

# The Green Nephrology Renal Unit Survey 2009

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You have received this survey from The Campaign for Greener Healthcare as you are the Green Nephrology Local Representative for your unit.

The information we derive from this survey will be vital to guide future initiatives to lessen the impact of renal healthcare on the environment.

We anticipate that you will need to seek the help of staff from various disciplines within your unit to complete this survey. For example, you may need to ring the estates or catering departments or visit the ward or dialysis unit.

We therefore suggest that you may prefer to print out a copy of the survey to show to these people as you collate your answers, before entering the data at a later date.

You can leave the survey at any time, and return to it in the future, without losing answers you have already entered.

Thank you for your help with this project.

If you have been sent this survey inappropriately, wish to ask any questions, or feel unable to complete the survey, please contact Dr Andy Connor (Green Nephrology Fellow) at [andrew.connor@kintoa.org](mailto:andrew.connor@kintoa.org)

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1. Please enter your name.

2. Please enter your job title.

3. Please enter your email address.

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Most renal units include a hub (or main) unit and a number of satellite units.

Please decide whether the answers you give throughout this survey will relate to a main unit or an individual satellite unit.

It is important that you remain consistent in this regard. However, wherever possible, please use the 'free text' boxes to highlight points of interest in other units affiliated to the one you are answering on behalf of.

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4. Please decide whether your answers will refer to a main unit or to a satellite unit.

A main or 'hub' unit

A satellite unit

5. What is the name of the unit your answers will relate to?

6. Which of the following services are provided at the unit your answers will relate to?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Haemodialysis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Peritoneal dialysis services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transplantation surgery	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transplantation follow up	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Outpatient clinics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Inpatient services / acute admissions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ancillary services (eg iron infusions)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. Which of the following best describes your unit?

It covers an exclusively urban area

It covers a predominantly urban area

It covers an equal mix of urban and rural areas

It covers a predominantly rural area

It covers an exclusively rural area

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The following questions relate to the LIGHTING within your unit.

Please consider your unit as a whole (including the dialysis unit and any affiliated wards, procedure rooms, outpatient areas, offices, etc).

Your local estates team may help you to answer many of these questions quickly and accurately.

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8. In your unit, low energy lightbulbs are used...

in all, or almost all, of the lights (81-100%)

in most of the lights (51-80%)

in some of the lights (21-50%)

in none, or only a few, of the lights (0-20%)

Don't know

9. Lights are switched off when not required...

Always

Most of the time

Occasionally

Rarely or never

10. The intensity of the lighting in your unit is generally...

too high

too low

about right

very varied

11. Does your unit use movement-sensitive light switches?

Yes, wherever it is appropriate

Yes, but only in a few places

No, not at all

Don't know

12. If you have any further comments regarding the lighting in your renal unit, please enter them here.

13. Regarding computer use in your renal unit...

	Yes	No	Don't know
Are IT mechanisms in place for auto-shutdown of computers overnight?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are staff actively encouraged to shut computers down overnight?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please enter any further evidence of environmental good practice in relation to the provision of IT services.

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The next questions relate to the HEATING AND COOLING within your unit.

Once again, please consider your unit as a whole (including the dialysis unit, the wards, procedure rooms, outpatient area, the offices, etc).

For reference, the CIBSE Heating Guide B1 recommended temperatures are:

22-24 degrees C for the bedheads & wards

19-22 degrees C for the nurses stations

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## 14. In your unit...

	Yes	No	Don't know
Are there accessible thermostat and heating controls in each area of the unit?	jn	jn	jn
Is shading provided for south facing windows?	jn	jn	jn
Is any air chilling facility (ie 'air conditioning') automatically switched off when the heating is on?	jn	jn	jn
Are appropriate temperatures generally maintained? (please see the above guidance on optimal temperatures, and enter any further comments in the free text box below)	jn	jn	jn

Please enter any further comments regarding heating & cooling here.

## 15. With regard to the equipment in your unit...

	Yes	No	Don't know
Are energy-efficient appliances preferentially purchased? (please liaise with your Estates dept.)	jn	jn	jn
Is heat recaptured from dialysis machines? (please liaise with your dialysis nurses and technicians)	jn	jn	jn
Is heat recaptured from the process of sterilising the equipment? (please liaise with your Sterile Services / CSSD dept.)	jn	jn	jn

Please enter any further comments regarding the equipment in your unit here.

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The following questions relate to patient and staff TRAVEL to and from your unit.

## 16. With regard to STAFF travel...

	Yes	No	Don't know	N/A
Are walking & cycling to the unit generally considered to be safe?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Is secure parking for bicycles provided?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Has your trust signed up to the 'Cycle to Work' scheme?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Are showers and changing facilities provided?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Is the unit reasonably accessible by public transport?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Do staff shift times correspond to local public transport timetables?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Do either your trust, unit or staff run a 'car share' or 'car pool' system?	jn	jn	jn	jn

Please enter any further comments regarding staff travel here.

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## 17. With regard to PATIENT transport...

	Yes	No	Don't know	NA
Are low emission vehicles predominantly used?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are treatment times coordinated with patient transport for efficient journey planning?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is information about public transport actively provided to patients?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are walking & cycling encouraged where appropriate?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Does the renal unit run any 'virtual clinics' whereby patients are contacted by telephone rather than attending clinic?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please enter any further comments regarding patient travel here. Please give details of any virtual clinics.

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The following questions relate to PROCUREMENT (how Drugs, Equipment & Supplies are obtained).

## 18. With regard to clinical supplies...

	Yes	No	Don't know	NA
Are dialysis fluids supplied in bulk (as opposed to in individual cartridges)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are dialysis concentrates purchased in the highest available concentration (usually 1:44, high concentrations limit the volumes that need to be transported)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the single-use dialysis equipment and packaging recycled?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

19. If you answered 'Yes' to the last section of the previous question, what percentage (by weight) of the single use dialysis equipment and packaging is recycled?

0 - 20%    
  20 - 40%    
  40 - 60%    
  60 - 80%    
  80 - 100%    
  Don't know

20. Are sustainability criteria included in the contract between your unit and the suppliers of the following products?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Not appropriate
Peritoneal Dialysis products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Haemodialysis products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Office supplies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you answered 'yes' to any section, please provide any further details. For example, do the criteria relate to the supplying company, the product or both? Does the contract demand measurable sustainability criteria?

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21. We wish to know the range of dialysis concentrates your units routinely stocks.

Please tell us which of the following dialysate concentrates your unit purchases.

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresenius A335 | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7822 | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7905                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresenius A331 | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7823 | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7906                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresenius A231 | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7824 | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7909                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresenius A78  | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7825 | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7911                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresenius A325 | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7828 | <input type="checkbox"/> BBraun Acidic bicarbonate concentrate 1 + 34 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresenius A322 | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7829 | <input type="checkbox"/> BBraun Acidic bicarbonate concentrate 1 + 44 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresenius A232 | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7856 | <input type="checkbox"/> BBraun Renosol Set                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresenius A77  | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7857 | <input type="checkbox"/> BBraun Alkaline bicarbonate concentrate 8.4% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresenius A353 | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7901 | <input type="checkbox"/> BBraun Sol-Cart B                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7818  | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7902 | <input type="checkbox"/> BBraun Sodium hydrogen carbonate powder      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7820  | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7903 | <input type="checkbox"/> Others (please specify below)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7821  | <input type="checkbox"/> Baxter 5M7904 |   |

Please add any comments or specify any further concentrates your unit purchases.

22. Please enter any further comments regarding clinical supplies here.

23. Thinking about the printers and paper-use within your renal unit...

	Yes	No	Don't know	NA
Are the printers mostly set to draft-quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the printers mostly set to double-sided?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is recycled paper purchased for the printers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are letters to GP's regarding patient episodes sent out by email (in place of paper copies)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are paper recycling bins present in the offices and secretarial areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please add any further comments relating to paper use here.

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## 24. With regard to food for renal inpatients and dialysis patients...

	Yes	No	Don't know	NA
Are patients allowed to pre-order their meals (to minimise food waste)?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Is the catering department routinely informed by the ward when a patient is discharged home?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Does your trust have a policy to source locally produced foods where possible? (to minimise 'food miles')	jn	jn	jn	jn

## 25. This question relates to the RECYCLING OF FOOD PACKAGING.

Please liaise with the catering department supplying your unit, who should be able to advise you of the percentage of the following components of packaging that it recycles.

	0-25% recycled	26-50% recycled	51-75% recycled	76-100% recycled	Don't know
Plastic packaging	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Aluminium tins	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Paper packaging	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Glass	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

Please enter any further comments relating to catering and environmental issues in your renal unit.

## 26. With regard to limiting unnecessary laundry...

	Yes	No	Don't know	NA
Are patients encouraged to bring their own blankets to dialysis?	jn	jn	jn	jn

Please add any further comments regarding sustainability issues and laundry here.

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The following questions relate to ENERGY provision and purchase in your unit.

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27. We are interested to see whether renal units (or Trusts) are choosing energy suppliers with stronger green credentials.

Your Estates dept should be able to tell you which of these energy companies currently provides energy to your unit?

- Scottish Power
- Centrica (includes British Gas)
- Ecotricity
- Scottish and Southern (includes Southern Electric)
- Npower
- E.On
- Good Energy
- EDF Energy
- First:utility
- Green Energy UK
- Green Energy
- OVO Energy
- Other
- Don't know

Please enter any comments about your unit's choice of energy provider here.

28. Does your unit (or hospital) use solar panels or wind turbines to generate any energy?

	Yes	No	Don't know
Solar panels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wind turbines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please give any further details.

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These questions relate to the management of WASTE in your unit.

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### 29. With regard to re-use and recycling...

	Yes	No	Don't know	NA
Do the clinical areas have recycling bins for non-clinical waste (eg for recycling packaging of sterile products)?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Do the clinical areas have recycling bins for plastics?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Do the suppliers of peritoneal dialysis products take back pallets and cardboard boxes on delivery?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Do the suppliers of haemodialysis products take back pallets and cardboard boxes on delivery?	jn	jn	jn	jn
If you answered 'no' to one or both of the two previous questions, does your unit ensure that the pallets and packaging from the dialysis supplies are recycled?	jn	jn	jn	jn

Please add any further comments regarding re-use & recycling here.

### 30. How would describe the efforts made to prevent domestic (ie non-clinical) waste entering the clinical waste stream (in order to reduce unnecessary incineration)?

Poor - domestic waste frequently ends up in clinical waste bags & sharps bins

Moderate - domestic waste sometimes ends up in clinical waste bags & sharps bins

Good - domestic waste very rarely ends up in clinical waste bags & sharps bins

Please add any further comments here.

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These questions relate to WATER use in your renal unit.

### 31. Regarding water saving ventures...

	Yes	No	Plans in progress	Don't know	Not appropriate
Is reject water from dialysate generation reclaimed by reverse osmosis and used in other areas (eg toilets, laundry)?	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Renal units often have large roofs. Is any rain water salvaged at your unit?	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

Please add any further comments relating to water use in your unit here.

### 32. Are water-saving taps installed in the sinks in the unit?

Yes, in all sinks.

Yes, in most sinks.

Yes, in a few sinks.

No, not at all.

Don't know.

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These questions relate to the BUILDINGS in your unit.

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33. With regard to the buildings in your unit...

	Yes	No	Don't know	NA
Has the impact of travel upon staff and patients influenced where to build newer facilities?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Have opportunities for natural (passive) heating, cooling, lighting and ventilation been incorporated into the newer buildings?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Are 'green spaces' and 'green views' provided for patients?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Are 'green spaces' and 'green views' provided for staff?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Is it mandatory that new buildings achieve the BREEAM "Outstanding" rating?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Is it mandatory that refurbishments achieve BREEAM "Excellent" or "Outstanding" ratings?	jn	jn	jn	jn

Please add any further comments relating to the buildings in your unit here.

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The next questions relate to the contingency plans to allow your unit to cope with adverse weather conditions.

34. An increase in heat waves is expected as a result of Climate Change.

With regard to provision for heat waves...

	Yes	No	Don't Know	NA
Has the unit incorporated the National Heat Wave Plan into its policies?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Is information provided to patients on how to look after themselves during a heat wave (kidney patients are at higher risk than most)?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Are temperatures in the clinical areas maintained below 26 degrees C during hot weather?	jn	jn	jn	jn

Any further comments?

35. Flooding, storms and other extreme weather events are expected to increase as a result of Climate Change.

Does your unit have defined emergency strategies to provide....

	Yes	No	Don't know	NA
Coverage of interruptions to the power supply?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Coverage of interruptions to the water supply?	jn	jn	jn	jn
Alternative arrangements for transport problems arising due to weather conditions (eg for haemodialysis patients)?	jn	jn	jn	jn

Any further comments?

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36. The following questions explore the degree of importance attached to environmental issues in your unit (and/or trust).

	Yes	No	Don't know	NA
Does your unit (or trust) have a published policy on carbon reduction and/or sustainability, or an environmental management system eg ISO14001?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Does your unit have a green action plan in place?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is sustainability a regular item in your unit's management meetings?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Any further comments?

37. Has your unit undertaken a sustainability audit (typically incorporating an assessment of energy, transport & waste) or similar analysis?

- Yes
- No
- In progress
- Don't know

Please enter any further comments about Energy Audits in your unit.

38. The following questions explore the extent to which staff in your unit are made aware of environmental issues.

	Yes	No	In progress	Don't know	NA
Are environmental issues included in your staff induction programmes?	<input type="radio"/>				
Is any training or education provided to staff on environmental issues related to their daily work?	<input type="radio"/>				
Is there a system in place to allow staff to contribute suggestions for carbon reduction within the unit?	<input type="radio"/>				

Any further comments?

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Finally, we would like your own personal views on a couple of issues...

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39. How important do you think it is that the carbon footprint of the national renal services is reduced?

It is not important at all.

It is quite important, but other improvements in the service should take priority.

It is very important and must be a high priority.

Any further comments?

40. Please rank the following reasons for carbon reduction in order of importance...

	1 - Vitally important	2 - Important	3 - Reasonably important	4 - Of some importance	5 - Of less importance	6 - Of least importance
To prepare for carbon restrictions imposed by the government (eg through the Climate Change Act 2008)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To reduce the vulnerability of kidney patients to rising energy costs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To comply with the NHS Carbon Reduction Strategy of January 2009	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To improve the quality of care by streamlining renal services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To improve efficiency and save the NHS money	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To set a good example to patients, colleagues and the public on environmental issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

41. Do you have anything further that you wish to mention on any aspect of sustainability in kidney care?