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Arbenigol Cymru (PGIAC)
Welsh Health Specialised
Services Committee (WHSSC)

Specialised Services Policy:

CP33

Temporary Dialysis Away From Base (DAFB) (Holiday Dialysis)

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Document History

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0.1	January 2008	Updated circulation list	0.5
0.5	17 Sept 2012	Title, Reference to arrangements for patients coming to Wales, inclusion of codes and booking form, deletion of repetitive sections and those not relevant to the policy	1.3
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HCW National Commissioning Advisory Board	May 2005	1.0
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Policy Statement

<p>Background</p>	<p>Welsh residents who are routinely having haemodialysis (HD) or Peritoneal Dialysis (PD) may seek to do so for short spells of care away from their normal base and the cost of that care will be met by WHSSC. This can be made necessary by unplanned health or social events.</p> <p>Non-Welsh residents may seek to come to Wales on a planned basis and require dialysis whilst temporarily resident or on leave. It is the policy of the Network to plan to enable all units to have sufficient capacity to enable this service to be offered. A charge to meet the cost of their care will be made by the LHBs. An element of the income received will transfer to WHSSC.</p> <p>For Welsh patients to be dialysed in Wales no charge will be made (or request submitted) if the unit to which the patient is going is in the same LHB. If the LHBs differ then a marginal rate to cover fixed costs will be agreed and funded.</p>
<p>Statement</p>	<p>In general WHSSC will fund episodes (for Welsh patients) where the dialysis centre is safe, sufficient notice given and the costs and frequency reasonable.</p> <p>There are some countries in which, as a result of inter-governmental agreements, patients can obtain treatment from the health services of that country.</p>
<p>Responsibilities</p>	<p>Referrers should complete a Holiday Request Form, or an IPFR request where there are unusual circumstances.</p> <p>The patient must give sufficient notice to allow all arrangements to be made.</p> <p>WHSSC will respond in time to enable the referrer and patient to make their arrangements.</p>

	<p>Referrers should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inform the patient that this treatment is not routinely funded outside the criteria in this policy; and• Refer via the agreed pathway. <p>Clinician considering treatment should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss all the alternative treatment with the patient;• Advise the patient of any side effect and risks of the potential treatment;• Inform the patient that treatment is not routinely funded outside of the criteria in the policy; and• Confirm that there is contractual agreement with WHSSC for the treatment. <p>In all other circumstances submit an IPFR.</p>
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1. Aim

1.1 Introduction

The document has been developed as the policy for the planning of Temporary Dialysis Away From Base (Holiday Dialysis). The policy applies to residents of all seven Health Boards in Wales.

The purpose of this document is to:

- Set out the circumstances under which patients will be able to access Temporary Dialysis Away From Base (DAFB or Holiday Dialysis) services;
- Clarify the referral process; and
- Define the criteria that patients must meet in order to access treatment.

1.2 Relationship with other Policies and Service Specifications

This document should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- All Wales Policy: Making Decisions on Individual Patient Funding Requests (IPFR).

2. Scope

2.1 Definition

Haemodialysis or Peritoneal Dialysis

2.2 Codes

COMMON RENAL DIALYSIS PROCEDURES TO OPCS-4 CODES

Renal Category	Sub category	HRG4	OPCS-4 code(s)
Dialysis access	Hospital Haemodialysis/Filtration with access via haemodialysis catheter 19 years and over	LD01A	X40.1/X40.3/X40.4/ X40.7/X40.8/X40.9
Dialysis access	Hospital Haemodialysis/Filtration with access via arteriovenous fistula or graft 19 years and over	LD02A	X40.1/X40.3/X40.4/ X40.7/X40.8/X40.9
Dialysis access	Hospital Haemodialysis/Filtration with access via haemodialysis catheter with blood borne virus 19 years and over	LD03A	X40.1/X40.3/X40.4/ X40.7/X40.8/X40.9
Dialysis access	Hospital Haemodialysis/Filtration with access via arteriovenous fistula or graft with blood borne virus 19 years and over	LD04A	X40.1/X40.3/X40.4/ X40.7/X40.8/X40.9
Dialysis access	Satellite Haemodialysis/Filtration with access via haemodialysis catheter 19 years and over	LD05A	X40.1/X40.3/X40.4/ X40.7/X40.8/X40.9
Dialysis access	Satellite Haemodialysis/Filtration with access via arteriovenous fistula or graft 19 years and over	LD06A	X40.1/X40.3/X40.4/ X40.7/X40.8/X40.9
Dialysis access	Satellite Haemodialysis/Filtration with access via haemodialysis catheter with blood borne virus 19 years and over	LD07A	X40.1/X40.3/X40.4/ X40.7/X40.8/X40.9
Dialysis access	Satellite Haemodialysis/Filtration with access via arteriovenous fistula or graft with blood borne virus 19 years and over	LD08A	X40.1/X40.3/X40.4/ X40.7/X40.8/X40.9
Dialysis access	Home Haemodialysis/Filtration with access via haemodialysis catheter 19 years and over	LD09A	X40.1/X40.3/X40.4/ X40.7/X40.8/X40.9
Dialysis access	Home Haemodialysis/Filtration with access via arteriovenous fistula or graft 19 years and over	LD10A	X40.1/X40.3/X40.4/ X40.7/X40.8/X40.9
Dialysis access	Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis 19 years and over	LD11A	X40.6
Dialysis access	Automated Peritoneal Dialysis 19 years and over	LD12A	X40.5

3. Access Criteria

3.1 Clinical Indications

The patient must be routinely having Hospital or Home Haemodialysis or PD and be seeking a short spell away from their normal treatment centre.

The host or normal base clinical team should approve the absence from base, if planned, and the location of the care.

3.2 Criteria for Treatment

There are some countries in which, as a result of inter-governmental agreements, patients can obtain treatment from the health services of that country.

Within the EEA and Switzerland

Australia is the **only** country outside the EEA and Switzerland in which renal dialysis is covered by a reciprocal healthcare agreement. Treatment must be arranged in advance, at a state facility. Costs are met by the Australian Medicare system

The European Economic Area (EEA) consists of the EU member states:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, and the UK; plus Iceland, Lichtenstein and Norway. Switzerland has agreed to operate the same arrangements as the EU countries. UK residents visiting these countries can obtain any medical treatment, which becomes necessary, including renal dialysis treatment, from the state healthcare system (though people who do not have UK, EU, EEA or Swiss nationality are not covered in Denmark, Lichtenstein, Norway or Switzerland. In Iceland, these people are covered for emergency treatment only).

A new European Health Insurance Card has replaced paper forms used to show entitlement to treatment, such as the E111 used by holidaymakers. This was introduced in the UK on 31 December

2005, and all other member states are also now issuing the European Health Insurance Card instead of the E111.

3.3 Referral Pathway

All referrals must be made with a completed Holiday Dialysis form (Annex (i)) which must be authorised by the patient's regular Consultant Nephrologist.

If the patient wishes to be referred to a provider out of the agreed pathway, an IPFR should be submitted.

3.4 Exclusions

This policy is for Welsh Adults.

3.5 Exceptions

If the patient does not meet the criteria for treatment, but the referring clinician believes that there are exceptional grounds for treatment an Individual Patient Funding Request (IPFR) can be made to WHSSC under the All Wales Policy for Making Decisions on Individual Patient Funding Requests (IPFR).

If the patient wishes to be referred to a provider out of the agreed pathway, an IPFR should be submitted.

Guidance on the IPFR process is available at www.whssc.wales.nhs.uk

3.6 Responsibilities

The referring (Welsh) unit will:

- Inform the patient that this treatment is not routinely funded outside the criteria in this policy;
- Submit a Holiday Dialysis request form or an IPFR request;
- Discuss the DAFB unit's service with the patient;
- Advise the patient of any risks; and
- Confirm that there is the need for a funding agreement with WHSSC for the treatment.

Referrers should:

- Inform the patient that this treatment is not routinely funded outside the criteria in this policy; and
- Refer via the agreed pathway.

Clinician considering treatment should:

- Discuss all the alternative treatment with the patient;
- Advise the patient of any side effect and risks of the potential treatment;
- Inform the patient that treatment is not routinely funded outside of the criteria in the policy; and
- Confirm that there is contractual agreement with WHSSC for the treatment.

In all other circumstances submit an IPFR.

4. Putting Things Right: Raising a Concern

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that decisions made under this policy are robust and appropriate for the patient group, it is acknowledged that there may be occasions when the patient or their representative are not happy with decisions made or the treatment provided. The patient or their representative should be guided by the clinician, or the member of NHS staff with whom the concern is raised, to the appropriate arrangements for management of their concern:

- When a patient or their representative is unhappy with the decision that the patient does not meet the criteria for treatment further information can be provided demonstrating exceptionality. The request will then be considered by the All Wales IPFR Panel.
- If the patient or their representative is not happy with the decision of the All Wales IPFR Panel the patient and/or their representative has a right to ask for this decision to be reviewed. The grounds for the review, which are detailed in the All Wales Policy: Making Decisions on Individual Patient Funding Requests (IPFR), must be clearly stated. The review should be undertaken, by the patient's Local Health Board;
- When a patient or their representative is unhappy with the care provided during the treatment or the clinical decision to withdraw treatment provided under this policy, the patient and/or their representative should be guided to the LHB for NHS Putting Things Right. For services provided outside NHS Wales the patient or their representative should be guided to the NHS Trust Concerns Procedure, with a copy of the concern being sent to WHSSC.

6. Equality Impact and Assessment

The Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) process has been developed to help promote fair and equal treatment in the delivery of health services. It aims to enable Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee to identify and eliminate detrimental treatment caused by the adverse impact of health service policies upon groups and individuals for reasons of race, gender re-assignment, disability, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion and belief, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity and language (welsh).

This policy has been subjected to an Equality Impact Assessment. The Assessment demonstrates that the policy is robust and that there is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact. All opportunities to promote equality have been taken.

Annex (i)



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Welsh Health Specialised
Services Committee (WHSSC)

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING HOLIDAY DIALYSIS TREATMENT

Name of NHS Organisation:			
Location of Normal Dialysis:			
Contact:		Fax No:	
Name of Patient:		Date of Birth:	
Address:			
Postcode:		NHS No:	
Patient's LHB:			
Location of Holiday:			
Dates of Holiday	From:	To:	
Details of organisation providing treatment:			
Provider Name:			
Address:			
Tel No:		Fax number:	
Is the unit one that provides haemodialysis for NHS patients/A private facility <small>(please delete as appropriate)</small>			
No of sessions required:	Cost per session:	Total Cost:	
<i>Note: If the organisation providing treatment is a private facility, please outline on a separate sheet why the patient was not referred to an NHS unit.</i>			
Name of Referring Physician:			
Signature of Referring Clinician:			Date:
<p>Please return to: Patient Care Team, Welsh Health Specialised Service Committee (WHSSC), Unit 3A, Caerphilly Business Park, Caerphilly, CF83 3ED Tel: 01443 443443 (ext 8100) Fax: 02920 869534</p>			

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION

Introduction

Welsh residents receiving haemodialysis treatment who are planning to be away from home for a day or more will need to make arrangements in advance to receive treatment during their visit. The patients local dialysis unit should be involved in these arrangements at an early stage, and funding authorisation for treatment outside of Wales should be sought in advance from Welsh Health Specialised Service Committee (WHSSC). It is advisable that funding authorisation is sought before holiday bookings are finalised.

Within the UK

The patient/patient's local unit should contact the dialysis unit providing NHS treatment in the area the patient wishes to visit, to ensure it is able to accept the patient for temporary treatment during the relevant period. The patient's local unit will need to provide all necessary medical details, and seek authorisation for funding from WHSSC using this form.

If no temporary treatment is available at a unit providing haemodialysis for NHS patients this needs to be reported and, where deemed appropriate, WHSSC may approve funding for temporary haemodialysis at a private unit. (see Decision Process)

Patients arranging private treatment without the prior agreement of WHSSC, will be responsible for the cost.

Overseas - Countries Within the EEA, Switzerland or Australia

There are some countries (those in the EEA, Switzerland or Australia) where, as a result of inter-governmental agreements, patients can obtain treatment from the health services of that country through the E111 form. If the overseas unit accepts the E111, there is no need to complete WHSSC: HD1.

Patients who arrange to be treated in a private unit *outside* the E111 arrangements without prior approval will be responsible for meeting the whole cost of their treatment.

If the only unit with capacity within these countries is a private unit that does not accept the E111, WHSSC may approve funding for temporary haemodialysis at a private unit on exceptional basis.

Overseas - Countries Outside the EEA and Australia

Patients visiting any country other than those in the EEA, Switzerland or Australia are normally responsible for meeting the whole cost of their dialysis treatment. However, WHSSC may consider funding according to individual circumstances on exceptional basis.

Confirmation

Once funding has been approved, a letter of confirmation will be posted (or faxed if urgent) through to the referring and receiving unit. If funding has been refused, WHSSC will inform the referring unit and outline the appeals process.