

How can we create and sustain art on haemodialysis?

Art activities make dialysis more enjoyable and can help patients develop rewarding skills.

Recruiting

The activities can be led by trained volunteers. An interest in arts is helpful, along with good communication and interpersonal skills. You could recruit volunteers through your hospital and Trust volunteer coordinator or local volunteer centres.

Supervision

The unit manager is responsible for the supervision of volunteers but can nominate a team member to take on this role. Supervision could also be provided by a partner organization, and support can be provided within the hospital or trust.

Training

Induction training for all volunteers includes:

- introduction to the unit
- safeguarding
- infection prevention and control
- fire safety
- information governance, including confidentiality
- role and responsibilities of a volunteer

Direct volunteers require specific training related to the arts and the haemodialysis setting itself (e.g. an awareness of clinical alarms, patient symptoms and how they might impact the session).

Remote volunteers do not need training on infection prevention or fire safety.

Direct provision

one-to-one facilitation

practical support and assistance with arts materials

individual arts pack (avoids cross-contamination)

wider variety of arts materials

social engagement

Remote delivery

less suited to those with mobility restrictions or extreme fatigue (patient may need more practical support)

individual arts pack (not stored onsite; avoids cross-contamination)

artist matched with each patient, makes initial contact and outlines programme

one-to-one facilitation over telephone/video calls (encouragement and motivation, guidance on artistic techniques and skills)

pre-recorded online tutorials can support the virtual one-to-one sessions (but more support may be required)

TO SUSTAIN THE ART PROGRAMME YOU'LL NEED:

- ✓ PATIENT AND VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT
- ✓ CHOICE OF ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES
- ✓ DISPLAY AND SHARE ARTWORK
- ✓ SHARE GOOD PRACTICE AND METHODS
- ✓ EVALUATION
- ✓ FUNDING