

UK RENAL REGISTRY

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL REPORT

Analyses of adult data to the end of 2022



UK Kidney Association

UK Renal Registry

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the latest Summary of the UK Renal Registry Annual Report, which analyses data to the end of 2022 for over 70,000 people with kidney failure.

Prevalence - the number of people already on kidney replacement treatment (KRT: dialysis or transplantation) - approached the annual pre-pandemic growth of 2-2.5%, increasing to 70,951 from 69,500 in 2021.



Sue Lyon
Chair, UKKA Patient Council

During the COVID-19 pandemic, more people started KRT with the home treatment peritoneal dialysis (PD), but the numbers of people starting with PD in 2022 are lower than pre-pandemic levels, possibly due to the return of transplantation.

In 2022 and 2021 similar numbers of people starting dialysis or already on dialysis had definitive haemodialysis access with an arteriovenous fistula or graft, indicating that these treatment pathways have not yet recovered to pre-pandemic levels.

Since 2020, fewer people who receive dialysis in hospital rather than at home are dialysing for 4-5 hours per dialysis session: 63.5% in 2021 compared to 70.9% in 2019. Many patients lose residual kidney function (the ability to produce urine) the longer they have been on dialysis. Once patients cannot produce urine, they need to restrict the total amount of fluid they can drink. There is some limited evidence that using less aggressive dialysis can help maintain residual kidney function for longer.

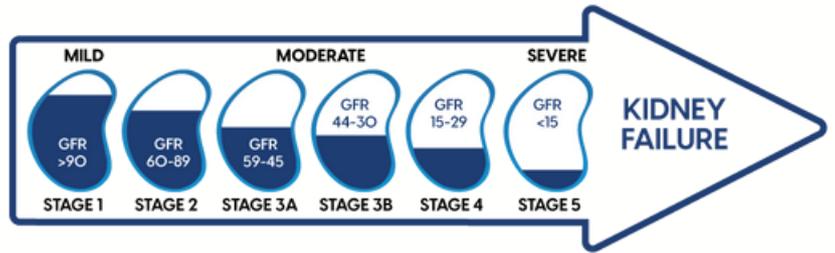
Incidence - or the number of people newly starting KRT - continued to recover to pre-pandemic levels in 2022. However, in both 2022 (18.5%) and in 2021 (18%) more people presented late to their kidney centre - i.e. within 90 days of starting KRT - compared to 15.5-16.4% during the previous five years, possibly indicating some continuing difficulty in accessing timely care (including referral to kidney services).

There was a 7% overall increase in the number of kidney transplants in 2022 compared to 2021, but this was still lower than in 2019. The likely explanation is ongoing disruption to treatment pathways and a more conservative approach to transplantation at a time when COVID-19 case numbers and hospital admissions remained high. The proportion of people receiving a transplant before they needed dialysis (pre-emptive transplant) was higher in 2022 than in previous years at 6.6%. This compares to 8-9% before the pandemic, but it potentially signals some recovery from pandemic-related disruption.

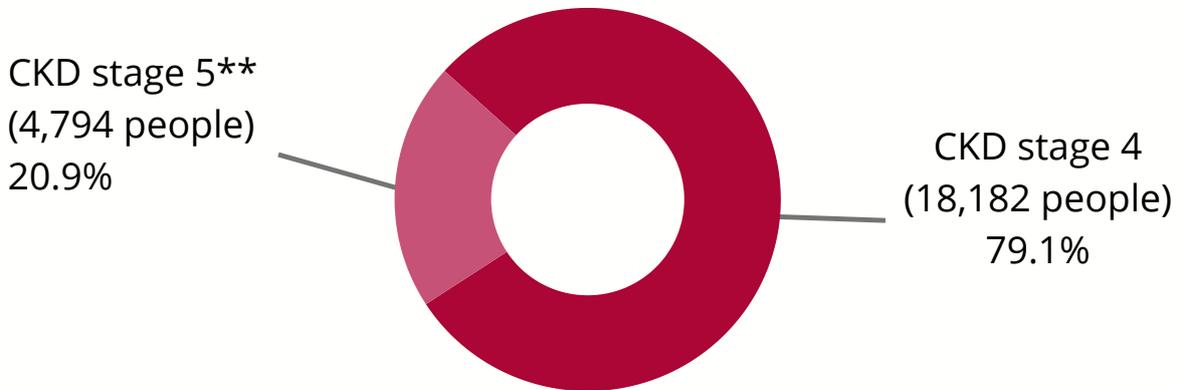
Although there are encouraging signs of recovery, this report shows the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people with kidney disease during 2022. On behalf of the Patient Council, my thanks to everyone at the UK Renal Registry for their continuing work in helping to keep us safe.

ADVANCED CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE (eGFR < 30 mL/min/1.73m²) NOT ON KIDNEY REPLACEMENT TREATMENT

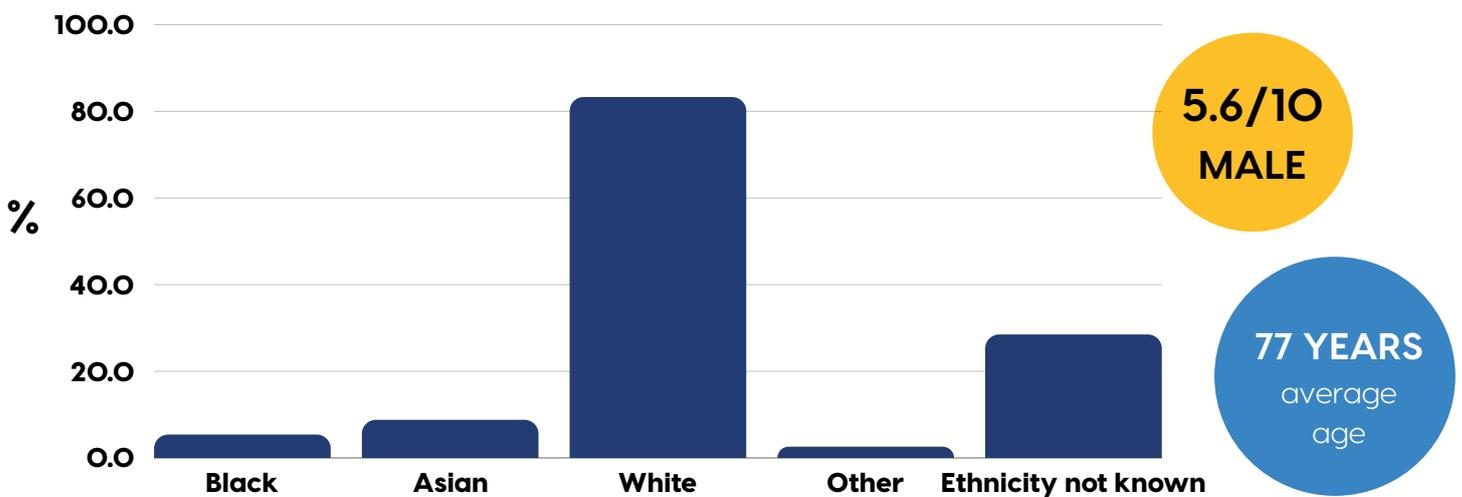
By the end of 2022, 18 out of 67 kidney centres told us about 23,000 adults with advanced chronic kidney disease (CKD) who did not have a transplant or dialysis.



These people represent only a small proportion of all those who are receiving care from a GP or specialist for advanced CKD.



Characteristics of people with advanced chronic kidney disease not on kidney replacement treatment reported to the UKRR in 2022



*eGFR is a blood test that measures kidney function. In young healthy adults, this typically exceeds 90 mL/min/1.73m², but it does tend to decline with age.

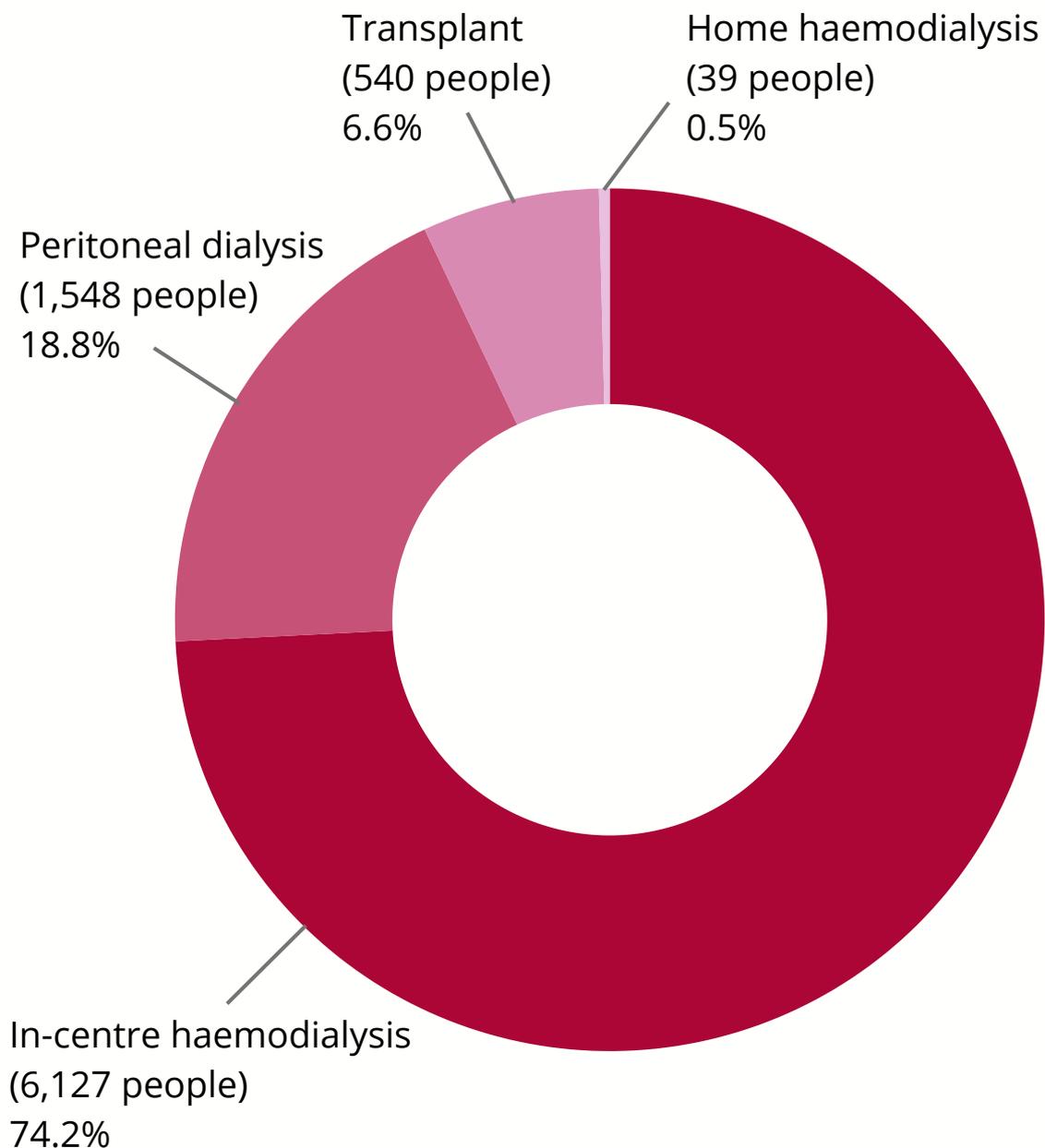
**People with stage 5 CKD include those who have opted not to start dialysis when their kidneys fail, but instead have kidney care focused on symptom control and quality of life, also known as conservative care.

STARTING KIDNEY REPLACEMENT TREATMENT

Around **8,250 adults** started kidney replacement treatment in 2022

Their average eGFR* was 6.9 mL/min/1.73m²

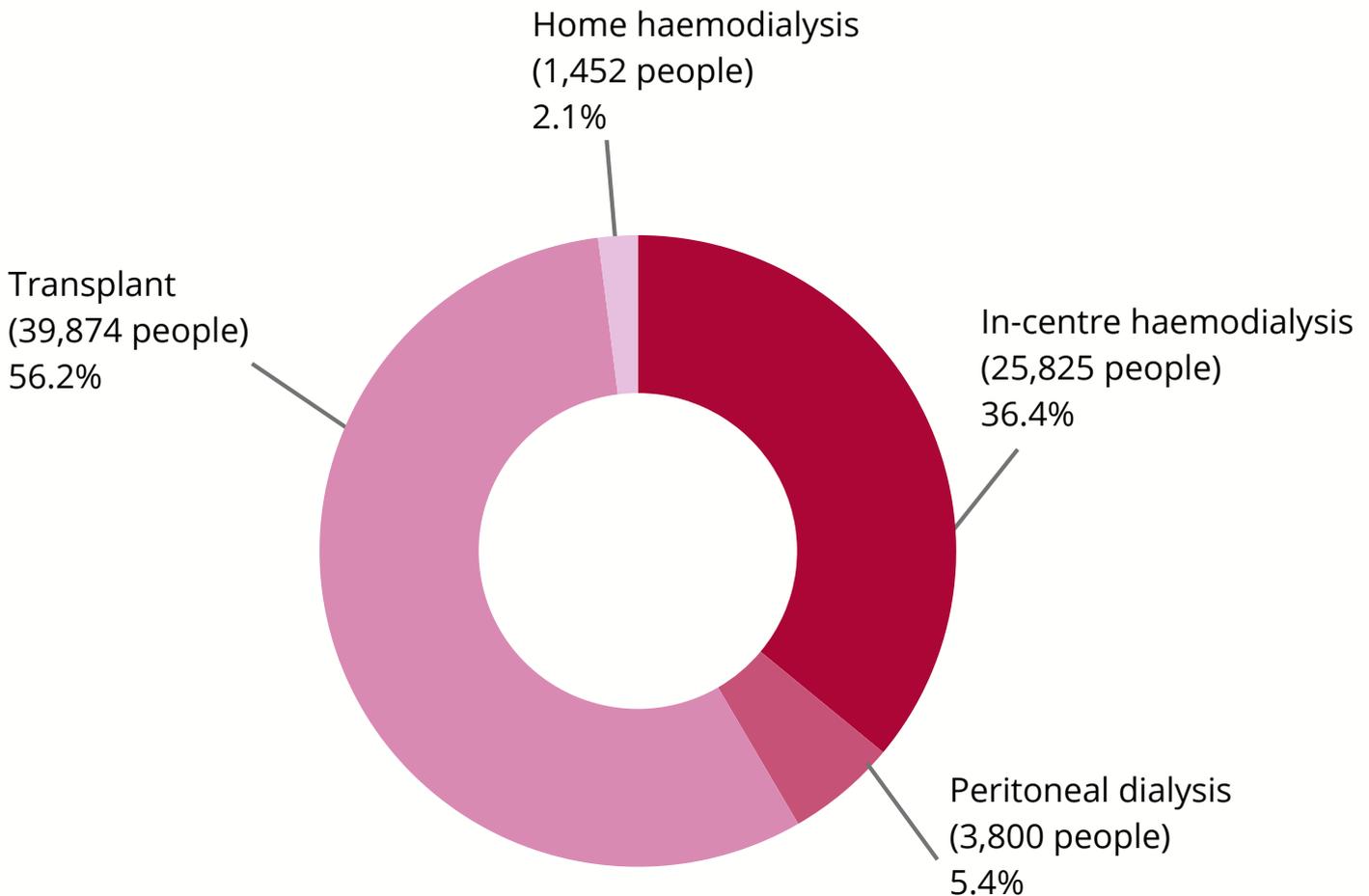
Most people started on **in-centre haemodialysis**.



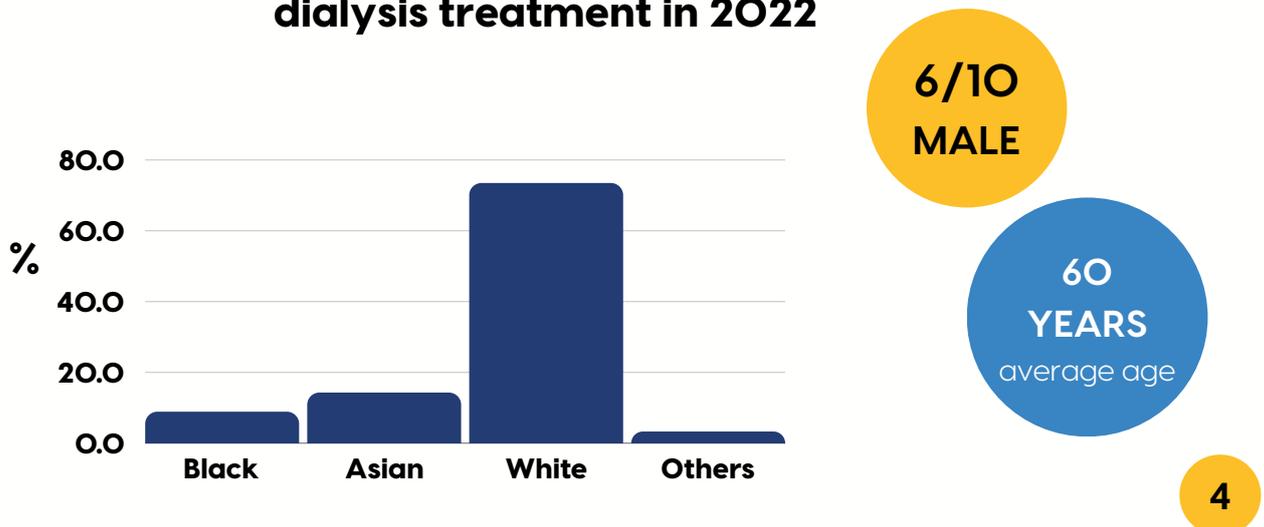
ALREADY ON KIDNEY REPLACEMENT TREATMENT

Just under **71,000 adults** were on kidney replacement treatment in 2022. This includes people with kidney transplants and those on dialysis.

Most people had a **transplant**.



Characteristics of all people with a kidney transplant or receiving dialysis treatment in 2022



6/10
MALE

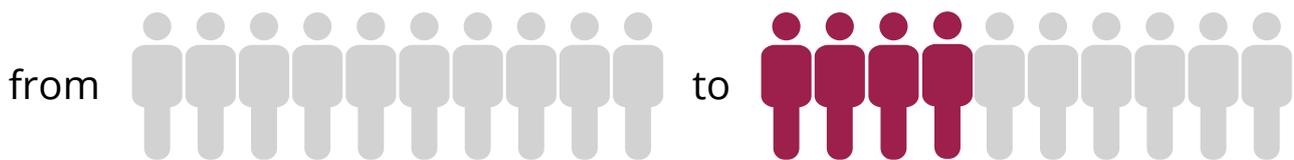
60
YEARS
average age

PEOPLE WITH A TRANSPLANT

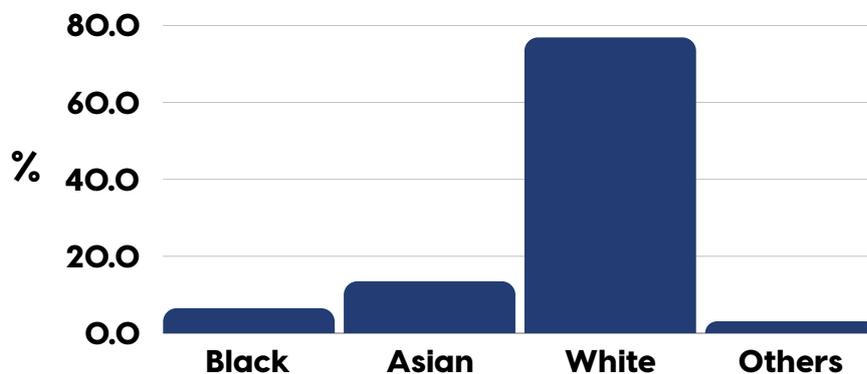


Around **40,000 adults** had a working **transplant** at the end of 2022 - almost **6 in 10** of all those on **kidney replacement treatments**.

In 2022 the number of adults who started kidney replacement treatment with a transplant varied between 0 in 10 at some centres to 4 in 10 at others.



Characteristics of all people with a transplant in 2022



6/10
MALE

57
YEARS
average age



Around half of all people with a kidney transplant were not at the blood pressure target*



The average **eGFR** for a person with a transplant 1 year after transplant was **52 mL/min/1.73m² ****

*Blood pressure target for transplant patients is below 140/90.

**eGFR is a blood test that measures kidney function. In young healthy adults, this typically exceeds 90 mL/min/1.73m², but it does tend to decline with age.

PEOPLE ON HOME HAEMODIALYSIS

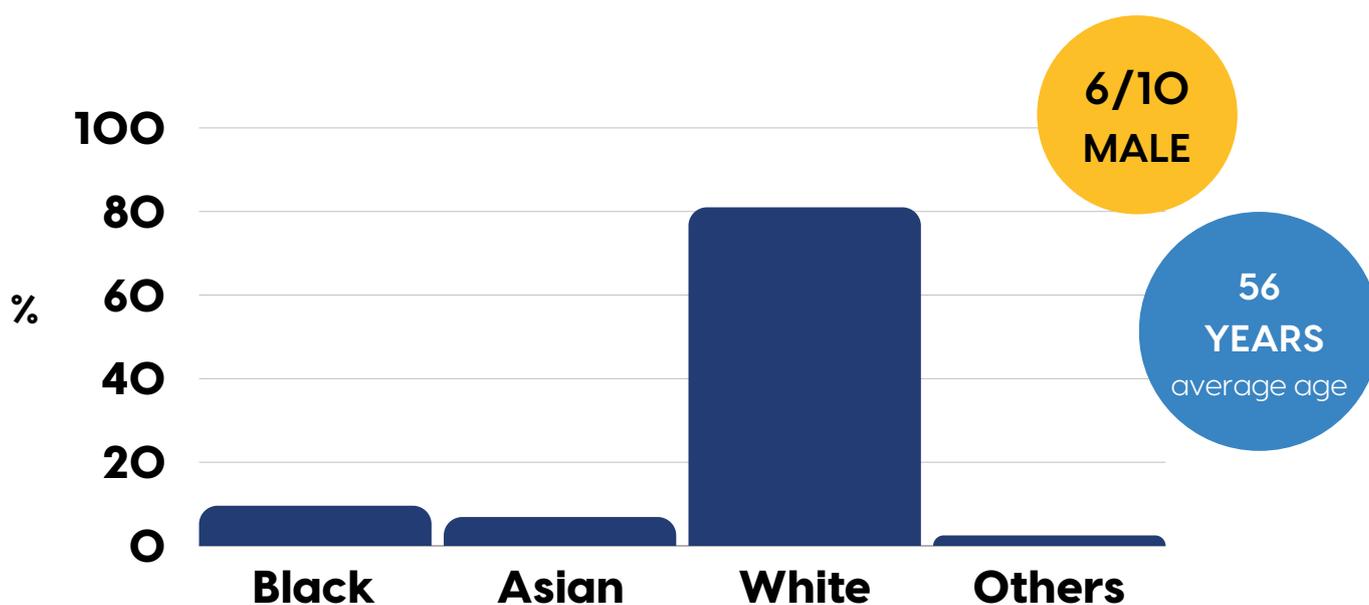


Around **1,450 adults** were on **home haemodialysis** at the end of 2022, around **1 in 50** of all those on **kidney replacement treatments**.

In 2022 the number of adults who started kidney replacement treatment on home haemodialysis varied between 0 in 10 at some centres to 1 in 10 at others.



Characteristics of all people on home haemodialysis in 2022



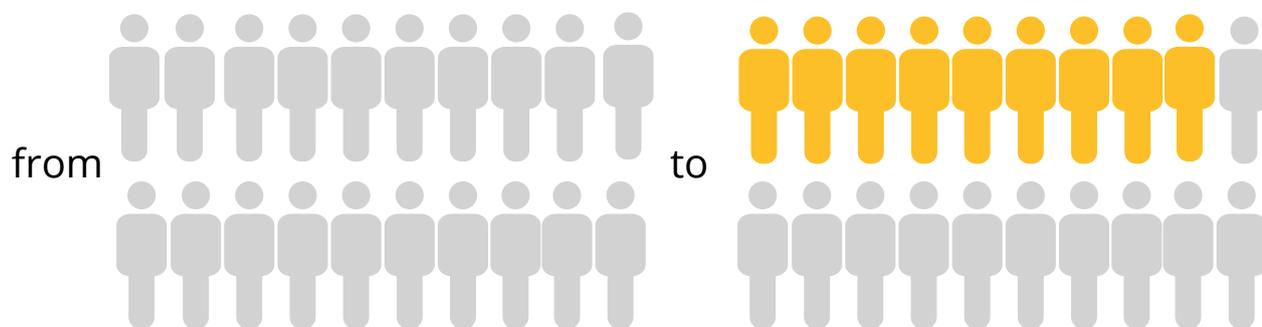
PEOPLE ON PERITONEAL DIALYSIS



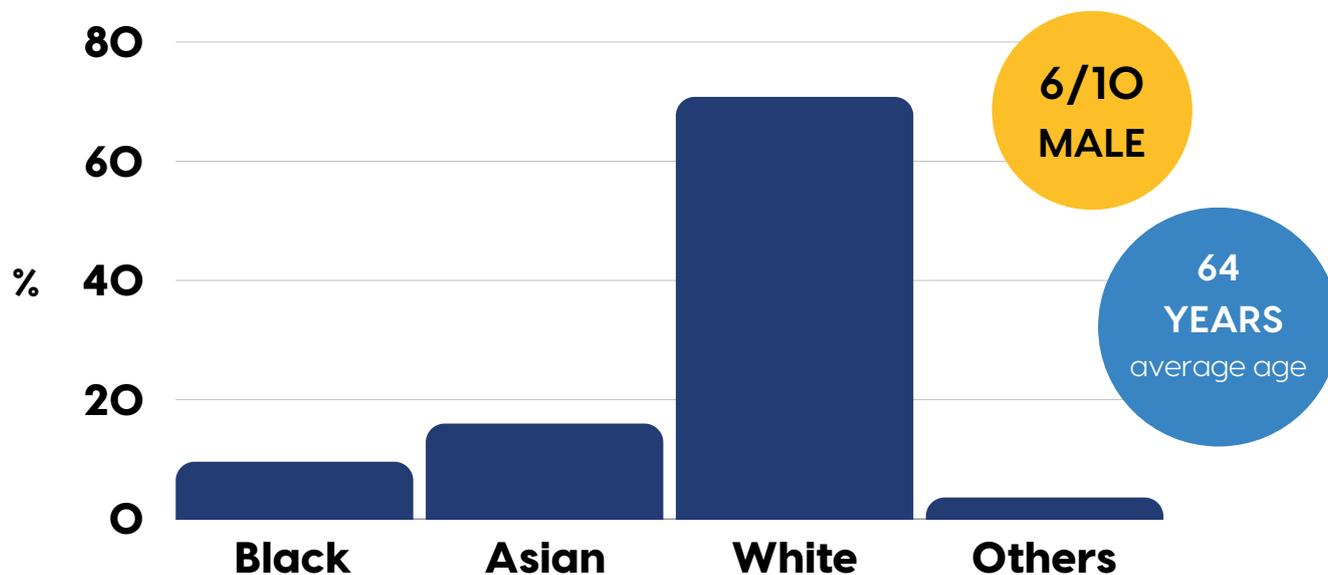
Peritoneal dialysis is one of the ways a person can manage their treatment at home.

Around **3,800 adults** were on **peritoneal dialysis** at the end of 2022 - around **1 in 20** of all those on **kidney replacement treatments**.

In 2022 the number of adults who started kidney replacement treatment on peritoneal dialysis varied between 0 in 20 at some centres to 9 in 20 at others.



Characteristics of all people on peritoneal dialysis in 2022



PEOPLE ON IN-CENTRE HAEMODIALYSIS



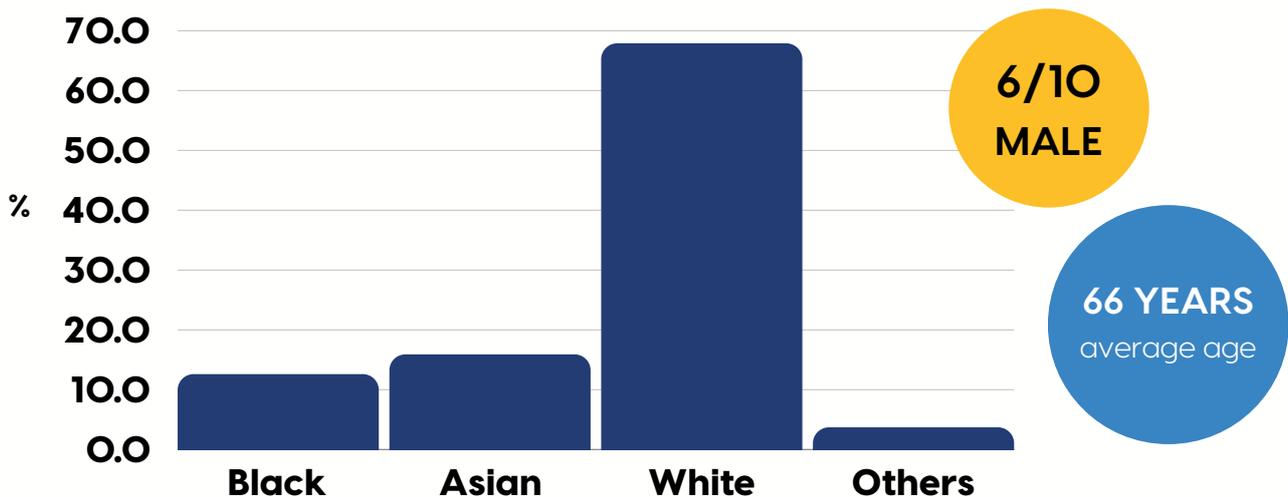
Most people receiving haemodialysis are treated in a kidney centre or a satellite dialysis unit.

Around **26,000 adults** were on **in-centre haemodialysis** at the end of 2022 - around **4 in 10** of all those on **kidney replacement treatments**.

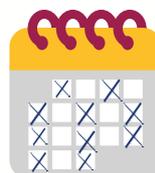
In 2022 the number of adults who started kidney replacement treatment on in-centre haemodialysis varied between 4 in 10 at some centres to all at others.



Characteristics of all people on in-centre haemodialysis in 2022



2/3 of people dialysed for 4-5 hours per session.



The vast majority of people dialysed 3 times per week.

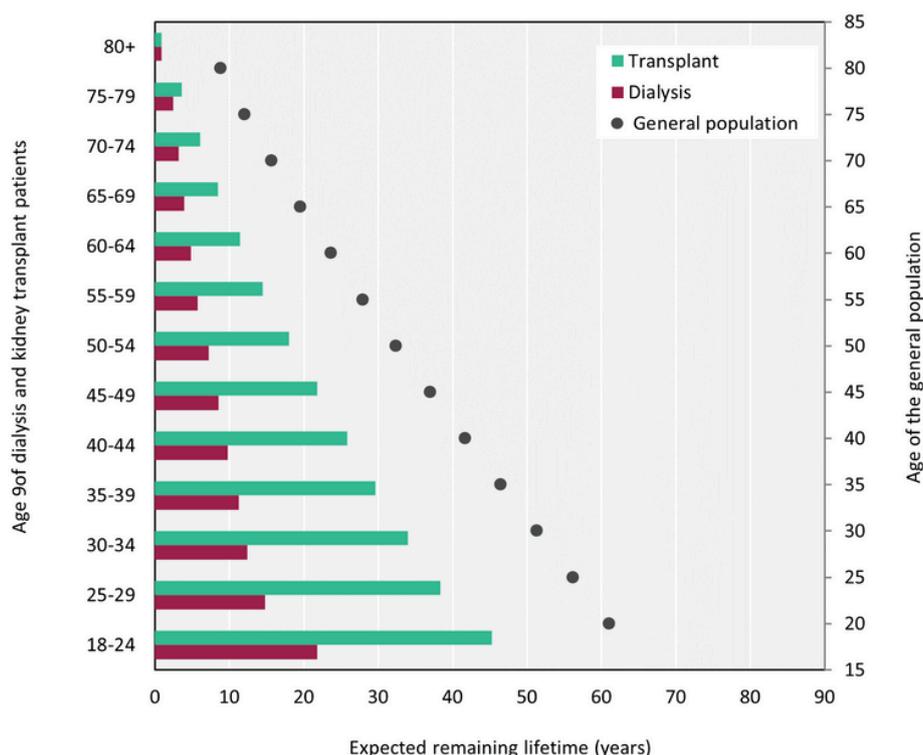
LIFE EXPECTANCY FOR PEOPLE ON KIDNEY REPLACEMENT TREATMENT



Life expectancy* of people on kidney replacement treatment depends on a number of factors, for example, a person's age and other health problems.

Older adults over the age of 70 years, who are on **dialysis**, have an average **life expectancy** which is about **half** of that of people with a **kidney transplant**, and about **3 times less** than people of the same age in the **general population**. The difference in average life expectancy increases with decreasing age.

Across all age groups under 80 years, patients with a working transplant have a higher remaining life span than those on dialysis. This difference is particularly noticeable in younger people under 50 years of age.



Average life expectancy amongst younger transplant patients improved compared to the previous year.

For those on dialysis, average life expectancy remained similar to the previous year.

*Life expectancy is defined as the average number of years remaining for an individual or a group of people at a given age. However, as life expectancy is calculated based on averages, a person may live for many years more or less than expected. For example, life expectancy may also be affected by other illnesses as well as kidney disease.



UK Kidney Association
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Kidney Patient Reported Experience Measure (PREM) reports
are available from:

ukkidney.org/kidney-patient-reported-experience-measure

The UK Renal Registry Data Portals, with information on the
Annual Report, are available from:

ukkidney.org/audit-research/data-portals

ukkidney.org