

# Home Hemodialysis May Be the Best Option for You



A resource focused on helping you understand the dialysis treatment option that may be best for you now or in the future.



**Question: Do I have to follow the same dialysis scheduled days of the week if I choose home hemodialysis?**



**Answer:** Many different schedules are available and can be arranged at home. For instance, short daily dialysis or extended dialysis. You might also consider nocturnal dialysis if you're interested in dialyzing while you sleep. Talk to your home dialysis team to see what option is right for you.



Scan me for more information.



**Question: Am I more likely to have a bleeding episode at home while dialyzing?**



**Answer:** There is a blood loss detection device available that will alert you and your care partner to any bleeding problems. You will also hear an alarm if there is any blood detected around the needle insertion site. You'll have time to react to the alarms, fix the problems, or disconnect from the machine.



**Question: Does a home hemodialysis care partner need to have a medical background?**



**Answer:** Care partners do not need a medical background. In fact, in some cases, a care partner is not needed at all. Patients—and when needed—care partners undergo extensive training before patients go through treatment alone.



Scan me for more information.



**Question: Is it true that patients can't have a pet at home because the pet may cause an infection?**



**Answer:** That is false. Many home dialysis patients have pets at home. Patients should clean the space in which they are dialyzing well and ensure pets stay out of the room when connecting or disconnecting from the machine.



Scan me for more information.



**Question: Do patients need to buy the dialysis machine?**



**Answer:** In almost all cases, the cost of the dialysis machine is paid by Medicare and/or a supplemental health plan.



**Question: Are there any out-of-pocket expenses for home hemodialysis treatments?**



**Answer:** There may be some minimal cost to you at first to make your home ready for home hemodialysis, such as shelving for supplies. Most home hemodialysis machines now are portable and can connect into the existing home plumbing/electrical systems. Any enhancements needed outside of the normal plumbing connections may require you to pay individual out-of-pocket costs.



Scan me for more information.



This material was prepared by the End Stage Renal Disease National Coordinating Center (ESRD NCC) contractor under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents do not necessarily reflect CMS policy nor imply endorsement by the U.S. Government. FL-ESRD NCC-NC2PFE-12132022-02

