



## **Risk Acknowledgement for Guests Requiring Dialysis during the Cruise**

Carnival Cruise Line is committed to providing guests with a safe and enjoyable cruise experience. There are significant risks associated with undergoing dialysis during a cruise. Guests should be aware that our ships do not have kidney specialists or dialysis equipment and supplies available on board and our medical staff are not trained to perform dialysis.

*We highly recommend that guests have been stable on their home dialysis treatments for a period of at least 12 months prior to sailing.*

### **Considerations prior to cruising**

Guests requiring peritoneal or hemodialysis, travel on our ships at their own risk. Guests traveling while on dialysis should consult with their nephrologist and provide them a copy of this letter prior to making any travel arrangements.

- The ship does not carry a nephrologist onboard and timely availability of this specialty may be severely limited during the port visits. Any necessary medical care required by a specialist nephrologist will not be available while the ship is at sea.
- Ships do not have back-up battery support for dialysis related equipment. In the event of a power outage on board, dialysis equipment requiring electricity may not be functional.

The risks to the guest who misses a scheduled dialysis treatment are very serious. The guest assumes additional risks when a ship is unable to make a scheduled port of call for operational reasons.

Among the many recognized risks dialysis patients may experience include pericarditis, cardiac tamponade, congestive heart failure, anemia, hemorrhage and death. Risks associated with peritoneal dialysis include infection, obstruction of the catheter, hemoperitoneum and metabolic complications. Recognized risks associated with hemodialysis include low blood pressure, bleeding, infection, clotting of the vascular access, and seizures.

Guests should be aware that charges apply for treatment in the ship's medical center, which must be paid before disembarkation. An itemized bill will be provided which can be submitted to the guest's travel or health insurance. Typically, standard trip travel interruption insurance does not cover medical costs.

We strongly suggest that guests contact their own health insurance to determine their benefits for medical providers outside of the United States, as well as available air-ambulance and repatriation benefits. Travelers are advised to purchase travel health insurance with defined out-of-country treatment and repatriation benefits, even if this coverage might be redundant.

### **Arrangements**

Guests are expected to make all arrangements regarding dialysis, whether self-administered on board or at a shore side facility, and therefore take full responsibility for their arrangements, equipment and supplies.

For security reasons, the Guest Access Department must be advised of the type of supplies the guest is taking to the ship, the quantities of each, and the name of the medical/vendor supply company the guest will be using to transport supplies, no later than two weeks prior to sailing, in order for the ship's security access systems to be updated. If a guest will be bringing their own supplies, it is important that they be hand-carried. Guests should not pack these supplies with their checked-in luggage.



The electrical outlets on all the ship are compatible with U.S. household standards: 110 volts/60 cycles. If there are specific requirements for machinery (such as water intake), these must be communicated to the Guest Access Department as soon as possible. Medical waste receptacles can be provided for disposal of bio-hazardous waste.

**On board**

Prior to the ship sailing, the guest must verify that all supplies and equipment are on board the ship and any equipment is fully functional in the stateroom. Failure to do so will prevent the guest from sailing. In the case of certain medical complications that cannot be treated onboard, you may be required to be disembarked to a medical facility ashore. The patient will be responsible for all medical expenses both on board and ashore.

If, after considering this information, a guest plans to sail with us while undergoing dialysis, please send a fit to sail clearance letter from your nephrologist and this signed acknowledgement letter by e-mail to [access@carnival.com](mailto:access@carnival.com).

**Failure to submit this form, along with the fit to sail letter from your nephrologist, 5 weeks prior to sailing will result in full cancellation with penalties.**

**I hereby acknowledge that I have read and understood the information provided to me and accept the risks of traveling aboard the ship while undergoing dialysis.**

Signature of Guest	Date of Acknowledgement:
Printed Name of Guest:	Booking Number:
Sail Date:	Ship Name:
Phone Number:	Email:
Home Address:	Fax#:

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