare professionals in the field of home dialysis, empowering these individuals to develop solutions to overcome the barriers that currently inhibit the uptake of home therapies in Australia.

Today, The HOME Network comprises a number of task forces, including the Financial Support and Advocacy Task Force. This team of healthcare professionals aims to address the financial burden experienced by patients who choose to undergo their dialysis treatment at home. This includes understanding financial entitlements for home dialysis patients in each state and territory across Australia, and making this information available to patients, their carers and other healthcare professionals.

Financial assistance available for home dialysis patients differs for each state and territory in Australia. The HOME Network and Kidney Health Australia have looked at ways to address inequities in the financial support available. If you would like further information or to become involved, refer to the contact information below.

Useful contacts - for Western Australia

Kidney Health Australia
Kidney Health Information Service
1800 454 3639
kidney.org.au
homedialysis.org.au
homedialysis@kidney.org.au

Western Australian Government
Office of State Revenue
08 9262 1373
finance.wa.gov.au
lifesupport@dff.wa.gov.au

Western Australian Government
Department of Health
08 9222 4222
health.gov.au

Horizon Power
1800 2967 926
horizonpower.com.au

Synergy
131 353
synergy.com.au

Water Corporation
131 385
watercorporation.com.au

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