

HOME HAEMODIALYSIS PROTOCOL

St George Home Haemodialysis Training Process

1. All predialysis patients who reach eGFR of 25 and/or creatinine of 300 are referred for predialysis education and assessment at the Predialysis Clinic. Patients are assessed as suitable for home therapies and where feasible, home therapies are encouraged from the first visit.
2. Patients and families are given verbal information regarding HHD in addition to an information brochure on HHD (Go to St George Home Page, Clinical guideline, Nephrology, Patient information and HHD Patient Information). A tour of the unit with emphasis on the home training area is conducted with the opportunity for discussions with a patient who is training for HHD.
3. When a patient reaches eGFR 15 they are referred for vascular access surgery. The patient is also entered on the St George home training list (Go to RISCDOC, Dialysis Documents, Home haemodialysis, Home Haemo Training list). When the access is mature and viable the patient and family attend a pre training interview at SDC. A letter of referral from the patient's nephrologist is required at this stage.
4. After a pre training interview the training commences at STGH. Patients usually require approximately 6 to 8 weeks of training, 4 sessions weekly to be competent in performing HHD. SDC's training strategies and protocol is used for STGH training to ensure continuity for HHD patients. A training nurse looks after up to two patients at a time.
5. When a patient is almost ready to go home, they are transferred to SDC. Completing their training at SDC will take place in a single room for 1.5 weeks where the patient will have the opportunity to practice in a simulated home environment (graduation process). Country patients can utilise a self-catering accommodation during their training at SDC.