

03 May 2019

## **THE BIG RED KIDNEY BUS ARRIVES IN TORQUAY TO MAKE HOLIDAYS WITH LOVED ONES POSSIBLE FOR PEOPLE ON DIALYSIS**

The Big Red Kidney Bus has arrived in Torquay at the Foreshore Caravan Park until 1 June to enable people living with kidney disease to receive life-saving haemodialysis treatment while holidaying with loved ones.

Kidney Health Australia's award-winning Big Red Kidney Bus program operates with clinical partners in Victoria and New South Wales to provide mobile haemodialysis services in these states, allowing people on dialysis a chance to have a holiday or visit family and friends and still receive their lifesaving treatment.

When a person's kidneys stop working treatment, such as haemodialysis or a transplant, is needed to sustain life. Currently nearly 24,000 people are receiving treatment for end-stage kidney disease in Australia either through dialysis or kidney transplant.

On average, haemodialysis patients need to have treatment for at least five hours at a time, three days a week – which can be very restricting as they need to stay close to their dialysis unit.

The Big Red Kidney Buses are open to all Australians on hospital, satellite or home haemodialysis. The buses travel across Victoria and New South Wales, where they are located at popular holiday locations for up to six weeks at a time. They are staffed by experienced dialysis nurses and renal technicians from Monash Health in Victoria, and Royal North Shore Hospital in New South Wales.

For more information about the Big Red Kidney Bus or to book a place, call 1800 454 363, email [bigredkidneybus@kidney.org.au](mailto:bigredkidneybus@kidney.org.au) or visit [kidney.org.au/bus](http://kidney.org.au/bus).

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*Kidney Health Australia is a not-for-profit and the peak body for kidney health in Australia with a vision 'to save and improve the lives of people living in Australia affected by kidney disease'.*

*The Big Red Kidney Bus was awarded the 2015 National Disability Award for Excellence in Community Accessibility, and also won the Gold Innovative Models of Care Award at the 2015 Victorian Public Health Care Awards.*

*The Big Red Kidney Bus is in proud partnership with Royal North Shore Hospital in New South Wales and Monash Health in Victoria.*

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