



British Renal Society: National Home Adaptation and Reimbursement Guidance for People undertaking Dialysis at Home

These guidelines outline the responsibilities of the provider (NHS Trusts) for the capital costs of home adaptation, remote tele-monitoring and on-going assistance with funding for electricity, heating, telephone, water and sewage costs due to haemodialysis/automated peritoneal dialysis treatment.

Additional direct utility costs (which may include electricity, water, gas and telephone) will be made by way of a reimbursement to the patient.

Payment of the national tariff to the patient's usual dialysis provider is expected to meet these costs.

NHS Trusts will be responsible for the following:

Capital whole life costs

- Covering the total cost of any adaptations required to accommodate the equipment required to carry out dialysis in the person's home e.g. alterations to plumbing and drainage, movement of electrical sockets
- Arranging and installing any adaptations required
- Providing and maintaining the necessary equipment for people wishing to have dialysis at home
- Cover reasonable costs for the reinstatement of any adaptations should home dialysis cease
- Logistical delivery, installation and removal of equipment and consumables as required
- A reasonable reinstatement of the property should home dialysis cease
- Provision of consumables for dialysis e.g. dialysers, needles and machine lines

Reimbursing additional utility costs

- Agreeing a method of timely reimbursement based on the production of relevant utility bills before and after instalment of dialysis equipment
- Meeting the average cost of electricity and water required to run the dialysis machine
- Payment may be made directly to the patient or utility company

Ongoing clinical/technical support

- Provide quality assurance for home dialysis
- Provide and maintain all the equipment necessary for dialysis to be carried out at home e.g. haemodialysis machine, reverse osmosis unit, automated peritoneal dialysis machine
- Provide the necessary drugs and consumables for people wishing to have dialysis at home
- Provide access to unit based dialysis

Community support

- Liaising with local housing authorities or private landlords and any other relevant parties to gain permission and agree the adaptations prior to any work commencing
- Assistance with re-housing for the purpose of haemodialysis if required
- Offering advice on entitlements to benefits
- Arranging the collection of clinical waste



The renal department responsible for dialysis provision within NHS Trusts will carry out a suitability assessment for home haemodialysis. This will involve members of the renal multi-disciplinary team e.g. renal technologist, home dialysis nurse, visiting the property and discussing the options and logistics e.g. storage with the person wishing to have dialysis at home.

Reimbursements

If utility bills pre and post commencement of home dialysis are not available, to ensure equity of reimbursement for electricity and water, (given there are many utility providers with different rates), The Association of Renal Technologists recommends the use of the following calculations

Electricity

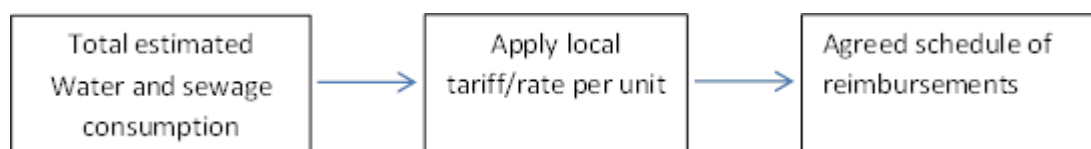
When calculating electricity consumption, consider the frequency of dialysis and average consumption of equipment installed. A local electricity tariff can be applied to the total estimated consumption, which can vary depending on the tariff used e.g. day time and evening rates.

Example only Haemodialysis

Equipment	Kwh	Local Kwh rate (pence) = 0.14
RO	3.0	0.42
Machine	7.0	0.98
Total	10.00	1.40
Kwh / 100 = total cost per treatment		£1.40
Total cost per treatment	Number of dialysis session per year (based on 3/week)	Monthly rate payable
£1.40	156	£18.20

Guidelines for water and sewage consumption

Calculating the consumption for water usage would ideally be managed though a separate dialysis treatment water meter being installed at the point of adaptation if possible. Where this is not feasible, estimates can be considered to calculate costs for reimbursement. This will need to be agreed at local levels as consideration should be given to the frequency of dialysis and the equipment used, and flow rates required. Different home dialysis adaptations may include the use of water softeners or other resin devices that will increase water consumption during rinse/back flushing. The total estimated consumption including sewage charge can be calculated with the local tariff applied and reviewed by the local health authority when appropriate. Total reimbursement cost can be divided as payable and reimbursed on regular scheduled intervals





Example only Haemodialysis

Equipment	Litres water consumption /session	Per cubic metre, <i>per year</i>
RO + dialysis machine	400	62.40 cubic metre
90% total water consumption = total waste water	460	56.16 cubic metre

Total water consumption per year	Local rate per cubic meter	Total cost per year	Total cost <i>per month</i>
62.40	£2.0494	£127.88	10.65
Total waste water consumption per year	Local rate per cubic meter	Total cost per year	Total cost <i>per month</i>
56.16	£3.4701	£194.88	16.24
Total cost of water and waste water per year	Total cost of water per month		
£322.76	£26.89		

Automated Peritoneal Dialysis

It is unlikely any home adaptation will be required to undertake automated peritoneal dialysis. However, NHS trusts may be required to implement minor alterations based on individual home assessments.

Running cost of an APD machine would depend on total power consumption and length of treatment.

Example Only Automated Peritoneal Dialysis Based on 10hr treatment

Equipment	Kwh	Local Kwh rate (pence) = 0.14
APD Machine + bag warmer	3.0	0.42

Heating and Lighting

It is reasonable to consider heating and lighting for storage of consumables and the identified dialysis room. Min and max temperature should be considered for the storage of consumables and equipment (this may vary between manufacturers) Total average cost for heating and lighting can be calculated based on local rates depending on time of day of and duration of dialysis.

Example only

Lighting estimated Average	Apply Local Kwh rate	Schedule reimbursements
Heating estimated Average	Apply Local Kwh rate	Schedule reimbursements

Assistance with telephone costs.

NHS Trusts will cover telephone costs for the purpose of home dialysis e.g. calls made to the unit for assistance/advice



Tele- monitoring

Any costs incurred for the installation of specialist equipment required for tele-monitoring will be covered by the NHS Trust.

Use of other on line technology

Funding should be agreed at local level for the NHS Trust's preferred method of communication and any *additional* costs covered by the NHS Trust.

Council Tax Reduction

A reduction in Council Tax for having medical equipment at home can be applied for. Applications should be made by the person having home dialysis directly to their local council. The NHS Trust may be required to write a letter of support.

Under Occupancy Charges

This has to be discussed on an individual basis with local councils

Insurance

The patient will need to inform their household insurer that they have medical equipment in the home. This does not normally incur an additional cost.

However, should an increase in premium be required, the difference will be reimbursed on production of written evidence from the insurance company.

These guidelines have been produced by The British Renal Society www.britishrenal.org in collaboration with:

National Kidney Federation



www.kidney.org.uk

British Kidney Patient Association



www.britishkidney-pa.co.uk

Association of Renal Technologists



www.renaltech.net

British Association of Social Workers

**BASW
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