

**Reference Number:** FOIAH2425/070  
**From:** Private Individual  
**Date:** 01 May 2024  
**Subject:** Reimbursement of home dialysis treatment

**Q1** How many patients within the latest annual reporting period were receiving home dialysis treatment (this may be referred to as home haemodialysis or peritoneal)?

**A1** 11 PD and 2 HHD

**Q2** How many patients within the latest annual reporting period applied for the reimbursement of utility costs for home dialysis treatment?

**A2** 13 (11 PD and 2 HHD)

**Q3** Of these, how many patients were successful?

**A3** 13

**Q4** What is the total amount spent by the Trust on the reimbursement of utility costs for home dialysis treatment within the latest annual reporting period?

**A4** £200 per annum, per person for NxStage. £88 per annum, per person for PD.

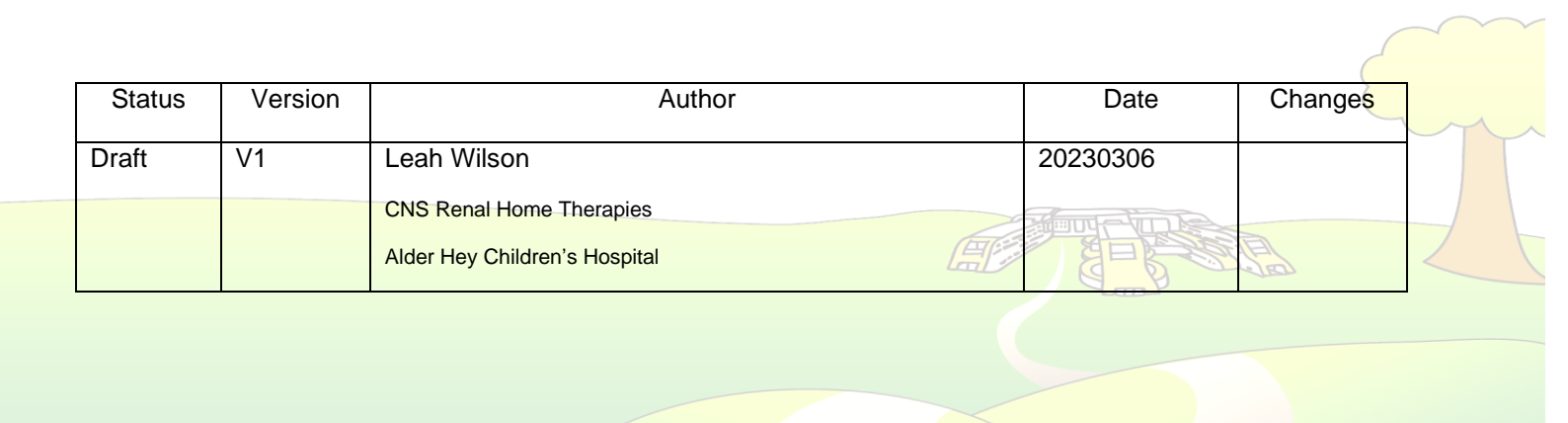
**Q5** Please provide any internal guidelines which supports the Trust in making decisions around the reimbursement of utility costs for home dialysis treatment.

**A5** Please see attached DRAFT document titled - Reimbursement of utility costs for patients on home heamo dialysis and peritoneal dialysis.

Reimbursement of utility cost for patients on  
Home haemodialysis and Peritoneal Dialysis.

Used in conjunction with A Pan-LKN Guideline: Reimbursement of utility costs for Patients on Home  
Haemodialysis and Peritoneal Dialysis

Status	Version	Author	Date	Changes
Draft	V1	Leah Wilson CNS Renal Home Therapies Alder Hey Children's Hospital	20230306	



### [Principles of this guideline and what we propose of the reimbursement.](#)

With the current rise of energy costs this has led to our patients enquiring about reimbursement for their utilities to help fund and maintain dialysis at home as opposed to in-centre.

This guideline will identify how reimbursement is offered, how much is reimbursed and the process of this. This should be easy for the families to improve patient access and reimbursement to minimise the burden on them. By having an easily administered scheme, this should improve uptake and ensure patients do not have to revert to in-centre haemodialysis due to pressures concerning energy costs.

It will be universally applied without being means tested as this is a complex and very time-consuming administrative process. No other care provided by NHS is means-tested and the amounts reimbursed to the families will cover some part of the utility costs they will incur which would otherwise be incurred by the Trust for in-centre haemodialysis and will go to the patient directly. This will be based on estimated usage of energy and current costs (in line with current price cap) and will not be dependent on the families having to produce their energy bills.

We propose to pay the patient on a quarterly basis as opposed to monthly as this would increase administrative input and time and any longer than quarterly could lead to patients off-therapy wrongly being reimbursed if they have had to have modality transfer. Although it may seem small it is important that the patients and their family are not out of pocket with increasing utility bills. This will also pay this at a flat rate to standardise the payment and to overcome the complexity of complicated individualised calculators. Fulfilling payments using standard dialysis prescription ensures fair and simple remuneration.

With the price of energy fluctuating and predicting this will be the case for the foreseeable future, it is important that patients having dialysis at home are not forced to use in-centre haemodialysis due to utility costs.

### [Reimbursement Costs](#)

Reimbursement costs do not reflect the changes in standing charge which will be incurred by patients' families regardless of home dialysis and will be paid at the current costs of energy price cap at unit rate of £0.35 per/kWh.

Currently at Alder Hey Children's Hospital, we do not have patients having conventional home haemodialysis and so we will focus on reimbursing the patient and their family for using the NxStage home haemodialysis. Our paediatric patients on NxStage are going to be using premade dialysate bags which will only need heating as opposed to the Pureflow system. This is reflected in the calculations in table 1 below.

For paediatric NxStage, the calculations for reimbursement are based on a standard prescription of 4 sessions a week of 5 hours of dialysis. For APD a prescription of 7 nights with 12 hours of dialysis is expected.

There are no differences in paediatrics with regards to CAPD delivery, therefore there is no change to the calculation detailed in the adult guideline.

These costs have been obtained using the UKKA calculator and a comparison calculator.

Table 1: Quarterly reimbursement costs per person, by modality

Modality	Reimbursement/quarter (£)
NxStage Home Haemodialysis (dialysate bags)	50
Automated Peritoneal Dialysis	42
Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis	22

These costs are based upon the current price cap. Reimbursement rates will need to be reviewed quarterly with each price caps announcement. For full details of price cap announcement: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/information-consumers/energy-advice-households/check-if-energy-price-cap-affects-you>

Cost and financial implications of reimbursement

Table 2: Cost of reimbursement per person per annum for paediatric patients on Home haemodilaysis (NxStage machine)

NxStage	Current payment (£) (Per person)	New payment (£) (Per person)	Difference	Current population (Mar 2023)	Cost (£) for current population
Alder Hey Children's Hospital (AHCH)	0	200	+200	0	0

Table 3: Cost of reimbursement per person per annum for paediatric patients on APD

APD	Current payment (£) (Per person)	New payment (£) (Per person)	Difference	Current population (Mar 2023)	Cost (£)of current population
AHCH	0	168	+168	5	840

Table 4: Cost of reimbursement per person per annum for paediatrics patients on CAPD

CAPD	Current payment (£) (Per person)	New payment (£) (Per person)	Difference	Current population (Mar 2023)	Cost (£) of current population
AHCH	0	88	+88	0	0

Table 5: Treatment Modality

Period	Centre	HD	Lipid apheresis	HHD	PD	Total dialysis	Total HT	% of patients on HT
Mar 23	AHCH	13	0	(2- in- centre)	6	19	6	31%