

North Central London chronic kidney disease service

Information for patients

This leaflet answers common questions about the North Central London chronic kidney disease (CKD) service. If you would like further information or have any particular worries ask your GP, or your nurse or doctor in clinic.

What is chronic kidney disease (CKD)?

CKD is a common long term condition which occurs when your kidneys work less well than they should. It affects around 10% (1 in 10) of adults in the UK increasing to 20% (2 in 10) in people over 80 years of age. For most people this condition is routinely managed by their GP, but your GP may want some extra support from a specialist team on how best to manage your CKD.

What is the North Central London CKD service and how will it benefit me?

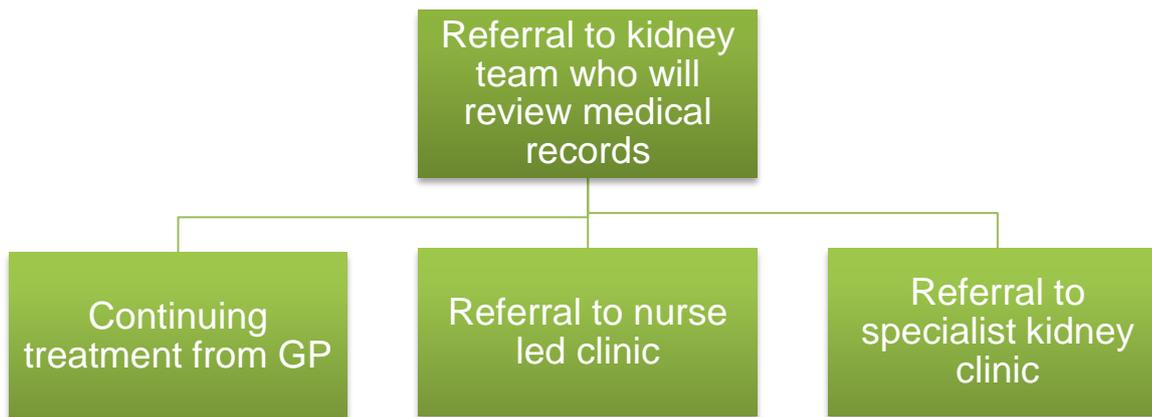
The service provides more co-ordinated specialist care for CKD patients across North Central London. Patients will be assessed faster, receive personalised treatment based on the clinical information available in their GP records and will be directed to the most appropriate clinical service for their needs. This means patients will have fewer unnecessary appointments.

How does our service work?

All referrals to the service will be reviewed by our specialist kidney team who will provide your GP with personalised advice on managing your condition. This will result in one of three outcomes:

- continuing management with your GP using the specialist advice
- referral to a nurse-led clinic for education and support
- referral to a specialist hospital kidney clinic for further tests.

Your GP will inform you of the outcome.



Where our clinics are held?

Hospital appointment with a specialist kidney doctor:

You may be asked to attend one of our hospitals for an appointment. Our clinics are held at the following locations and you will be invited to attend the hospital nearest to you:

- Barnet Hospital: Wellhouse Lane, Barnet, EN5 3DJ
- North Middlesex University Hospital: Sterling Way, London, N18 1QX
- Royal Free Hospital: Pond Street, London, NW3 2QG
- Whittington Hospital: Magdala Avenue, London, N19 5NF

Nurse-led kidney appointments:

You may be asked to attend an appointment with a specialist kidney nurse at one of these locations:

- Barnet Hospital: Wellhouse Lane, Barnet, EN5 3DJ
- St Pancras Kidney and Diabetes Centre: St Pancras Hospital, 4 St Pancras Way, London, NW1 0PE
- Tottenham Hale Kidney and Diabetes Centre: 5-7 Daneland Walk, Hale Village, London, N17 9FE

Please let us know as soon as possible should you need to change or cancel your appointment. You will find the relevant telephone number to do this on your appointment letter. If you do not attend your appointment and do not let us know, you may be discharged back to the care of your GP and need to be referred back.

If you are invited to attend an appointment, please bring all the tablets that you are currently taking in the original packaging. This includes any tablets or herbal medicines that you do not get from your GP.

Who can access this service?

This service is for adults registered with a GP in Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey or Islington, who have CKD and meet the referral criteria.

How can patients access the service?

Your GP will need to refer you to the service. They will ask for your permission to share the medical records they hold about you with the specialist kidney team. Your GP can explain this to you in more detail.

Do you have any further questions?

Please ask your GP if you have any questions regarding the referral process.

Further information

You can find more information about chronic kidney disease on the **Kidney Care UK** website: www.kidneycareuk.org

For more information about the kidney services at the Royal Free London please visit our website at:

www.royalfree.nhs.uk/services/services-a-z/kidney-services

Our information leaflet 'General advice: How to look after your kidneys' is available on our website at:

www.royalfree.nhs.uk/patients-visitors/patient-resources/letter/g/

If you have any feedback on this leaflet or for a full list of references for it, please email: rf.communications@nhs.net

This leaflet is also available in large print. If you need this leaflet in another format – for example Braille, a language other than English or audio – please ask a member of staff.

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