

Latest data show care for non-dialysis kidney patients improving

The BC Renal Agency's latest indicator reports for kidney care clinics (KCCs) suggests there has been steady improvements in key indicators associated with patient access to standardized care over the past two years. During this timeframe, the agency's Kidney Care Advisory Committee (KCAC) developed provincial guidelines for CKD care, standardized educational programs and reviewed key data for every clinic and health authority on a regular basis.

For the six-month period ending March 31, 2014, 75% of CKD patients who started dialysis did so using their planned modality – a 5% increase from the same period two years ago.

Similarly, 43% of patients who started hemodialysis (HD) in the most recent period started with a mature fistula or graft, compared with 28% of patients who did so in the same period two years ago. As a new fistula requires up to six months to mature (i.e. become a stable access for HD), this result suggests patients are getting more timely pre-dialysis counselling.

In addition, more patients started dialysis on an independent modality. For the latest reporting period, 33% of patients starting dialysis did so on home hemodialysis (HDD) or peritoneal dialysis (PD), compared to 29% two years ago. There was also a substantial rise in the number of patients receiving a pre-emptive kidney transplant, increasing from 13 patients two years ago to 20 for the same period in 2014.

From the most recent indicator report, the PROMIS database records 12,817 registered CKD patients in the province. This is about one thousand more CKD patients than were registered for the same period two years ago, representing a relatively small increase over that period. Among the province's total population of CKD patients, 9,875 receive their care through BC's 13 KCCs. You can access a list of all KCCs, including addresses and contact information, through the [Find Kidney Services in BC](#) page on the agency website.
