

Financial Support for Home Dialysis Patients in **Tasmania**

This fact sheet provides information about financial concessions and subsidies available to patients in TAS who manage their dialysis treatment at home. However, financial support differs between each State or Territory. This resource has been developed by the HOME Network, a group of healthcare professionals who are working together to facilitate a positive change towards increased use of home dialysis.

Home dialysis patients face increased utility costs that result from elevated water usage and electricity requirements necessary to run their dialysis equipment. As this is a recognised medical requirement, the TAS Government provides a subsidy through electricity retailers to assist home dialysis patients with the running costs of their dialysis equipment. TasWater also offers a concession on water usage costs for home haemodialysis dialysis patients. Some states and territories offer ongoing financial assistance and/or a single set-up payment for home dialysis patients. For more information about what is available in TAS, contact the Department of Health.

Life Support Concession - Home Dialysis Electricity Payment

The Tasmanian Government subsidises the cost of increased electricity requirements for home dialysis patients (Peritoneal and Haemodialysis) by the provision of a Life Support Concession. This gives customers who use an approved life support system a daily discount of **94.825 cents** for a home dialysis machine approximately a credit of **\$346.75**.

per year that is deducted from personal electricity bills by energy retailers. For more information, visit https://www.concessions.tas.gov.au/concessions/electricity_and_heating

Essential Medical Equipment Payment (EMEP)

The introduction of a carbon price in 2012 has impacted on the price of electricity. To offset the electricity price impacts on home dialysis equipment, the Federal Government provides an Essential Medical Equipment Payment of **\$183** annually to Commonwealth Concession Card holders.

Once claimed, the Essential Medical Equipment Payment will be paid annually until the person's circumstances change.

For more information about this payment, visit <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/essential-medical-equipment-payment>.

Energy Rebates- Concession Card Holders

Annual electricity concession:

Rebates for concession card holders The Tasmanian Government provides an annual electricity rebate of **172.434 cents** per day to eligible concession card holders. This works out to be an energy rebate of approximately **\$627.80** per year. For more information, visit

https://www.concessions.tas.gov.au/concessions/electricity_and_heating

Water and sewerage concession:

Concession card holders may also be eligible to receive a rebate of up to **\$226.66** (**\$113.33** for water and **\$113.33** for sewerage) for the 2023-24 financial year to assist with their water and sewerage service charges. For more information, visit

https://www.concessions.tas.gov.au/concessions/property_and_land_tax

Water Concession – Home Haemodialysis

TasWater offers a special discount for home haemodialysis patients, providing up to “200 kilolitres of water per year at the prevailing volumetric tariff (pro rata to apply)”. For more information, visit <https://www.taswater.com.au/accounts-billing/my-account/apply-for-concession-or-rebate/concessions-rebates>.

Source: Taswater, concessions & billing.

What is the HOME Network?

Through research, education and advocacy, The HOME Network aims to enable healthcare professionals with knowledge and resources to empower more people with chronic kidney disease (CKD) to embrace the freedom of home dialysis. This national initiative brings together a solution-focused group of home dialysis healthcare professionals from across Australia. The group draws upon all levels of evidence to provide insights and practical options for colleagues throughout Australia to facilitate a positive change towards increased use of home dialysis. For more information about the HOME Network and to explore resources available to healthcare professionals and patients, please go to our website, www.homenetwork.net.au.

Contact information for Tasmania

The Home Network

Email: info@homenetwork.net.au

Web: www.homenetwork.net.au

Kidney Health Australia

Kidney Health Information Service

Ph: 1800 454 363

Web: www.kidney.org.au

USE [ENERGY MADE EASY](#) TO COMPARE AND CHOOSE A RETAILER.

Utility supplier	Website	Contact Number
Aurora Energy	https://www.auroraenergy.com.au/residential/payments/concession-information	1300 132 003
1 st Energy- Tas	https://1stenergy.com.au/concessions-rebates/	1300 426 594
Future X Power	https://www.futurexpower.com.au/	1300 599 008
Energy Locals	https://energylocals.com.au/	
COVau	https://covau.com.au/concessions/	1300 111 688
Glow Power	https://myglowpower.com.au/	1300 004 569
TasWater	https://www.taswater.com.au/accounts-billing/my-account/apply-for-concession-or-rebate/concessions-rebates	13 69 92

Please note that the information provided in this fact sheet is correct as of August 2023 and is subject to change without notice. This fact sheet is intended as general information only and is not complete or definitive. Kidney Health Australia and the HOME Network is not liable, and does not take any responsibility whatsoever for reliance on such information.