TRAVELLING ON HOME HEMODIALYSIS

Many people enjoy vacationing and people living with kidney failure who are on dialysis are no exception. You will need to start planning for your vacation four to five months ahead of time.

With improved methods of dialysis, people are able to travel all over the world. All you need is reasonably stable health (check with your nephrologist) and the proper arrangements with the dialysis units where you will be visiting. Some dialysis units are very busy so be sure to check that there is available space for you to dialyze before confirming travel arrangements.

Dialysis across Canada

In Canada, an agreement among provinces allows people to be dialyzed anywhere providing space is available. Your province is billed directly for the service. Some dialysis units may add a surcharge over and above the regular amount that your province does not cover and may require you to pay this in advance of your treatment. It is important to find out the exact costs before you leave on vacation. Check with your social worker or local Kidney Foundation chapter to find out what your province will pay for.

Dialysis outside Canada

In the United States and other countries, most hemodialysis units request payment ahead of your visit. Your province will pay back some of these costs. You may have to pay a considerably higher price than what your province will cover. Be sure to find out the exact cost before you arrange your vacation.

Travel Insurance

There are many variations in travel insurance policies. There are often limitations in coverage, so it is very important to investigate coverage before travelling.