



Kidney Matters®

The Newsletter of the
Queen Elizabeth Hospital Kidney Patients' Association
DECEMBER 2022

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Queen Elizabeth Hospital Kidney Patients' Association

The Patients' Association is for all Renal Patients treated by the Q.E. Hospital.

Patients on HHD, Transplant and PD

Dialysis Units at Aston, Great Bridge, Woodgate, Kings Norton, Smethwick, Sparkhill, Redditch, Worcester, Hereford, Llandrindod Wells, and U.H.B.

Kidney Matters® is distributed free to over 2700 Renal Patients treated by the Q.E. Hospital

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Regarding the Industrial Action being taken by
The Royal College of Nursing

Information for Renal Patients on Haemodialysis

We have been informed that the regular dialysis you receive either at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital or one of the local Dialysis units at Smethwick, Aston, Great Bridge, Kings Norton, Woodgate Valley, Sparkhill, Redditch, Worcester, Hereford, and Llandrindod Wells should take place as usual during any industrial action.

This is because there is an agreement with the Royal College of Nursing that life dependant treatments will continue, also the staff at the Dialysis Units are non-NHS staff. Therefore, it is hoped that your treatment will be given as usual

**I hope this clarifies the situation but if in doubt please ask at
your clinic.**

Your Patient Transport

We have also been informed by West Midland Ambulance Service that your patient transport should not be interrupted by the Industrial Action. An agreement has been reached between W.M.A.S and the Union that Dialysis Patient Transport will continue as usual.

A way to support the Q.E.H.K.P.A. for free

The K.P.A. has signed up with Amazon for their "Smile Amazon". What we would like you to do, if you use Amazon, register with "SMILE AMAZON". It comes up on the first screen. You then can register and choose a charity to support. We hope you will select the Q.E.H.K.P.A. That's all you need to do. Every time you go to Amazon go to Smile Amazon and then carry on as normal. The benefit is that every time you buy something the Q.E.H.K.P.A. gets 0.5%. It doesn't sound a lot but if everyone joins in, it will mount up and it does not cost you or us anything.

We do not receive any information from Amazon as to who is signed up or how much is spent.

Please give it a try and help the Q.E.H.K.P.A. Thanks.

Thanks to those who have made donations to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Kidney Patients' Association

The Q.E.H.K.P.A. thank all of you who have raised money or donated to us over recent months and years.

Your generosity has been tremendous and very welcome. It helps us continue our support for the Renal Patients and the Renal Departments at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

Foods for the Festive Season.

On our web page www.kidneymatters.co.uk under Dietary Information you will find lots of ideas for the Festive Season.

All these have been provided by the Dietitians at the Hospital to help Renal Patients enjoy the festive food while keeping to your dietary requirements.

**The Queen Elizabeth Hospital Kidney Patients' Association
would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas
and a Good New Year.**

U.H.B. HAEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS' PARTICIPATION GROUP

This new group is being organised by the Hospital to gain information and feedback from patients having haemodialysis.

Please register your interest to attend the internet meetings emailing renal.focusgroup@uhb.nhs.uk to receive the invitation

or contact your unit manager or phone 0121 424 3234

The meetings will be held every 3 months. The next meeting will be in January

University Hospitals Birmingham
NHS Foundation Trust **NHS**

UHB HAEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS' PARTICIPATION GROUP



We Want to Hear From You...

Join us for a Focus Group discussion. This is an advisory platform to discuss topics such as transport, issues at individual units, COVID-19, and any other queries you may have. This is not a forum to discuss your personal medical care.

We would like to invite you to a UHB Haemodialysis Participation Group. We are always looking at ways to improve our service and the care we provide. We would love to hear your thoughts and ideas on how we can enhance your Haemodialysis treatment.

Report from last Patient Participation Group

The first haemodialysis patient participation group took place on the 24th October. The group discussed transport, staffing at the units and much more besides.

The next meeting will be held in the New Year. Date to follow. In addition to hearing your views on whatever matters to you the dialysis team will update you on proposed improvements to the dialysis service and upcoming research projects.

Look out for the letters with joining details and posters at your units and on the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Kidney Patients' Association website.

Look forward to seeing you at the meeting

Dr Stephanie Stringer
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Clinical Lead for Haemodialysis