

Living with kidney failure – the options

Transplant information cards

Live donors can donate one of their two kidneys

After the transplant person needs to take immunosuppressant drugs

People need to die to donate their organs

Person does not need to follow a special diet

There is a shortage of donors

The kidney may be rejected

Immunosuppressant drugs may have side effects

**Cost: £40,000 per transplant
Drugs cost £7000 per person per year**

Haemodialysis information cards

Requires a small operation to insert a tube into arm

Cost: £35,000 per person per year

Person needs to be attached to dialysis machine for 4 hours, three times a week

Person needs to restrict fluid intake

Treatment normally given in hospital or centre

Life is limited as person needs to be able to use a dialysis machine regularly

Person needs to be careful with diet; low in protein and some salts

Person can suffer from other medical problems like anaemia or bone disease

Peritoneal dialysis information cards

Requires a small operation to insert a tube into abdomen

Person does not need to follow a special diet

Dialysis liquid has to be put into abdomen

Can be done at home or at work

Dialysis liquid is left in place for 4 to 6 hours

Dialysis liquid has to be replaced 4 times a day

Possibility of infection – peritonitis

Cost: £17,500 per person per year