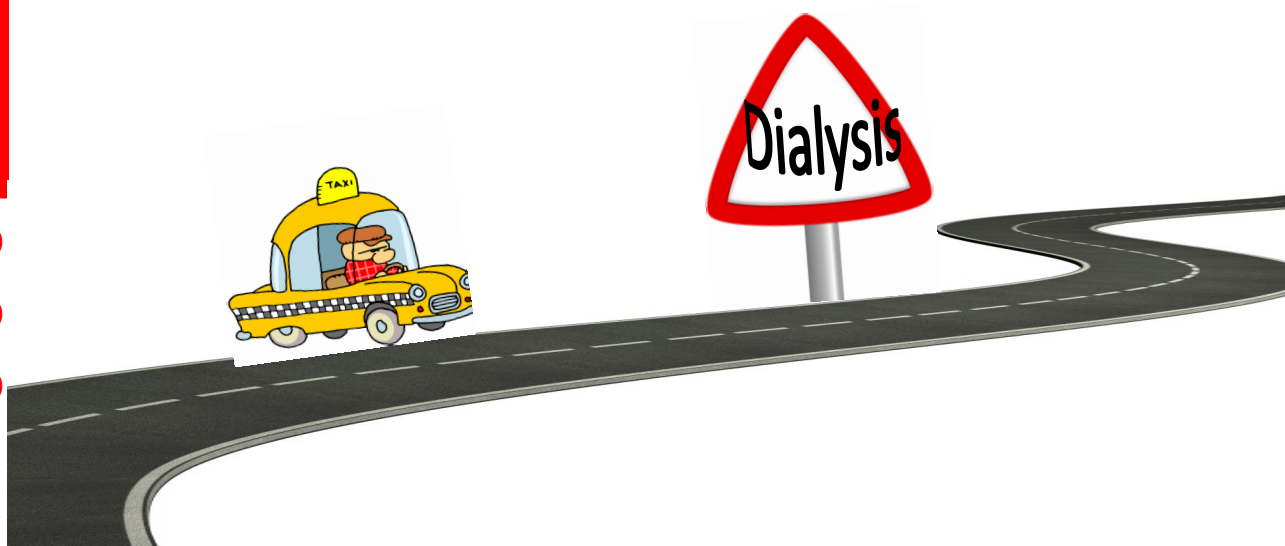


Transport Options for Dialysis Tasmania



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Welcome

This package has been developed to provide information about how you can travel to your regular dialysis appointments, or home dialysis training and clinics.

Going to dialysis treatments three times a week requires commitment, and for many people this may mean using different transport throughout the week.

Remember if travel is overwhelming Home Dialysis could be a better option for you.

Travel options start with driving yourself to dialysis which for many may require the help of friends or family members. Other options are using taxis, community transport, public transport, and using country travel assistance programmes. For those who cannot travel by routine transport ambulance may be an option.

Every dialysis unit will be able to let you know if they have their own special transport such as their own dialysis bus or cars, but unfortunately this is usually restricted to those who have no other options.

Please note that the information provided in **this fact sheet is correct as of November 2012**. KHA do not accept any responsibility if information has changed. If further subsidies are determined or alter please notify KHA and all efforts will be made to update the information as appropriate. ®Registered trademark, Kidney Health Australia, ABN 37 008 464 426. 100 York Street, South Melbourne, VIC 3205. All rights reserved. HI/8686233/Aug-2011

Driving to Dialysis

When driving the main consideration is parking which is needed for up to 6 hours. Many dialysis units offer free parking, however, some may not, so check with your unit for more information regarding where to park and the costs involved.

In the early stages of treatment it is recommended that you do not drive yourself home. As you get used to dialysis you may begin to drive yourself to and from treatment.



Public Transport

Metro Tasmania provides bus services around Hobart, Launceston and Burnie. Timetables, routes and ticketing information can be found on the Metro Tasmania Website. www.metrotas.com.au

For cheaper, simpler travel a Greencard is recommended. These can be purchased at various newsagents around each of the cities. See the website (ticket agents) for more information or visit the Metro Tasmania shop in each city.

Or Call 13 22 01 for services and information

Patients Travel Assistance Scheme (PTAS)

PTAS can provide assistance towards financial and accommodation expenses to those who are eligible. Residents needing to travel more than 50km each way for Dialysis treatment and those needing to travel more than 75 km each way for specialist treatment are eligible

To apply for PTAS, you need to complete a PTAS application form. Part A must be completed by your specialist. PTAS forms are available from your local PTAS office or Service Tasmania Shop or downloaded from www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/ambulance/ptas. Completed forms should be returned to your local PTAS office by email, fax, post or delivered in person.

For enquires contact Ambulance Tasmania 1300 303 196 or the Department of Health and Human Services 1300 135 513

More information can also be found on the KHA home dialysis website: www.kha.org.au/patient-services-support-travel-assist

Ambulance (non-urgent)

Ambulances are usually restricted to those who are severely restricted with mobility, have dementia or reside in nursing homes. If you are applying on their behalf you need to consult with the doctor to determine if they are eligible and to get written medical approval. To use free ambulance cover for non-urgent use you must be over 65 and on an aged care pension.

The limit on private health insurance ambulance use is \$3000 per year. Ambulance fund membership averages up to \$100 per annum. Check carefully re eligibility to avoid unexpected bills.

Veterans Affairs

The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) provides benefits and services to veterans and their dependents for requirements related to injury or illness. Eligibility for benefits is dependent on the location and time of service. Gold card holders are transport eligible.

For more information visit
www.dva.gov.au/Pages/home.aspx



Taxi

Many patients use taxis to get to and from dialysis. To assist in taxi expenses many patients are eligible for Taxi Fare Concessions through the Transport Access Scheme (TAS). TAS provides cost assistance to those with a permanent and severe disability

- Vouchers are available providing a 50% discount off fares
- Maximum value is \$25 per trip
- Wheelchair patients receive a 60% discount up to \$30 per trip.
- Must hold a Pensioner Concession Card, Health Care Card or Commonwealth Seniors Health Card from Centre link; or a Pensioner Concession Card issued BY the Department of Veterans Affairs

Concessions are provided as vouchers. Voucher books can be ordered by:
 email: passenger.transport@dier.tas.gov.au or Call: 6233 5199

To apply you must complete a TAS Application form, part of which must be completed by your doctor. Completed forms must be sent to TAS. Application forms are available at
www.transport.tas.gov.au/concession_information_and_forms

For more information email passenger.transport@dier.tas.gov.au or call 1300 851 225

HACC

HACC is the Home and Community care program which provides support and funding for services to elderly people, disabled people and their carers, assisting them to remain at home. Initially to become eligible, an eligibility test is conducted. This is based on information provided to the HACC assessment service over the phone, via letter or email. Once you have been granted eligibility, a face to face meeting is arranged to determine your specific requirements.

Community Transport Services Tasmania (CTST)

CTST is a HACC funded service which provides non-emergency transport to medical appointments for HACC eligible individuals. For enquires or to organise transport, contact the CTST in your region. For more information visit www.ctst.org.au/index.php



Fees (as at Nov 12)

0-40Kms	\$7.00
40-120Kms	\$12.00
120-240Kms	\$25.00
240-400Kms	\$45.00
400+Kms	\$60.00

Burnie District Phone: 6425 3496

Circular Head District Phone: 6452 3688

Derwent/Midlands District Phone: 6381 3332

Hobart District Phone: 6228 0287

East Coast District Phone: 6372 2137

East Tamar District Phone: 6343 0155

South District Phone: 6264 1068

South East District Phone : 6260 4146

West Coast District Phone: 6471 4700

West Tamar District Phone: 6343 5728

Launceston General Hospital also has a list of other community transport services which covers specific towns and areas in the north and north west. Please contact the Launceston General hospital on 03 6348 7111.

Launceston area Wattle group Phone: 1300 369 150

Volunteers for community (VFC) Phone: 03 6393 2717

Community Agencies

The following page contains the contact information for the main volunteer transport assistance throughout Tasmania. For more information, refer to the website: http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/service_information/service_delivery_points/community_transport_-_statewide

The phone numbers are for you to gain further information only. As mentioned on the previous page, you will be referred by the assessment centres to all the community agency best suited to you to organise and plan your transport assistance.

You can contact the district coordinator for your region if you have any questions .

District	Phone Number	Email Address
Burnie	03 6425 3496	bd@ctst.org.au
Circular Head	03 6425 3688	ch@ctst.org.au
Derwent Valley	03 6261 5138	dv@ctst.org.au
East Coast	03 6372 2137	ec@ctst.org.au
East Tamar	03 6343 0155	et@ctst.org.au
Hobart	03 6228 0287	hob@ctst.org.au
Midlands	03 6259 4025	md@ctst.org.au
South	03 6264 1068	sth@ctst.org.au
South East	03 6260 4146	se@ctst.org.au
West Coast	03 6471 4700	admin@westcoast.tas.gov.au
West Tamar	03 6343 5728	wt@ctst.org.au

Your Dialysis Unit

Launceston have a brochure on transport to and from the Launceston General Hospital. If you do not find a transport solution ask the nurses at your dialysis clinic if there are any other options provided by your clinic. Occasionally people are eligible for taxi vouchers from your unit. Check at your unit if this is you. Sometimes this is just occasional for when the routine transport arrangements are not available.

Dialysis Unit	Phone	Address
Launceston General Hospital	03 6434 4130	Parkside Bld/ 1 Strahan Rd, Burnie 7320
Royal Hobart Hospital	03 6222 8651	Liverpool St, Hobart 7001
Launceston General Hospital	03 6336 5132	22 McHugh St Kings Meadow 7429
Royal Hobart Hospital	03 6222 5404	L3 Carruthers Bldg St Johns Park, Newtown 7008
Launceston General Hospital	03 6348 7047	274-280 Charles St, Launceston 725