

In-Center Hemodialysis

Advantages

- Trained professionals perform treatment for you
- Regular contact with other hemodialysis patients and staff
- Three treatments per week; four days off
- No equipment/supplies kept at home
- Medical help is available quickly in an emergency



Disadvantages

- Travel to center three times a week on a fixed schedule
- Permanent access required, usually in your arm
- Insertion of two needles for each treatment
- Restricted diet/limited fluid intake
- Possible discomfort like headache, nausea, leg cramps, tiredness

Home Hemodialysis

Advantages

- A flexible lifestyle and independence
- Fewer diet restrictions
- No travel to dialysis unit for treatment
- Clinic visits about once a month
- More control over blood pressure

Disadvantages

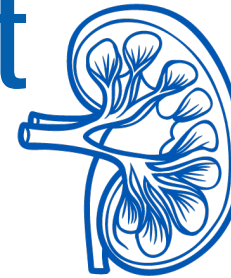
- Most patients require a trained partner to help
- You need to be trained
- Need room to store equipment/supplies



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Treatment Options



Options for Living with Kidney Disease

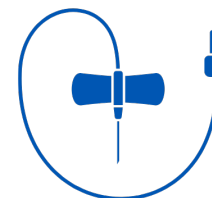
Peritoneal Dialysis

Advantages

- Doesn't use needles
- Easy for traveling
- A flexible lifestyle and independence
- Fewer diet restrictions
- No travel to dialysis unit for treatment
- Clinic visits about once a month
- More control over blood pressure

Disadvantages

- You need to be trained
- Need to store equipment/supplies
- May gain weight/have a larger waistline



Transplantation

Advantages

- Feels closest to having your own kidneys
- No daily treatments required
- Lets you maintain a normal schedule
- Fewer fluid and diet restrictions
- Feel healthier and have more energy
- Work full-time without worrying about a dialysis schedule

Disadvantages

- Take immunosuppressant medications for the rest of your life
- May lose kidney function and have to re-start dialysis



Contact Us

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the U.S. Virgin Islands

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