



Dear Reader

The development and implementation of a National Consensus document on Guidelines for renal service delivery to remote areas has been determined as a critical need particularly for Aboriginal Australians and Torres Strait Islanders who make up the largest population in these areas.

The aim of the Guidelines is to promote comprehensive and holistic care of people requiring renal services residing in remote Australia, which will ultimately improve their health and wellbeing. A national approach to this issue will provide practical and achievable strategies that support evidenced-based approaches to service delivery and identify gaps between what is best practice and what is currently provided. An important aspect of these Guidelines is how they fit into and are supported by other local and national documents.

Improving access to services and providing better support to the primary health care area to improve chronic and end stage disease management are seen and should be seen as important aspects of a renal service. Many States and Territories including national bodies have developed or are developing strategies that incorporate the principles that support this approach.

The Guidelines are an opportunity to build and standardise renal service provision and availability across Australia. The Guidelines were developed through a process of broad consultation with a wide and varied group including service providers, renal clinicians, consumers and the Aboriginal community controlled health sector and as such are endorsed and supported by Kidney Health Australia (KHA).

Kidney Health Australia is a non-profit organisation promoting kidney and urinary tract health through research, advocacy, education and health services excellence. KHA sees a role for the organisation in supporting and disseminating the National Service Guidelines for the Management of Dialysis and Kidney Transplantation in Remote Australia and has agreed to host the Guidelines on the KHA Web site.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Wilson'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anne Wilson,  
**Chief Executive Officer**