

ROCKINGHAM HOSPITAL, RENAL DIALYSIS UNIT

187. Hon Jim Scott to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health

- (1) Is the Minister concerned that the lack of a renal dialysis unit at Rockingham Hospital is causing great difficulties for dialysis patients in the Rockingham area?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that some Rockingham dialysis patients are forced to spend up to seven hours seeking dialysis treatment in other health centres outside of Rockingham?
- (3) Has an analysis of renal dialysis patient populations and proximity to existing services been carried out?
- (4) If yes, will the Minister please table that survey?
- (5) How many patients requiring dialysis treatment are required before a unit will be set up in a regional health centre or hospital?
- (6) How many renal dialysis patients live in the -
  - (a) Mandurah region;
  - (b) Rockingham region;
  - (c) Fremantle region; and
  - (d) Melville region?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

- (1) The Minister for Health is aware that there have been requests that a satellite renal dialysis unit is established at Rockingham Hospital.
- (2) The Minister for Health is aware that most haemodialysis patients residing in the Rockingham area receive dialysis services at either the Peel or Melville satellite renal units or the in-centre facility at Fremantle Hospital.
- (3) The Department of Health continually monitors the renal dialysis patient population in Western Australia and is currently undertaking a formal review of its Statewide Renal Dialysis Program and preparing a five year service plan for improving renal services in this State. The demand for services in the Rockingham region will be considered as part of this planning process, along with other areas of service requirement in Western Australia.
- (4) The review of the Statewide Renal Dialysis Program will be completed in November 2001 and can be tabled at that time if requested.
- (5) The number of patients requiring haemodialysis services in a region before a satellite dialysis service is set up is dependent on the proportional patient population and proximity to existing services.
- (6) The number of renal dialysis patients living in the Mandurah, Rockingham, Fremantle and Melville regions is as follows:

Mandurah region: Total renal dialysis patients: 23 (18 haemodialysis patients, 5 peritoneal dialysis patients)

Rockingham region: Total renal dialysis patients: 28 (25 haemodialysis patients, 3 peritoneal dialysis patients)

Fremantle region: Total renal dialysis patients: 10 (8 haemodialysis patients, 2 peritoneal dialysis patients)

Melville region: Total renal dialysis patients: 16 (14 haemodialysis patients, 2 peritoneal dialysis patients)

Please note these regions have been described using Local Government Areas as defined by the Western Australian Municipal Association boundaries.