

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Yan to the Minister for Health:

Kidney Disease and Dialysis

- 1. What is the prevalence of kidney disease amongst Territorians? Can you please provide this figure for each of the past 5 years?**

Data for each of the past 5 years is not available. The latest published data on prevalence in the Aboriginal Northern Territory population is from 2012-13 at 33% (12,000 people).

Published 2020: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2020. Profiles of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with kidney disease.

NT Health is continuing to analyse data from multiple sources and statistical modelling to estimate NT CKD prevalence and undiagnosed cases in Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations. Currently 90% of people accessing dialysis services in the Northern Territory are Aboriginal.

- 2. How many people currently access dialysis services in the NT?**

Dialysis can be provided by two methods: haemodialysis (HD) and peritoneal dialysis (PD). Table 1 provides the most recent available data.

Dialysis Services Clients as at 30 June 2021

Treatment	Top End Health Service (as at 30 June 2021)			Central Australia Health Service (as at 30 June 2021)		
	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Total	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Total
Haemodialysis (HD) Clients	392	60	452	401	3	404
Peritoneal dialysis (PD) Clients	25	17	43	7	3	10
TOTAL clients			495			414

Source: Data provided by NT Health Top End and Central Australia Renal Services

- 3. How many people accessing dialysis are from remote or regional areas? Number of people able to access it in their own community?**

Aboriginal people accessing dialysis as at August 2022

	Numbers of people undergoing dialyse	Number relocated for dialysis	Number not relocated for dialysis*

Central Australia	415	257	156
Top End Region	400	Unable to be determined	88

Source: Data provided by NT Health and Fresenius Kidney Care

* Numbers of people not relocated for dialysis are 'local' to where they received dialysis: Alice Springs, Tenant Creek, Darwin, Palmerston, Katherine or are able to access remote dialysis services on their community (as below).

4. How many nurses are currently employed at dialysis facilities in the Northern Territory? Can you please provide this figure for each of the past 5 years?

Renal nurses employed in NT Health services by year 2017-2021

Year	Renal Nursing Staff (FTE)
2017	122.52
2018	137.6
2019	157.81
2020	162.45
2021	158.78

Note: does not include nurses employed in non-NT Health Services.