



Financial Support for Home Dialysis Patients in Australia

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Kidney Health Australia

Kidney Health Australia, formerly known as the Australian Kidney Foundation, is a national not for profit organisation focused on saving lives and reducing the need for dialysis. Our work focuses on awareness, detection, prevention and management of kidney disease in Australia and surrounding regions.

Kidney Health Australia provides a range of services and programs for consumers, health professionals and the community including:

- Health Information and Publications
- Kidney Health Information Service
- Kidney Check Australia Taskforce (health professional education)
- Kidney Kids Programs – National Camps and state-based programs
- Family Accommodation Initiative Transplant Housing
- Holiday Dialysis Programs
- Consumer Advocacy Opportunities
- Education Initiatives for Consumers, Carers and Health Professionals
- Support Programs including support groups
- Research and Grants Scholarship Programs

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 lobbying 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.

Introduction

10,341 patients were undertaking dialysis with 3090 individuals performing dialysis at home in Australia in December 2009.¹ 40 dialysis centres throughout Australia provide the training and ongoing support for home dialysis.

Home haemodialysis was first introduced in the 1960s with the aim of reducing the inconvenience of travelling to a hospital or dialysis centre, and increasing autonomy of patients. Home Peritoneal dialysis was introduced with Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis in the 1980's and Automated Peritoneal Dialysis in the 1990's.

Home dialysis may be the only feasible option for people living in rural or remote locations unless they wish to relocate closer to a satellite centre or renal unit.

Advantages of Home Dialysis

The advantages of home dialysis are considerable and include:

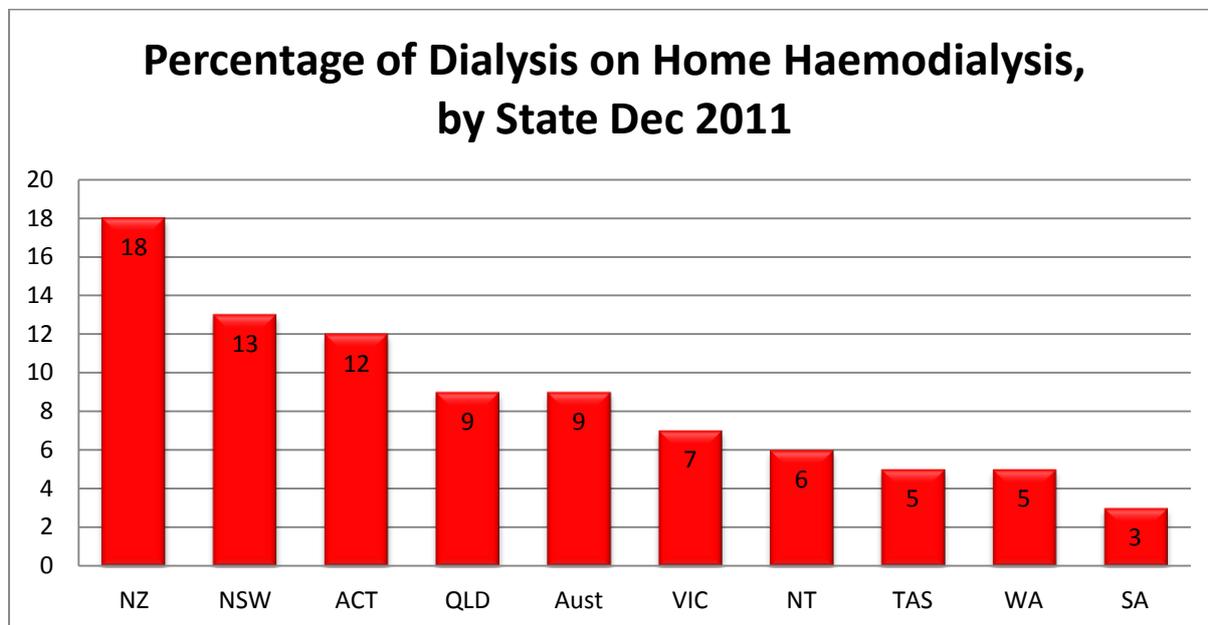
- longer survival times
- decreased risk of exposure to hospital infections
- improved quality of life
- decreased health system costs
- enhanced opportunities for rehabilitation and return to employment
- greater independence and flexibility to perform dialysis at a time that suits the individual with CKD and their families/carers
- no time and cost issues associated with transport to dialysis²

¹ ANZDATA report 2010 accessed August 2011 at www.ANZDATA.org.au

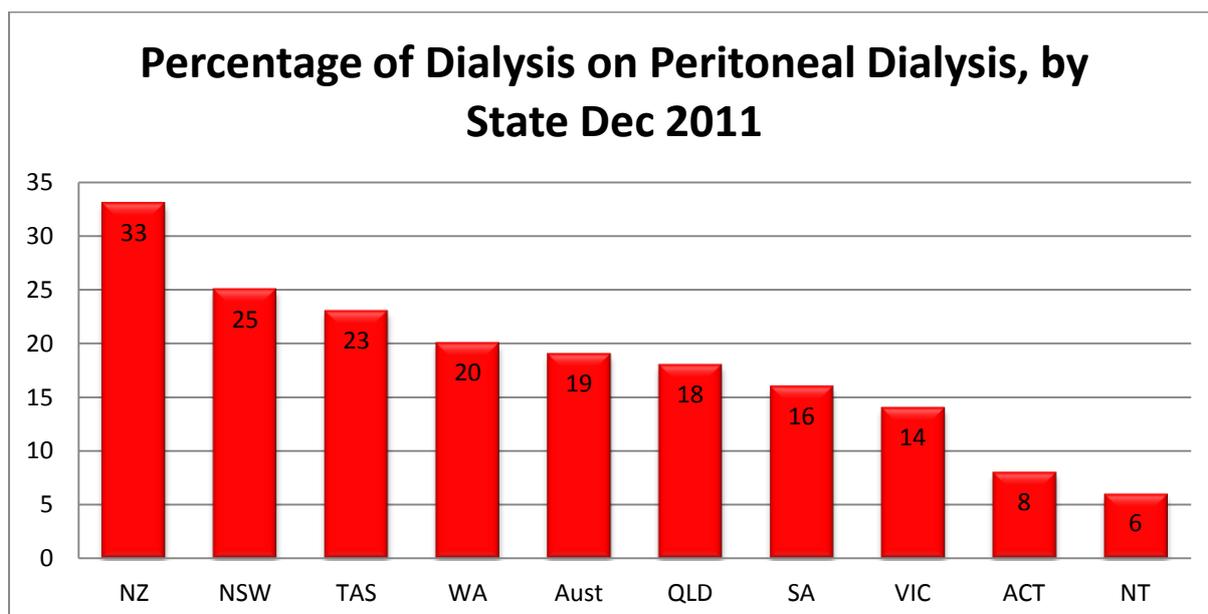
² Kidney Health Australia, 2006, *National Chronic Kidney Disease Strategy*, p. 77.

Percentages of Dialysis Patients on a Home Modality

The percentage of people in Australia who undertake home haemodialysis has fallen from about half of all dialysis patients in the 1970s³, to 9% in 2009⁴. The uptake of home haemodialysis varies considerably around Australia.



The percentage of people in Australia who undertake home peritoneal dialysis has reduced from 27% in 2010 to 21% in 2009⁵. Automated peritoneal dialysis, done overnight, now accounts for 60% of those using peritoneal dialysis⁶.



³ Home Haemodialysis in Australia, 2010. Agar et al, p1

⁴ ANZDATA report 2010. Accessed Sep 2010 at www.ANZDATA.org.au

⁵ ANZDATA report 2010. Accessed Sep 2010 at www.ANZDATA.org.au

⁶ ANZDATA report 2010. Accessed Sep 2010 at www.ANZDATA.org.au

Costs of Dialysis

The health system costs associated with dialysis treatment per person per year are:

- \$79,072 Hospital
- \$65,315 Satellite
- \$53,112 Home – Peritoneal dialysis
- \$49,137 Home – Haemodialysis⁷

International costing data for dialysis programs in high income countries generally arrive at the same conclusion, that in-centre or hospital haemodialysis is the most expensive form of dialysis.⁸ There are not costs to the individual for dialysis attending a hospital or satellite.

Individual Costs of Home Dialysis

Home dialysis uses electricity and water, and requires other adaptations at home that can leave the person on home dialysis out of pocket. Additional costs may include dialysis chairs, medications, dressings, and equipment for health monitoring including scales and blood pressure machines.

The annual electricity cost for home haemodialysis patients is estimated to be \$500 - \$1,200. Power usage and cost depends on the patients' location, time of dialysis and duration of dialysis.

- Increased electricity charges are creating a significant disincentive to undertaking or continuing home haemodialysis.
- There is anecdotal evidence of patients wishing to switch from home haemodialysis to satellite or in-centre dialysis due to increased electricity charges and other out-of-pocket expenses.

The annual water cost for home haemodialysis patients is estimated to be \$468 - \$2000. Water usage depends on duration of dialysis. Water costs vary by jurisdiction.

Overall it is estimated that home dialysis patients who are not concession card holders can be on average up to \$1500 per year out of pocket with home haemodialysis carrying the greater burden. State concessions can reduce the burden but unfortunately many concessions are restricted to concession card holders.

These individual costs are one barrier to the uptake of home dialysis. A recent survey undertaken by Kidney Health Australia found that 13% of patients not currently using home dialysis in Australia were prepared to do so⁹. This increased to 31% if expenses were reimbursed¹⁰.

⁷ Kidney Health Australia, 2010, *The Economic Impact of End-Stage Kidney Disease in Australia: Projections to 2020*, p. 27.

⁸ Kidney Health Australia, 2010, *The Economic Impact of End-Stage Kidney Disease in Australia, Projections to 2020*, p. 78.

⁹ Kidney Health Australia, 2011, *Consumer Perspectives on Dialysis, First National Census*, p. 50.

¹⁰ Kidney Health Australia, 2011, *Consumer Perspectives on Dialysis, First National Census*, p.50.

Reimbursements by State

The Victorian Government has led the way by providing annual payments to home dialysis patients (\$1,327 haemodialysis and \$503 peritoneal dialysis)¹¹. Additional reimbursements are provided by governments and water suppliers.

Rebate costs expressed are per annum as at September 2011

Further explanations and links for suppliers and their websites are available within each state section

Home Haemodialysis Reimbursements

	Low income or Concession Holder Energy Government (Not dialysis specific)	Life support subsidy – Electricity Government	Low income or concession Holder Water Government (Not dialysis specific)	Dialysis specific water rebate from water suppliers (varies by and within each state)	Specific dialysis payment (health department or hospital payment)	Planned for 2012 Household Assistance medical equipment (carbon price offset)
NSW	\$200*	\$251	Up to 100%*	Free 80-400kl		\$140*
Victoria	17%*	Free 1880kw*	\$277*	Free 168kl*	\$1990 health dept	\$140*
QLD	\$230*	\$314	\$120*	Free 50-400kl		\$140*
SA	\$158*	\$165	\$235*	Free 180kl		\$140*
WA	Up to \$200	\$0	Up to 50%*		\$624-\$780 hospital	\$140*
ACT	\$374	\$121	Up to 68%*	\$1200		\$140*
Tasmania	\$407*	\$114	\$150*	Free Up to 200kl		\$140*
NT	\$430+*	\$0	\$265+*			\$140*

*specified concession holders only

Assuming a minimum of 3 x 5hrs treatment to a maximum of 6 x 8hrs weekly it is calculated that:

- HHD uses 126 - 323kl of water per annum variable by treatment regime.
Cost varies by jurisdiction or supplier and overall household consumption
Pre rebate this can cost approximately \$500 - \$1200
- HHD uses 1310 - 3744kW* of energy per annum variable by treatment regime
Electricity costs average from 15c – 45c per kW
Cost varies by jurisdiction or supplier and the time of day using treatment
Pre-rebate the annual cost at 30c kW is estimated at \$393 - \$1123 per annum

*The new technology dialysis machine uses 0.1kWh or energy compared to 1.2kWh

¹¹ <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/renalhealth/funding.htm>

Automated Peritoneal Dialysis Reimbursements

	Low income Concession Holder Energy Government (not dialysis specific)	Life support subsidy – Electricity	Specific dialysis payment (health department)	Planned for 2012 Household Assistance medical equipment (carbon price offset)
NSW	\$200*	\$251		\$140*
Victoria	17%*	Free 1880kw*	\$755	\$140*
QLD	\$230*	\$314		\$140*
SA	\$158*	\$165		\$140*
WA	Up to \$200	\$76		\$140*
ACT	\$346*	\$121		\$140*
Tasmania	\$407*	\$114		\$140*
NT	\$430+*	\$0		\$140*

*specified concession holders only

Source of Information

Information about how to access the appropriate assistance has been in some states difficult to determine. A collaboration between the Home Network and Kidney Health Australia (KHA) has resulted in the development of this booklet which is a resource pertaining to financial assistance that is currently available for those on home dialysis. The assistance is variable by state. Both those on dialysis and health care providers will be able to use this booklet or individual fact sheets and this will promote that each individual accesses the assistance they are entitled to.

Information was gathered from websites and by phone calls to energy and water providers and government offices. The information in each fact sheet is correct as of September 2011. All reasonable effort will be made by KHA to adapt fact sheets when future information is provided to KHA. However KHA hold no responsibility for the information if concessions are superseded and KHA are not notified.

The fact sheets are available at:

<http://www.kidney.org.au/ForPatients/Finance/tabid/614/Default.aspx>

or via the main webpage www.kidney.org.au in the patient finance section

Generic Fact Sheet Information

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 therapies 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 *State* Government provides a subsidy through electricity retailers to assist home dialysis patients with the running costs of their dialysis equipment. Many water suppliers in *State* also offer a concession on water usage costs for home dialysis patients. Some states and territories offer ongoing financial assistance and/or a single set-up payment for home dialysis patients. For more information about what is available in *State*, contact the Department of Health

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.

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The financial assistance available for home dialysis patients differs for each state and territory in Australia.

The HOME Network and Kidney Health Australia are looking at ways to address the inequities in the financial support that is available. If you would like further information or to become involved, please see the contact information below.

Kidney Health Australia

Kidney Health Information Service

1800 4 KIDNEY (1800 454 3639)

www.kidney.org.au

The HOME Network

info@themenetwork.com.au

State Specific Victoria

Home dialysis patient payment

Home haemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis patients receive a payment from the Victorian Government, administered through hub services, to assist with dialysis costs. Haemodialysis patients receive \$1,990 per year and peritoneal dialysis patients receive \$755 per year. For more information, visit www.health.vic.gov.au/renalhealth/funding.htm

Annual electricity concession, water and sewage concession

The Victorian Government provides additional concessions on some utility costs for holders of various concession cards. Eligible card holders can receive a 17.5% discount on their annual energy bill. Please see www.dhs.vic.gov.au/for-individuals/financial-support/concessions/energy for more information. Concession card holders may also be eligible to receive a rebate of up to \$270.20 per year on their water usage and sewerage charges. For information on eligible concession cards and how to apply, visit www.dhs.vic.gov.au/for-individuals/financial-support/concessions/water

Life support machine electricity concession

The Victorian Government subsidises the cost of increased electricity requirements for eligible home dialysis patients. The discount is equal to the cost of 1,880 kilowatts per year, which is deducted from personal electricity bills by energy retailers. To be eligible for this discount, home dialysis patients must hold a Pensioner Concession Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or DVA Gold Card. For more information about the electricity rebate and how to apply, visit www.dhs.vic.gov.au/for-individuals/financial-support/concessions/energy/life-support-machine-electricity-concession

Water concession

The Victorian Government provides a special dispensation for patients undergoing haemodialysis at home. Patients holding a Pensioner Concession Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or DVA Gold Card are eligible to receive a rebate on their water bill equal to the cost of 168 kilolitres of water per year. Some water suppliers offer a further discount on remaining water charges. Contact your water supplier for more information.

Household Assistance - Essential medical equipment

The introduction of a carbon price in 2012 is expected to impact on the price of electricity. To offset the electricity price impacts on home dialysis equipment, the Federal Government will provide an Essential Medical Equipment Payment of \$140 annually to Commonwealth Concession Card holders. For more information about this payment, visit www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Fact-sheet-5-Household-assistance-Essential-medical-equipment.pdf

Contact information for Victoria

Victorian Government

Concessions Information Line
1800 658 521
concessions@dhs.vic.gov.au
www.dhs.vic.gov.au/concessions/entitlements

Department of Health

1300 253 942
www.health.vic.gov.au

AGL

www.agl.com.au
131 245

Australian Power & Gas

www.australianpowerandgas.com.au
133 298

Barwon Water

www.barwonwater.com.au
1300 656 007

Central Highlands Water

www.chw.net.au
(03) 5320 3100

City West Water

www.citywestwater.com.au
131 691

Click Energy

www.clickenergy.com.au
1800 775 929

Coliban Water

www.coliban.com.au
1300 363 200

Dodo Power and Gas

www.dodo.com.au/powerandgas
133 636

East Gippsland Water

www.egwater.vic.gov.au
1300 720 700

Energy Australia

www.energyaustralia.com.au
131 502

Gippsland Water

www.gippswater.com.au
1800 066 401

Goulburn Valley Water

www.gvwater.vic.gov.au
(03) 5832 0400

GWM Water

www.gwmwater.org.au
1300 659 961

Lower Murray Water

www.lmw.vic.gov.au
(03) 5051 3400

Lumo Energy

www.lumoenergy.com.au
1300 115 866

Neighbourhood Energy

www.neighbourhood.com.au
1300 764 860

North East Water

www.nerwa.vic.gov.au
1300 361 622

Origin Energy

www.originenergy.com.au
132 461

Red Energy

www.redenergy.com.au
131 806

Simply Energy

www.simplyenergy.com.au
138 808

South East Water

www.southeastwater.com.au
131 694

South Gippsland Water

www.sgwater.com.au
(03) 5682 0444

TRUenergy

www.truenergy.com.au
133 466

Wannon Water

www.wannonwater.com.au
1300 926 666

Western Water

www.westernwater.com.au
1300 650 425

Westernport Water

www.westernportwater.com.au
1300 720 711

Yarra Valley Water

www.yvw.com.au
131 721

State Specific New South Wales

Low income household rebate

A NSW Government funded rebate provides \$200 per year to help various concession card holders with their energy costs. See www.dtiris.nsw.gov.au/energy/customers/rebates for more details. Some concession card holders may also be eligible to receive concessions of up to 100% on water service charges and up to 83% on wastewater service charges per year. For more information about these concessions, contact your water supplier.

Water concession

Water suppliers in NSW offer a special dispensation for home haemodialysis patients, providing between 80 and 400 kilolitres of water per year without charge in some areas. As the concession varies between different water supply companies, contact your water supplier for more information on how they can help.

Life support rebate

The NSW Government subsidises the cost of increased electricity requirements for home dialysis patients with a credit of \$0.69 per day (\$251.85 per year), which is deducted from personal electricity bills by energy retailers. For more information about the electricity rebate and how to apply, visit www.dtiris.nsw.gov.au/energy/customers/rebates/life-support-rebates-questions

Household Assistance - Essential medical equipment

The introduction of a carbon price in 2012 is expected to impact on the price of electricity. To offset the electricity price impacts on home dialysis equipment, the Federal Government will provide an Essential Medical Equipment Payment of \$140 annually to Commonwealth Concession Card holders. For more information about this payment, visit www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Fact-sheet-5-Household-assistance-Essential-medical-equipment.pdf

Contact information for New South Wales

NSW Government

Energy information line
1300 136 888
Head Office
(02) 6391 3100
www.dtiris.nsw.gov.au/energy

NSW Department of Health

(02) 9391 9000
www.health.nsw.gov.au

AGL

www.agl.com.au
131 245

ActewAGL Gas & Electricity

www.actewagl.com.au
131 093

Australian Power & Gas

www.australianpowerandgas.com.au
133 298

Country Energy

www.countryenergy.com.au
132 356

Energy Australia

www.energyaustralia.com.au
131 502

Goldenfields Water County Council

www.gwcc.nsw.gov.au
(02) 6977 3200

Gosford/Wyong Councils' Water Authority

www.gwcwater.nsw.gov.au
(02) 4350 5555

Hunter Water Australia

www.hwa.com.au
(02) 4941 5000

Integral Energy

www.integral.com.au
131 002

Lumo Energy

www.lumoenergy.com.au
1300 115 866

Origin Energy

www.originenergy.com.au
132 461

Powerdirect

www.powerdirect.com.au
1300 307 966

Red Energy

www.redenergy.com.au
131 806

Rous Water

www.rouswater.nsw.gov.au
(02) 6621 8055

Riverina Water County Council

www.rwcc.com.au
(02) 6922 0608

Sydney Water

www.sydneywater.com.au
132 092

Sydney Catchment Authority

www.sca.nsw.gov.au
1300 722 468

TRUenergy

www.truenergy.com.au
133 466

State Specific Queensland

Energy life support concession

The Queensland Government subsidises the cost of increased electricity requirements for home dialysis patients with a credit of \$26.19 per month (\$314.31 per year), which is paid quarterly. To be eligible for this concessional payment, patients must have received their dialysis equipment free of charge through a Queensland Health Hospital. For more information about this payment and how to apply, visit

www.communityservices.qld.gov.au/community/communities-concessions/documents/pdf/electricity-life-support-info.pdf

Rebates for concession card holders

The Queensland Government provides general concessions on some utility costs for concession card holders. Eligible concession card holders can receive a rebate of \$230 per year on energy costs. Those residing in the South East Queensland water grid can receive up to \$120 to assist with their water costs. See www.communityservices.qld.gov.au/community/concessions for more information.

Water concession

Water suppliers in Queensland offer a special dispensation for home haemodialysis patients, providing between 50 and 400 kilolitres of water per year without charge in some areas. As the concession varies between different water supply companies, contact your water supplier for more information on how they can help.

Household Assistance - Essential medical equipment

The introduction of a carbon price in 2012 is expected to impact on the price of electricity. To offset the electricity price impacts on home dialysis equipment, the Federal Government will provide an Essential Medical Equipment Payment of \$140 annually to Commonwealth Concession Card holders. For more information about this payment, visit www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Fact-sheet-5-Household-assistance-Essential-medical-equipment.pdf.

Contact information for Queensland

Queensland Government

Department of Communities

Concession Services

(07) 3247 5907

www.communityservices.qld.gov.au/community/concessions

Queensland Health

(07) 3234 0111

www.health.qld.gov.au

AGL

www.agl.com.au

131 245

Allconnex Water

www.allconnex.com.au

1300 000 928

Australian Power & Gas

www.australianpowerandgas.com.au

133 298

Energy Australia

www.energyaustralia.com.au

131 502

Ergon Energy

www.ergon.com.au

131 046

Lumo Energy

www.lumoenergy.com.au

1300 115 866

Mackay Water

1300 622 529

Powerdirect

www.powerdirect.com.au

1300 307 966

Qenergy

www.qenergy.com.au

1300 44 85 35

Queensland Urban Utilities

www.urbanutilities.com.au

132 657

Sanctuary Energy

www.sanctuaryenergy.com.au

1800 109 099

TRUenergy

www.truenergy.com.au

133 466

Unitywater

www.unitywater.com

1300 086 489

Wide Bay Water

Corporation

www.widebaywater.qld.gov.au

1300 808 888

State Specific Tasmania

Energy and Water and sewerage concession

The Tasmanian Government provides general concessions on some utility costs for concession card holders. Eligible concession card holders can receive an energy concession of 111.70 cents per day (\$407.71 per year). For further information about the energy rebate, contact Aurora Energy www.auroraenergy.com.au Concession card holders may also be eligible to receive a rebate of up to \$150.15 per year to assist with their water and sewerage service charges. For more information, visit www.concessions.tas.gov.au/concessions/property_and_land_tax/water_and_sewerage_concessions

Water rebate

Some water suppliers in Tasmania offer a special dispensation for home haemodialysis patients, providing up to 200 kilolitres of water per year without charge. As the concession varies between different water supply companies, contact your water supplier for more information on how they can help.

Life support machine rebate

The Tasmanian Government subsidises the cost of increased electricity requirements for home dialysis patients with a credit of 31.30 cents per day (\$114.23 per year), which is deducted from personal electricity bills by energy retailers. For more information about the electricity rebate and how to apply, visit www.concessions.tas.gov.au/concessions/electricity_and_heating

Household Assistance - Essential medical equipment

The introduction of a carbon price in 2012 is expected to impact on the price of electricity. To offset the electricity price impacts on home dialysis equipment, the Federal Government will provide an Essential Medical Equipment Payment of \$140 annually to Commonwealth Concession Card holders. For more information about this payment, visit www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Fact-sheet-5-Household-assistance-Essential-medical-equipment.pdf

Contact information for Tasmania

Tasmanian Government

Discounts and Concessions

1300 132 003

www.concessions.tas.gov.au

Department of Health and Human Services

1300 135 513

www.dhhs.tas.gov.au

Aurora Energy

www.auroraenergy.com.au

1300 132 003

Ben Lomond Water

www.benlomondwater.com.au

136 992

Cradle Mountain Water

www.cmwater.com.au

136 992

Southern Water

www.southernwatertas.com.au

136 992

State Specific Western Australia

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. For information about the energy rebate, contact your energy supplier.

Concession card holders may also be eligible to receive a rebate of up to 50% of their annual water services charges. For more information, see

www.watercorporation.com.au/A/accounts_rates_concessions.cfm

Hospital payment

Home haemodialysis patients receive a payment of \$624-\$780 per year 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.

Life support equipment electricity subsidy

The Western Australian Government subsidises the cost of increased electricity requirements for home peritoneal dialysis patients with an annual rebate of \$76 per year. To be eligible, patients must hold a Pensioner Concession Card, Health Care Card or Health Care Interim Voucher. For more information about the electricity rebate and how to apply, visit

www.finance.wa.gov.au/cms/content.aspx?id=1280

Household Assistance - Essential medical equipment

The introduction of a carbon price in 2012 is expected to impact on the price of electricity. To offset the electricity price impacts on home dialysis equipment, the Federal Government will provide an Essential Medical Equipment Payment of \$140 annually to Commonwealth Concession Card holders. For more information about this payment, visit www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Fact-sheet-5-Household-assistance-Essential-medical-equipment.pdf

Contact information for Western Australia

Western Australia Government

Office of State Revenue

(08) 9262 1373

lifesupport@dtf.wa.gov.au

www.finance.wa.gov.au

Department of Health

(08) 9222 4222

www.health.wa.gov.au

Horizon Power

www.horizonpower.com.au

1800 267 926

Synergy

www.synergy.net.au

131 353

Water Corporation

www.watercorporation.com.au

131 385

State Specific Northern Territory

Northern Territory Pensioner and Carer Concession Scheme

The Northern Territory Pensioner and Carer Concession Scheme provides general concessions on some utility costs for holders of various concession cards. For energy costs, the fixed daily concession is \$1.18 per day (\$430.34 per year) with an additional concession for energy consumption charges. Similarly, the fixed daily concession for water is 72.5 cents per day (\$264.63 per year), with an additional concession available for water consumption charges. The concession for sewerage services is 75.4 cents

per day (\$275.21 per year). For more information about these rebates, visit

www.health.nt.gov.au/library/scripts/objectifyMedia.aspx?file=pdf/40/22.pdf&siteID=1&str_title=NewconcessionratesforPowerWaterandSeweragefrom1July2010.pdf

Household Assistance - Essential medical equipment

The introduction of a carbon price in 2012 is expected to impact on the price of electricity. To offset the electricity price impacts on home dialysis equipment, the Federal Government will provide an Essential Medical Equipment Payment of \$140 annually to Commonwealth Concession Card holders. For more information about this payment, visit www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Fact-sheet-5-Household-assistance-Essential-medical-equipment.pdf

Contact information for the Northern Territory

Northern Territory Department of Health

(08) 8999 2400

www.health.nt.gov.au

Power and Water Corporation

1800 245 092

www.powerwater.com.au

State Specific South Australia

Concessions – energy bills, water and sewage rates

The South Australian Government offers general utility concessions for people holding various concession cards. Eligible card holders can receive maximum annual rebates of \$235 for water and \$105 for sewerage costs. Energy concessions of up to \$158 per year are available to relevant concession card holders. For further information, visit www.dfc.sa.gov.au/pub/default.aspx?tabid=209

Water concession

SA Water offers a special dispensation for home dialysis patients, providing 180 kilolitres of water per year without charge. Contact SA Water for more information about this concession and how to apply.

Household Assistance - Essential medical equipment

The introduction of a carbon price in 2012 is expected to impact on the price of electricity. To offset the electricity price impacts on home dialysis equipment the Federal Government will provide an Essential Medical Equipment Payment of \$140 annually to Commonwealth Concession Card holders. For more information about this payment, visit www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Fact-sheet-5-Household-assistance-Essential-medical-equipment.pdf

Home Dialysis Electricity Concession

In January 2012 the SA government introduced an electricity concessions of \$165 for all home dialysis patients. This annual payment must be applied for by February 28th each year.

<http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/health+information/health+information+for+the+consumer/home+dialysis+electricity+concession+for+consumers>

Contact Information for South Australia

Government of South Australia

Concessions hotline
1800 307 758

South Australia Health

(08) 8226 6000
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

SA Water

SA Water Customer Service
1300 650 950
www.sawater.com.au

State Specific Australian Capital Territory

Rebates for concession card holders

Concession card holders may be eligible to receive ACT Government funded rebates on their utility costs. The maximum rebate for energy costs is \$374.82 per year and concession card holders may also be eligible to receive a rebate of up to 68% on their water and sewerage costs. For more information about the scheme and eligible concession cards, visit www.assistance.act.gov.au.

Home Haemodialysis Water rebate

As part of the ACT Government Concession Scheme, eligible home haemodialysis patients can receive a rebate of up to \$3.29 per day on their water costs (\$1,200 per year). Visit www.assistance.act.gov.au/adult/utilities/home_haemodialysis_rebate for more information about this rebate.

Life support rebate

The ACT Government subsidises the cost of increased electricity requirements for home dialysis patients with a credit of \$121.87 per year, which is deducted from personal electricity bills by energy retailers. For more information about the electricity rebate and how to apply, visit www.assistance.act.gov.au/person_with_health_issues/health_and_dental/life_support_rebate.

Household Assistance - Essential medical equipment

The introduction of a carbon price in 2012 is expected to impact on the price of electricity. To offset the electricity price impacts on home dialysis equipment, the Federal Government will provide an Essential Medical Equipment Payment of \$140 annually to Commonwealth Concession Card holders. For more information about this payment, visit www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Fact-sheet-5-Household-assistance-Essential-medical-equipment.pdf

Contact information for the Australian Capital Territory

Kidney Health Australia

Kidney Health Information Service
1800 4 KIDNEY (1800 454 3639)
www.kidney.org.au

The HOME Network

info@themenetwork.com.au

ACT Government – Health

Canberra Connect Contact Centre
132 281
www.assistance.act.gov.au

ActewAGL

www.actewagl.com.au
131 493

Origin Country Energy

www.countryenergy.com.au
au
132 356

TRUenergy

www.truenergy.com.au
133 466

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