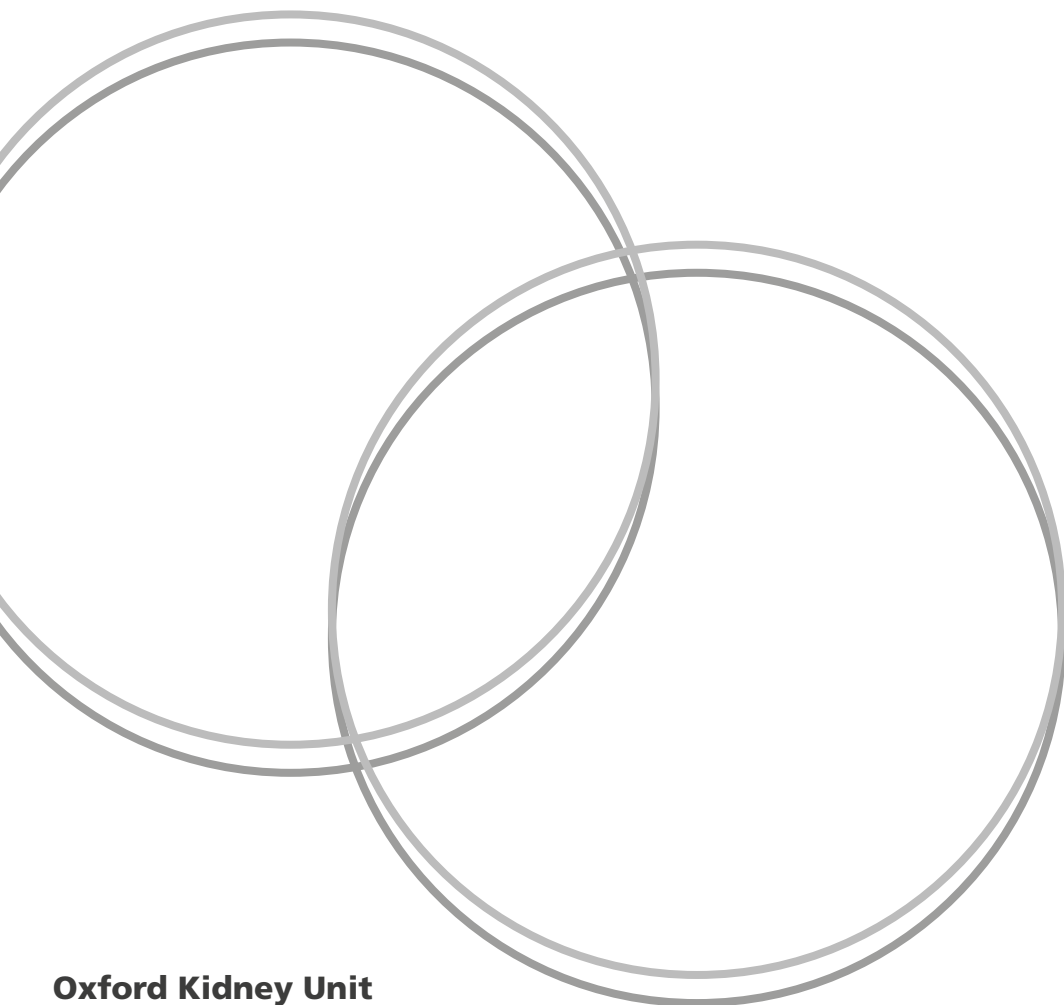


Getting to and from your Haemodialysis Unit

Information for people
on haemodialysis



This leaflet has been written for you if you are on haemodialysis. It will provide you with information on how to get to and from your dialysis unit.

Your Haemodialysis Nurse will tell you how often you need to dialyse: it is usually two to four times per week.

We want you to remain as independent as possible, and we will always try to offer you dialysis at a time you prefer (mornings, afternoons or evenings). This may be influenced by how you get to the Unit for your treatment.

Sometimes people feel tired or dizzy after their haemodialysis treatment. If you experience any of these symptoms, it is best not to drive yourself to and from the Unit.

How will I get to the haemodialysis unit?

Your own transport

- You drive yourself, or a relative or friend drives you to the Unit.

If you choose to drive yourself, we will give you:

- a parking permit for parking on the hospital site or car registration details given to the parking office
- disabled spaces (if you have a Blue Badge) close to the Unit.

An ambulance service provider

The ambulance service provider will depend on the area where you live. Your dialysis nurse can tell you which one this is.

- If you are not well enough to travel in a car, or you need a wheelchair, you will need to travel by ambulance for your treatment.
- Other people will probably be travelling with you, which may mean that you have to wait while they are picked up or dropped off home before you.
- Volunteer drivers (these are booked by the ambulance provider). They offer their time and use their own cars. They will help you into and out of the haemodialysis unit. Other people may be travelling with you.

Help with transport costs

If you receive benefits, such as Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance, Child Tax Credit or Working Tax Credit with disability element, you can claim under the Hospital Travel Costs Scheme.

You can also claim under the Hospital Travel Costs Scheme if you are using your own transport or a relative is driving you to and from dialysis.

The Ward Clerk/Secretary/Unit Manager can let you know how much money you will be refunded per mile. This is the same in all of the dialysis units.

You can only claim for 1 journey per dialysis session.

Please ask the Ward Clerk/Secretary/Unit Manager for a travel claim form. List all the journeys you have made for dialysis in the month on the form, and return it to the Ward Clerk. They will check and sign the form. Your travel costs are paid directly into your Bank Account.

The scheme does not pay for the cost of a taxi.

Please ask a member of staff for a parking permit if you need one. You may need to let your dialysis unit know your car registration details.

If your health changes, the type of transport you use may have to change. You can use a combination of your own transport and transport provided by an ambulance service provider. Some people come to the Unit by ambulance and are collected by a relative or friend.

For more information, please speak to a member of the dialysis team.

Contacts

Dialysis Unit numbers:

Main Haemodialysis Unit

Churchill Hospital

Telephone: 01865 225 807

Tarver Haemodialysis Unit

Churchill Hospital

Telephone: 01865 225 695

Milton Keynes Haemodialysis Unit

Milton Keynes University Hospital

Telephone: 01908 996 496

Stoke Mandeville Haemodialysis Unit

Stoke Mandeville Hospital

Telephone: 01296 316 996

Horton Renal Unit

Horton General Hospital

Telephone: 01295 229 811 or 01295 224 130

High Wycombe Haemodialysis Unit

High Wycombe General Hospital

Telephone: 01494 426 347

Swindon Haemodialysis Unit

Great Western Hospital

Telephone: 01793 605 286

Whitehouse Dialysis Unit

Whitehouse Health Centre

Telephone: 01295 228 552 or 01295 228 553

Useful websites

Oxford Kidney Unit

Lots of information about the Oxford Kidney Unit for patients and carers.

Website: www.ouh.nhs.uk/oku

Kidney Patient Guide

Information for patients with kidney failure and those who care for them.

Website: www.kidneypatientguide.org.uk

Kidney Care UK

A charity which has lots of practical support and information for people with kidney disease.

Website: www.kidneycareuk.org

Six Counties Kidney Patients Association

The SCKPA is run for patients by patients or family members.

They offer support to people suffering from kidney disease or who are on dialysis. They work closely with the Oxford Kidney Unit and have branches in Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, and Milton Keynes, and parts of Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and Berkshire.

Website: www.sixcountieskpa.org.uk

National Kidney Federation

A charity which has lots of practical support and information for people with kidney disease.

Website: www.kidney.org.uk

NHS Website

Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme (HTCS)

Website: www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/help-with-health-costs/healthcare-travel-costs-scheme-htcs

Further information

If you would like an interpreter, please speak to the department where you are being seen.

Please also tell them if you would like this information in another format, such as:

- Easy Read
- large print
- braille
- audio
- electronic
- another language.

We have tried to make the information in this leaflet meet your needs. If it does not meet your individual needs or situation, please speak to your healthcare team. They are happy to help.

Author: Charlotte Turner, Matron, Renal Medicine.
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Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
www.ouh.nhs.uk/information



Making a difference across our hospitals

charity@ouh.nhs.uk | 01865 743 444 | hospitalcharity.co.uk

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