This fact sheet provides information about financial concessions and subsidies available to patients in Tasmania (TAS) who manage their dialysis treatment at home. However, financial support differs between each State or Territory. This resource has been developed by the HOME Network, a group of healthcare professionals who are working together to facilitate a positive change towards increased use of home dialysis.

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 TAS Government provides a subsidy through electricity retailers to assist home dialysis patients with the running costs of their dialysis equipment. Many water suppliers in TAS also offer a concession 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 TAS, contact the Department of Health.

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**Energy rebate**

The Tasmanian Government subsidises the cost of increased electricity requirements for home dialysis patients with a credit of $267 per year, which is deducted from personal electricity bills by energy retailers. For more information about the electricity rebate and how to apply, visit [http://www.concessions.tas.gov.au/concessions/electricity_and_heating](http://www.concessions.tas.gov.au/concessions/electricity_and_heating).

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**Water concession**

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 with your water services.

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**Rebates for concession card holders**

The Tasmanian Government provides general concessions on some utility costs for concession card holders. Eligible concession card holders can receive an energy concession of $483.84 per year. For further information about the energy rebate, contact Aurora Energy. Concession card holders may also be eligible to receive a rebate of up to $186 to assist with their water and sewerage service charges. For more information, visit [http://www.concessions.tas.gov.au/concessions/property_and_land_tax/water_and_sewerage_concessions](http://www.concessions.tas.gov.au/concessions/property_and_land_tax/water_and_sewerage_concessions).

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**Household assistance – Essential medical equipment**

The introduction of a carbon price in 2012 has impacted on the price of electricity. To offset the electricity price impacts on home dialysis equipment, the Federal Government provides an Essential Medical Equipment Payment of $152 annually to Commonwealth Concession Card holders. Once claimed, the Essential Medical Equipment Payment will be paid annually until the person’s circumstances change.

What is the HOME Network?
Through research, education and advocacy, The HOME Network aims to enable healthcare professionals with knowledge and resources to empower more people with chronic kidney disease (CKD) to embrace the freedom of home dialysis. This national initiative brings together a solution-focused group of home dialysis healthcare professionals from across Australia. The group draws upon all levels of evidence to provide insights and practical options for colleagues throughout Australia to facilitate a positive change towards increased use of home dialysis. For more information about The HOME Network and to explore resources available to healthcare professionals and patients, please go to our website, www.homenetwork.net.au.

Contact information for TAS

The Home Network
Email: info@homenetwork.net.au
Web: www.homenetwork.net.au

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

TAS Government
Discounts and Concessions – 1300 132 003
www.concessions.tas.gov.au

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<tr>
<th>Utility supplier</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Contact phone number</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Aurora Energy</td>
<td><a href="http://www.auroraenergy.com.au">www.auroraenergy.com.au</a></td>
<td>1300 132 003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ben Lomond Water</td>
<td><a href="http://www.benlomondwater.com.au">www.benlomondwater.com.au</a></td>
<td>136 992</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cradle Mountain Water</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cmwater.com.au">www.cmwater.com.au</a></td>
<td>136 992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Water</td>
<td><a href="http://www.southernwatertas.com.au">www.southernwatertas.com.au</a></td>
<td>136 992</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that the information provided in this fact sheet is correct as of January 2017 and is subject to change without notice. This fact sheet is intended as general information only and is not complete or definitive. The HOME Network is not liable, and does not take any responsibility whatsoever for reliance on such information.