



Upcoming events:

RSA Tasmania, June 2013
rsa2013.org

ERA-EDTA 50th conference
www.eda-edta2013.org

Advertise your renal event here.

To receive this newsletter directly email
homedialysis@kidney.org.au

In this issue

- 1
- 1
- 2
- 2
- 2
- 2

Home Dialysis the Chinese way

Editor's word

ANZDATA—The Dec 2011 figures for Home Dialysis

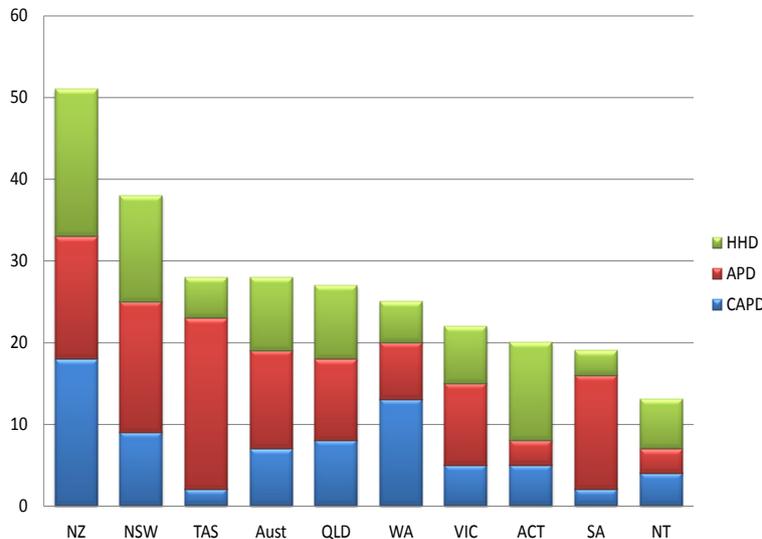
The latest ANZDATA statistics for Dec 2012 are now available. NZ continues to set the home dialysis benchmark. In Australia, whilst APD numbers are steady, or even increasing, CAPD as a percentage ratio, continue to decrease.

SA is the only Australian state to increase home dialysis (1%) with all other states dropping by 1-2%. WA, with its last 4 year focus on home haemodialysis has increased its' percentage by a further 1%.

There are still clear differences in the preferred modality of home dialysis by state: APD still dominates in Tasmania, SA and NSW. WA, ACT and the NT appear to prefer CAPD.



Home Dialysis rates, by modality, as a % of Dialysis, by State, Dec 2011



Given the buzz around home dialysis since 2011, and anecdotal information, it is anticipated that 2012 will be the year for the home dialysis numbers to stabilise.

What is most important is that every person who would like to be dialyzing at home is able to do so.

Data courtesy of:
www.anzdata.org.au

Home Dialysis—the Chinese way. Doctor Hu's DIY dialysis

Report from a Melbourne Newspaper

A CHINESE man has kept himself alive for 13 years on a dialysis machine that he made at home from kitchen utensils and old medical instruments. Hu Songwen was diagnosed with kidney disease in 1993 but after six years of treatment could no longer afford the medical bills.

His solution was to create his own machine, undeterred by the deaths of two friends who used similar machines. Doctors warn that Hu risks infection by not using sterile water.

This is what you call someone keen to do Home Dialysis, and reminds us of how lucky we are in Australia. However it is not recommended!!



The HOME Network

Educate, Enable, Empower

Email
homedialysis@kidney.org.au

Through education and advocacy the HOME network aims to enable patients and healthcare professionals to use their knowledge and the practical resources developed by the group to empower more patients to embrace the freedom of home therapies.

Effectiveness of Home Visits in Paediatrics

Home visits are usually standard practice in Australia, but justification to administration can at times be difficult. An American group implemented this practice, costed and evaluated the outcomes.

The primary goal was to reduce episodes of peritonitis. Despite extensive training they were not able to improve peritonitis previously. The home visits did reduce their high annualised peritonitis rate from 0.75 to 0.39 episodes per patient year.

Findings included pets in dialysis rooms, poor technique for connection related to the poor room configurations, missing personal monitoring supplies, broken dialysis machines, dirty dialysis machines and dirty dialysis environments.

With the estimated cost of each home visit at \$362.71 the home visit programme did save money as this is far cheaper than the cost of a dose of antibiotics. In addition the quality of life for the patients was improved.

Ellis, E, Blaszek et al. Effectiveness of home visits to pediatric PD patients. *Per-DialInter* 32 p 419-423 (Accessed free via rocheinteract.com)

Dialysis can be Green

Professor John Agar has now released his new website which is all about environmentally friendly dialysis: www.greendialysis.org

The most exciting part for those at home is the discussion about the use of solar panels as an adjunct for supporting home haemodialysis. The main advantages are:

- The long-term the cost of electricity to operate the machine and the reverse osmosis system will be reduced.
- If the person ceases to do HHD then the solar power will still be available for the future needs of the house.
- It is environmentally a positive thing to do, reducing the carbon footprint of dialysis

The website www.underground.com/calculators/solar.html will provide information on how much power can be generated in any local area by each solar panel. Adding information about the power usage of the dialysis machine and RO, it is also possible to calculate the size of solar array that is required. As an approximation it has been calculated that electricity usage is 2kw/hr treatment, or 1300-3700kw per year, depending on the dialysis regime. (www.homedialysis.org.au Choose: support/financial support and click on the link for the financial support booklet)

The cost of the solar array's used in Geelong have been \$3300, in order to neutralise the cost for their home dialysis patients.

For more information on the pilot of solar assisted HD in the home check out the article: Agar, J. (2012). Solar-assisted HD. *CJASN* 7(2) 310-314

Editors Word!

Welcome to edition 14 of Home Updates.

I hope everyone had a fun, and not too stressful Xmas season. I experienced 3 weeks of how Vietnamese and Cambodians live their lives—very interesting. Health care appears pretty basic, and limited.

As always email me with any comments or stories to debbie.fortnum@kidney.org.au

