

## What to Bring

On the first day in HTC bring all of your medications to discuss with staff, after which you will need to bring a current list when you come for appointments. Drinks and biscuits are provided, but you may want to bring your own lunch with you. Family members and friends are welcome to come with you, or visit.

## Car Parking

Car parking is available at several spots around the Repat Campus. For short visits we have 2 designated parks out the front of HTC. You may prefer to ask a friend or family member to drive you in and back again until you feel well enough to drive or travel yourself.

## Cost

There is no charge for equipment and supplies for dialysis. Most of your medications will continue to be obtained from your local pharmacist, and you will be charged your normal prescription fee.

## Further Information



To contact HTC staff in office hours 03 9496 6366  
03 9496 6368

To contact HTC staff out of hours 03 9496 5000

To contact the Renal technicians 03 9496 4064

HTC Fax number 03 9496 6371

Email: [pdnurses@austin.org.au](mailto:pdnurses@austin.org.au)

**Opening Hours 0800-1630**  
**Monday – Friday**

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# Home Therapies Centre (HTC)

**Home Therapies Centre  
information for patients  
and their families**



## Home Therapies Centre (HTC)

The Home Therapies Centre provides training and support for people with chronic renal failure who need dialysis. We provide both home haemodialysis training and home peritoneal dialysis training in our centre at the Repatriation Hospital. If you are going to dialyse at home, the nursing staff will teach you how to dialyse yourself. We can also teach a family member or another nominated person to help you if you wish. We also offer daily in home support in conjunction with the RDNS.

### Why Home Dialysis?

- Flexibility
- More comfortable
- Independence
- No travelling unless you want to
- 24 hours nursing support

### What We Offer

#### Education and Assessment

Patients nearing end stage kidney disease are referred to HTC for renal replacement therapy, education and assessment for home dialysis suitability. The HTC is staffed by specialist nurses in tune with the needs of patients who are attending to their dialysis therapy at home.

#### Peritoneal Dialysis Training

Training is conducted according to each patient's pace by expert renal nurses to enable you to dialyse in the comfort and

privacy of your own home. Training occurs at our Centre, but can occur at your home – discuss this with the nurses. Most patients attend the training unit daily for 5 to 10 days, until they are competent and confident to dialyse at home themselves.

#### Home Haemodialysis Training

For home haemodialysis, patients are trained to conduct and manage their haemodialysis at home. Patients choose their dialysis hours and times to suit their lifestyle. There are many options, please discuss this with our Renal Nurses. Training may take anywhere from 3 – 8 weeks, this depends on the patient and their vascular access. You will go home when you are ready.

#### Home support

We provide a 24 hours on-call trouble shooting service in case patients come across any problems dialysing, such as machine alarms. HTC nurses visit patients at home every 3-6 months and home dialysis machines are serviced every 6-12 months by dialysis technicians.

#### Our Team

Trained Renal Nurses will teach you how to manage your dialysis at home. They will teach you how to manage your stock and how to troubleshoot any problems that may occur. They can arrange for you to see other staff, such as a Social Worker, Dietician, Occupational Therapist, Psychologist or Doctor.

Renal Technicians will install your dialysis machine at home. They also arrange the plumbing and electrical modifications required. They will visit regularly to service your machine and maintain it in good condition. Once you have a machine at home, you can call them after-hours for machine problems.

Doctors are not routinely available in HTC. However, if you are unwell, the nurses can arrange for you to be seen by a doctor in the Emergency Department at Austin campus, or arrange a clinic appointment at the HTC clinic.

All home dialysis patients are required to have monthly blood tests, which are reviewed each month by our team to make sure you are receiving the best possible care.

### Home Therapies Clinic

You will be given an appointment time to attend our medical clinic, usually every 2-3 months. If you are not sure of your arrival time, please ring and talk with one of the nurses or our Ward Clerk on 94966366.



Nurses can get your test results from the hospital computer