

## **Home Haemodialysis in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

“At the birth of chronic dialysis in the 1960s, home haemodialysis was the main treatment modality. It is more cost-effective than hospital haemodialysis, improves patient outcomes and empowers patients. Despite these advantages, its use has declined substantially over the last three decades. Guideline recommendations, the appreciation of substantial variation in use between countries, and the development of newer approaches such as short daily dialysis and nocturnal dialysis have all reignited enthusiasm for home haemodialysis in the last few years.

But enthusiasm has yet to translate into significant expansion of home haemodialysis in the UK. Barriers to expansion of haemodialysis include patient-related factors, staff-related factors and technological barriers.

The 21<sup>st</sup> century should see an expansion of home haemodialysis, but transforming home haemodialysis from a niche therapy, back to being a routine therapy will require organisational change and improvements in technology, but most importantly a change in attitudes.”