



The Honourable Tim Nicholls MP  
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services

1 William Street Brisbane Qld 4000  
GPO Box 48 Brisbane  
Queensland 4001 Australia  
Telephone +61 7 3035 6100

Mr Neil Laurie  
Clerk of the Parliament  
Queensland Parliament  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

C-ECTF-26/4021

Email: [TableOffice@Parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:TableOffice@Parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Laurie *Neil,*

I write in response to petition number 4388-26, tabled in Parliament on 3 March 2026, in relation to a dialysis machine at Stanthorpe Hospital.

Firstly, I acknowledge the immense toll that undertaking dialysis has on patients and their families, particularly when regular and significant travel is involved.

I am advised that patients in Stanthorpe who require dialysis are first assessed by the specialist renal team at Toowoomba Hospital. This team provides specialised evaluation and determines the safest and most appropriate location for each patient to receive their dialysis treatment. Once a patient is clinically stable, their care may be transferred to Warwick Hospital to continue their dialysis. Patients who remain clinically unsuitable for their care to be transferred to Warwick will continue to receive care at Toowoomba Hospital.

The Crisafulli Government recognises the benefits of accessing care closer to home. I have asked that the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service (DDHHS) continue to monitor community health needs and consider the establishment of a dialysis service in Stanthorpe in the future, as part of regular and ongoing health services planning undertaken by the DDHHS.

Dialysis is a highly specialised service and many factors need to be considered as part of any new or expanded service including which patient cohorts can be treated safely in the model of care, the service capability level of the hospital, infrastructure limitations and the ability to establish a suitably trained and sustainable staffing model to provide a safe and reliable service for our patients.

Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme (PTSS) may also be available to patients to assist with travel costs. The PTSS provides financial assistance to eligible patients who are required to travel for specialist health services not available locally (within 50 kilometres of the patient's closest public hospital or public health facility). The PTSS assists with travel and accommodation costs but is not intended to cover all costs associated with accessing specialist health services.

Thank you for raising this important matter. I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

**Tim Nicholls MP**  
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services  
Member for Clayfield