

How will I feel after treatment?

The way you feel following treatment is highly individual. Generally speaking, people feel tired and prefer to rest quietly when they go home.

Any Questions?

The haemodialysis staff are pleased to answer any questions you may have.

The haemodialysis unit is located on the ground floor, Morrow Wing in St. Joseph's Health Centre.

Hours of operation are:

Monday - Saturday
6:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.

You may call:

416-530-6395 if you need to contact us.



Haemodialysis

An Introduction

at St. Joseph's Health Centre

ST. JOSEPH'S
HEALTH CENTRE TORONTO

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Haemodialysis: An Introduction

Why do I need haemodialysis?

Because your kidneys are not working efficiently, your doctor has prescribed a special treatment to replace the work the kidneys do.

The kidneys remove fluid and waste products from our bodies. When the kidneys fail, waste products and fluid build up to levels that are harmful if not removed periodically.

How often will I need haemodialysis?

Your doctor will prescribe a treatment regime specifically to meet your health needs. Typically our patients receive three treatments a week for approximately 3 - 4 hours.

Treatments are usually shorter during the first week while your body adjusts.

How will I know when to come for treatment?

There are three treatment shifts each day:

Morning: commencing around 7 a.m.

Afternoon: commencing around 11:30 a.m.

Evening: commencing around 4:00 p.m.

Treatment times are approximate and while we make every effort to connect you soon after arrival there are frequently encountered circumstances that prevent this, such as:

- You arrive earlier than the usual shift time.
- The patient you are following is still in the chair.
- Technical difficulties with your machine.

It is not always possible to change you to a different machine as the dialyser (the filter used to clean your blood) is prescribed specifically for you.

Your treatments will be spaced out to alternating days of the week, either Monday, Wednesday, Friday or Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday.

When you commence treatment, choice of day and time is limited to space that is available. Your name can be placed on a waiting list for your preferred time by speaking to the Charge Nurse.

Can I continue to work?

We encourage our patients to continue working as able and will arrange the most suitable treatment times to accommodate this. Please let the Charge Nurse know which time is best for you.

Does my family have to stay with me during treatment?

Family are welcome to visit when their relative is receiving dialysis. They will be asked to wait in the waiting room during connection and disconnection times.

How will I get to the hospital for treatment?

You are responsible for meeting your own transportation needs. TTC Wheeltrans service is available for haemodialysis patients. The social worker will assist you to set up Wheeltrans service if required. Parking at the hospital is available at a reduced rate but parking spaces are limited.