

KALGOORLIE REGIONAL HOSPITAL — DIALYSIS TREATMENT

**521. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the minister representing the Minister for Health:**

- (1) How many people are on home dialysis treatment in the Goldfields?
- (2) How many specialist personnel are based permanently at Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital to respond to patients requiring dialysis treatment or patients with renal issues, and what is their position?
- (3) What is the optimum number of specialists that should be based at Kalgoorlie hospital to service the number of people requiring dialysis treatment in the Goldfields region?

**Hon HELEN MORTON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. The following information has been advised to me by the Minister for Health —

- (1) In total, there are 15 patients, including 13 peritoneal dialysis patients and two home haemodialysis patients.
- (2) There is one full-time equivalent general physician and nephrologist at Kalgoorlie hospital, one full-time equivalent clinical nurse manager for Goldfields regional renal services, and one full-time equivalent renal nurse educator for Goldfields regional renal services.
- (3) The Western Australian renal diseases health network adopted a benchmark in its chronic kidney disease model of care 2007 of 100 clients per FTE. WA Country Health Service's renal dialysis plan 2010 applied this benchmark to all regions in WACHS for current and future dialysis needs. To address the current needs of approximately 49 clients on dialysis, and using the benchmark of one FTE per 100 clients, the Goldfields requires 0.5 renal specialists. The region currently meets the benchmark, as it has one resident physician with renal expertise.