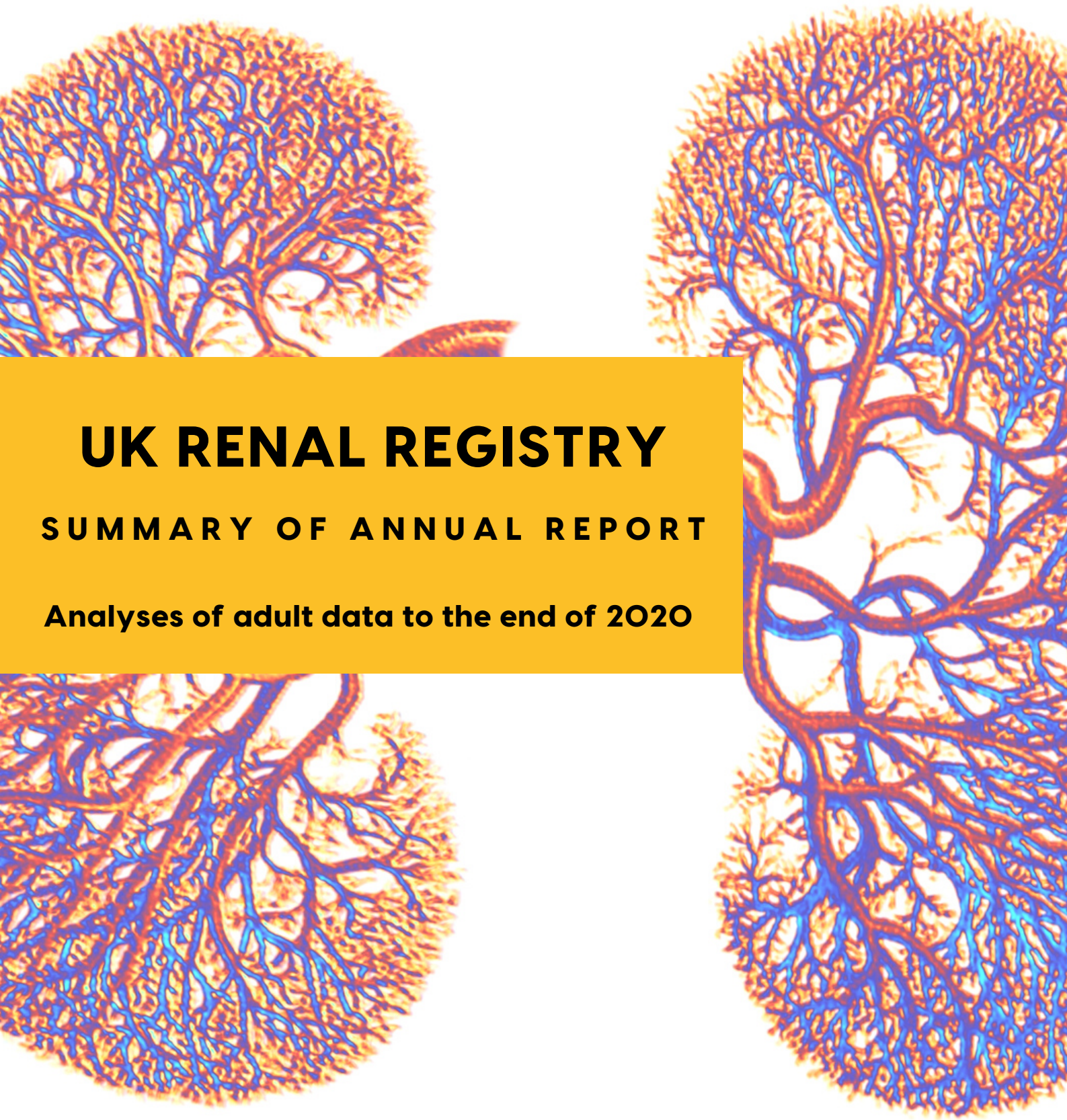


UK RENAL REGISTRY

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL REPORT

Analyses of adult data to the end of 2020

UKKA

UK Kidney Association
UK Renal Registry

INTRODUCTION

Sue Lyon
Chair
UKKA Patient Council

This latest Summary of the UK Renal Registry Annual Report* analyses data to the end of 2020—the first year of the pandemic. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on kidney services has been significant, affecting the physical and mental health, wellbeing and livelihoods of people living with kidney disease.

Data collected by the Registry showed that kidney patients, especially people with a transplant or on dialysis, are extremely vulnerable to COVID-19. Government-recommended shielding was impossible for the many patients undergoing life-sustaining dialysis in a kidney treatment centre or needing frequent blood tests due to recent transplantation or imminent kidney failure. Kidney units had to make rapid changes in service delivery in order to reduce the risk of infection, manage COVID-19 outbreaks and keep patients as safe as possible.

Kidney transplantation was put on hold or was significantly limited, the number of transplants falling by about one third in 2020. The proportion of people starting kidney replacement treatment (KRT) with a transplant also fell by one third, from 8.3% to 5.9%.

Fewer people started KRT in 2020, probably because of delays during shielding and, tragically, the deaths of patients with advanced CKD who contracted COVID before starting dialysis. For people who did start KRT, the proportion choosing home peritoneal dialysis (PD) as their initial treatment increased from 20.1% to 22.1%, bolstering their ability to shield and reversing the trend for PD use to decrease.

Data collected by the UK Renal Registry have helped to better understand the spread of the virus and its impact on kidney patients. In turn, the data have supported guidance issued by the UK Kidney Association and other members of the Kidney Charities Together group** and have driven policy to protect kidney patients, including early access to vaccination against COVID-19. On behalf of the Patient Council, our thanks to everyone at the UK Renal Registry.

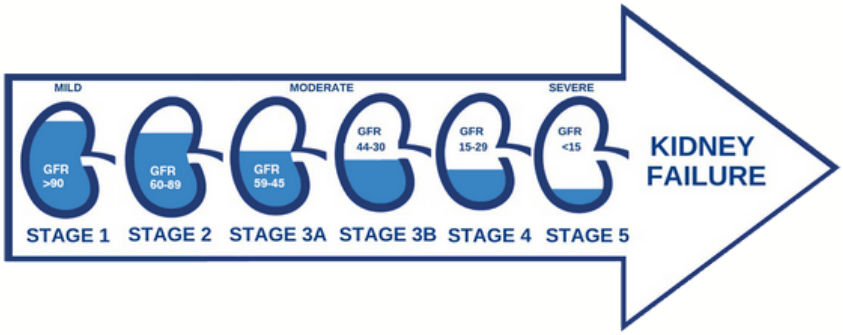
For more information about the Annual Report and the UK Renal Registry, visit **www.ukkidney.org

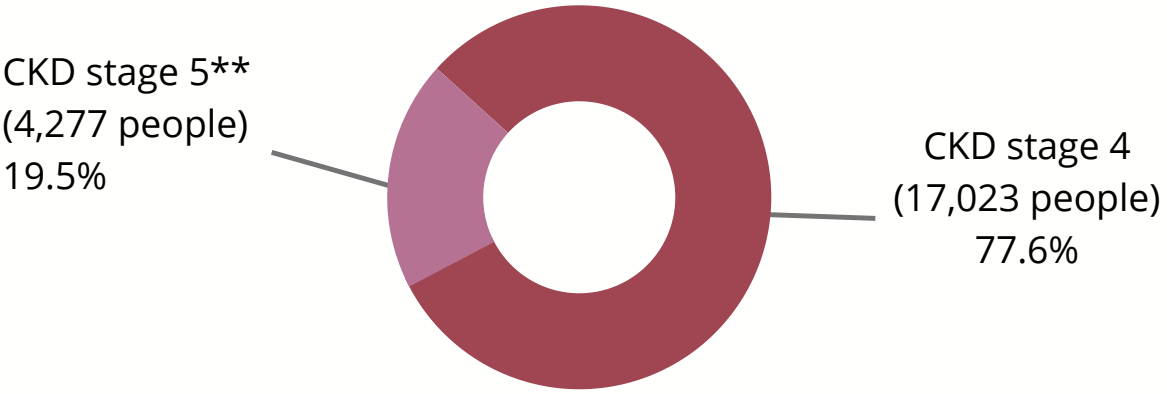
**Kidney Care UK, Kidney Research UK, National Kidney Federation, PKD Charity, UK Kidney Association

ADVANCED CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE (e-GFR*< 30 mL/min/1.73m^2) NOT ON KIDNEY REPLACEMENT TREATMENT

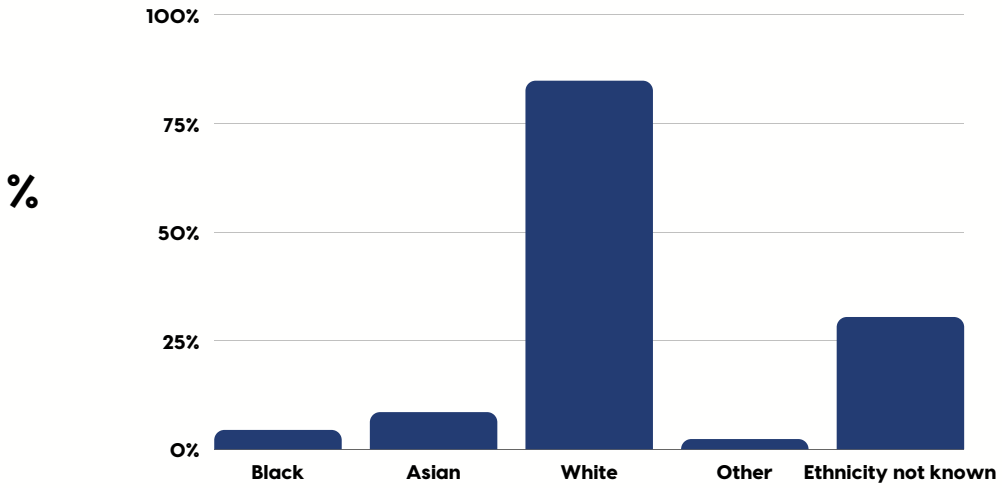
By the end of 2020, 19 out of 68 kidney centres told us about 21,937 adults with advanced chronic kidney disease (CKD) who did not have a transplant or dialysis therapy.

These people represent only a small proportion of all those who are receiving care from a GP or specialist for advanced CKD.





Characteristics of people with advanced chronic kidney disease not on kidney replacement treatment reported to the UKRR in 2020



5.5/10 MALE

78 YEARS average age

*eGFR is a blood test that measures kidney function. In young healthy adults this typically exceeds 90 mL/min/1.73m^2, but it does tend to decline with age.

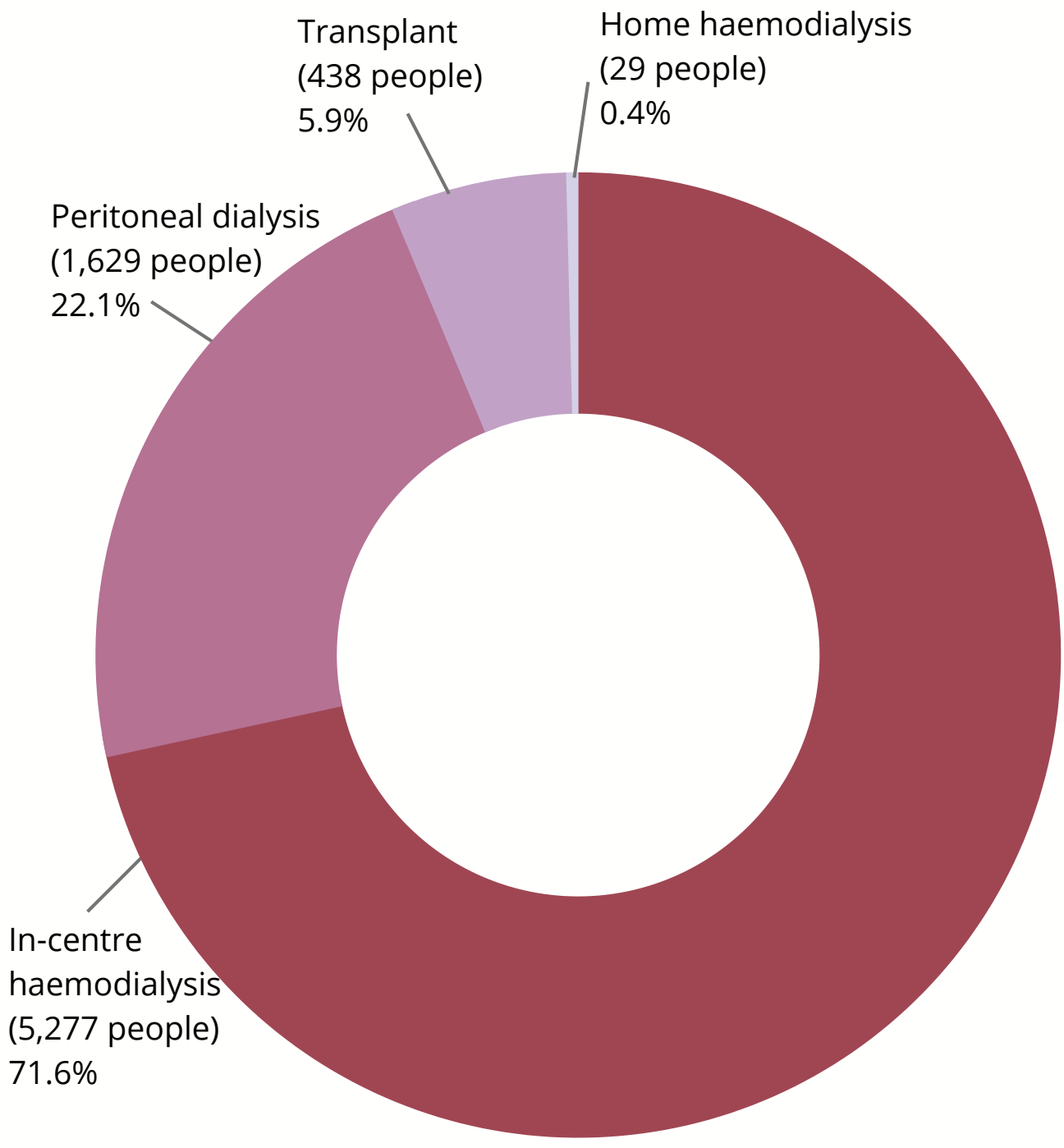
**People with stage 5 CKD includes those who have opted not to start dialysis when their kidneys fail, but instead have kidney care focused on symptom control and quality of life, also known as conservative care.

STARTING KIDNEY REPLACEMENT TREATMENT

Just under **7,500 adults** started kidney replacement treatment in 2020.

Their average eGFR* was 7.2 mL/min/1.73m^2

Most people started on **in-centre haemodialysis**.

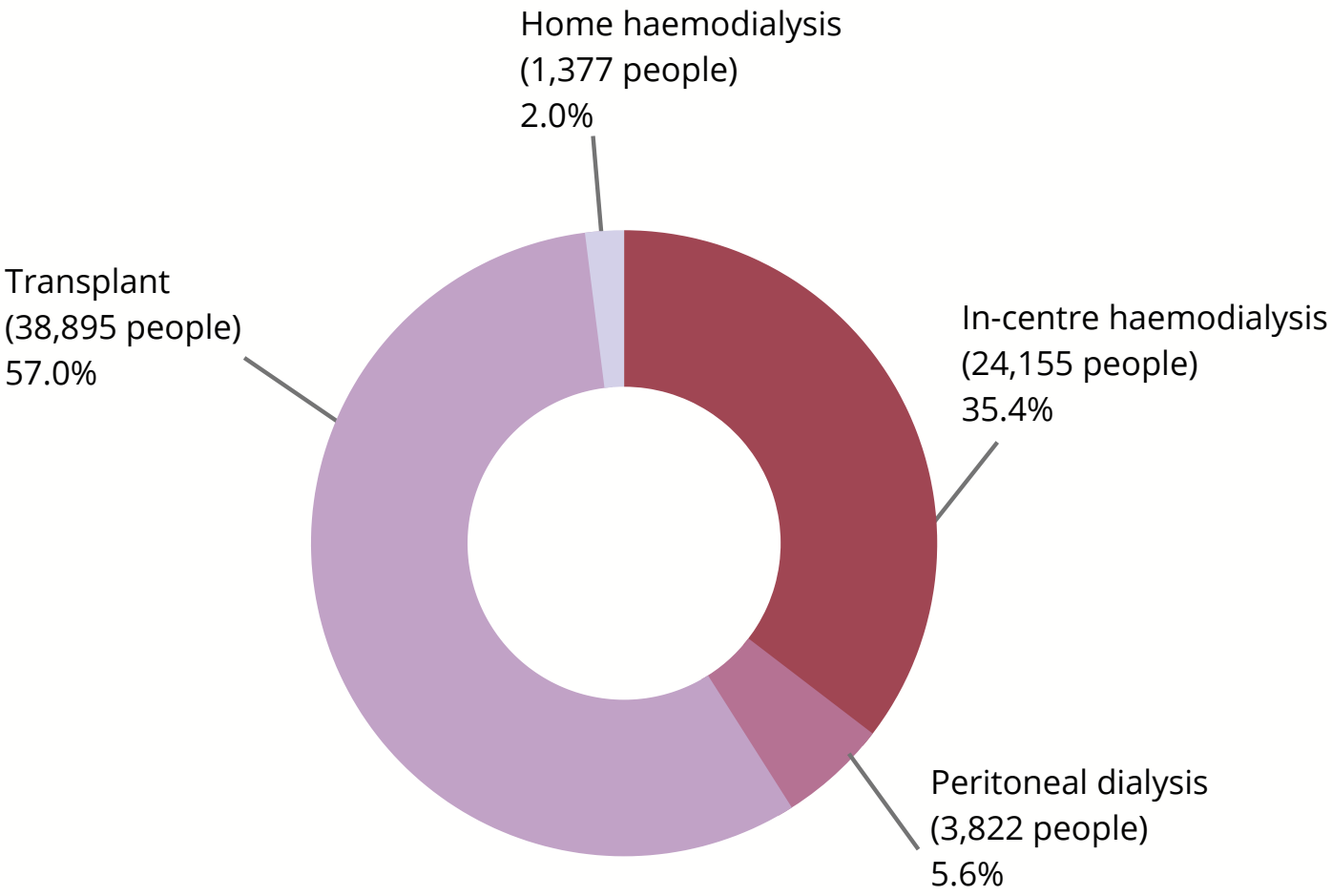


*eGFR is a blood test that measures kidney function. In young healthy adults this typically exceeds 90 mL/min/1.73m^2 but it does tend to decline with age.

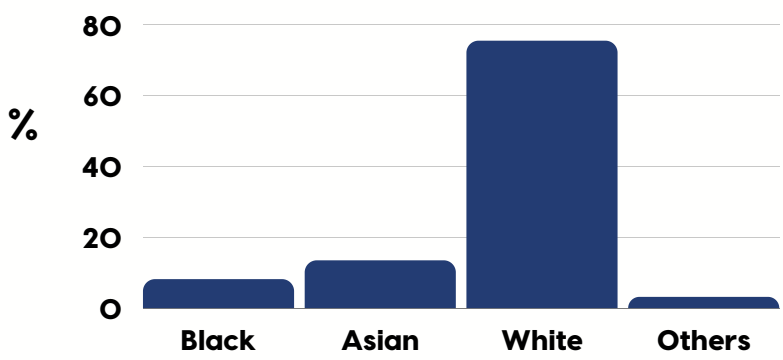
ALREADY ON KIDNEY REPLACEMENT TREATMENT

Just above 68,000 adults were on kidney replacement treatment in 2020. This includes people with kidney transplants and those on dialysis.

Most people had a **transplant**.



Characteristics of all people with a kidney transplant or receiving dialysis treatment in 2020



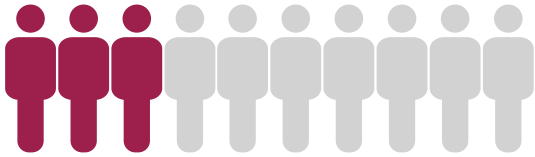
6/10 MALE

60 YEARS average age

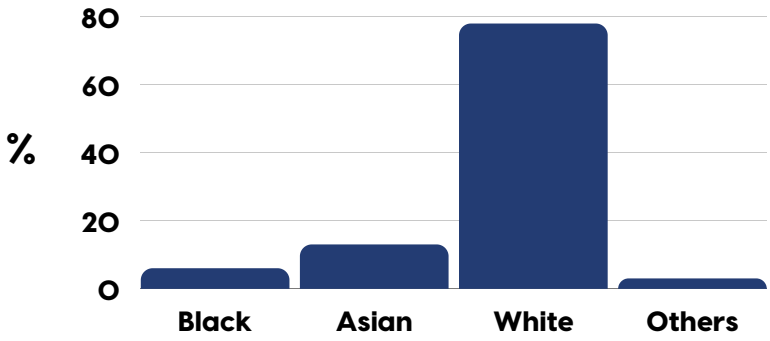
PEOPLE WITH A TRANSPLANT

Almost **39,000 adults** had a working **transplant** at the end of 2020 - around **6 in 10** of all those on **kidney replacement treatments.**

In 2020 the number of adults who started kidney replacement treatment with a transplant varied between 0 in 10 at some centres to 3 in 10 at others.

from to 

Characteristics of all people with a transplant in 2020



6/10 MALE

56 YEARS average age

Around half of all people with a kidney transplant were not at the blood pressure target*.

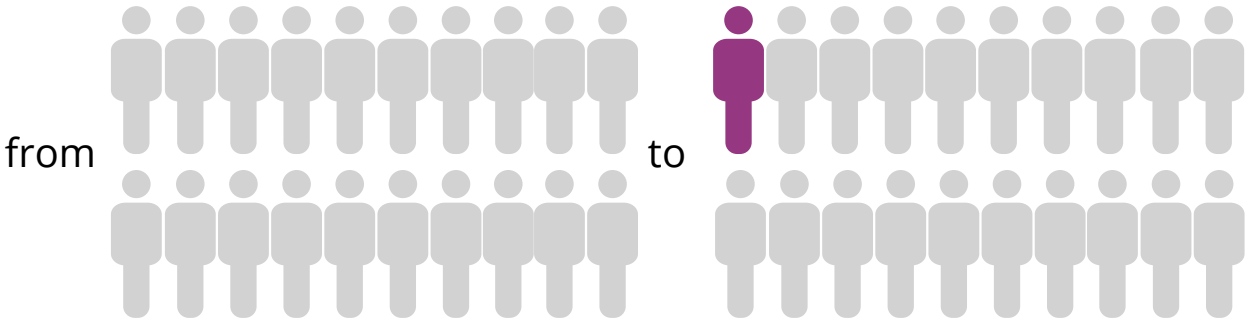
The average **eGFR** for a person with a transplant 1 year after transplant was **53 mL/min****.

*Blood pressure target for transplant patients is below 140/90.
**eGFR is a blood test that measures kidney function. In young healthy adults this typically exceeds 90 mL/min/1.73m^2, but it does tend to decline with age.

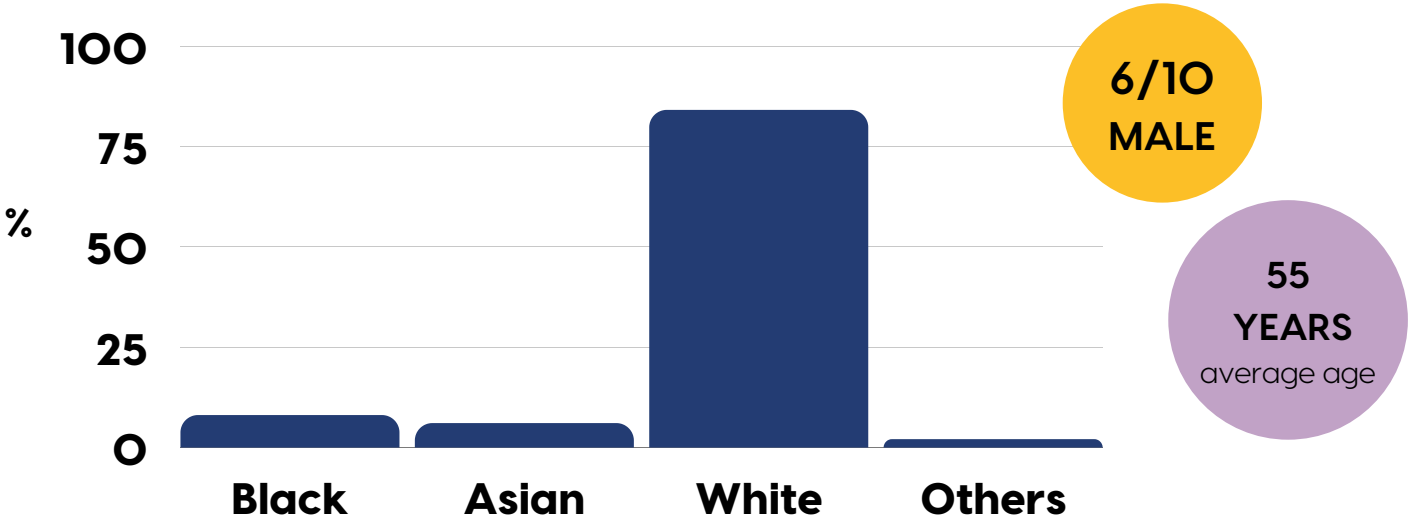
PEOPLE ON HOME HAEMODIALYSIS

Around **1,400 adults** were on **home haemodialysis** at the end of 2020 - around **1 in 50** of all those on **kidney replacement treatments**.

In 2020 the number of adults who started kidney replacement treatment on home haemodialysis varied between 0 in 20 at some centres to 1 in 20 at others.



Characteristics of all people on home haemodialysis in 2020

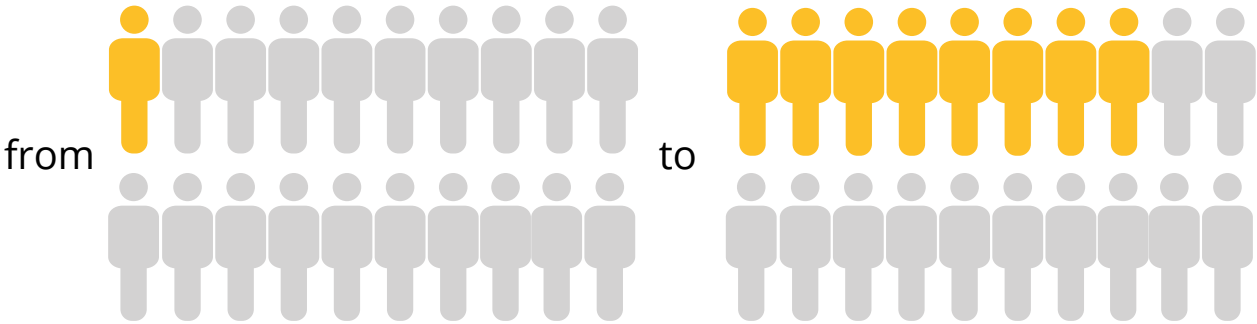


PEOPLE ON PERITONEAL DIALYSIS

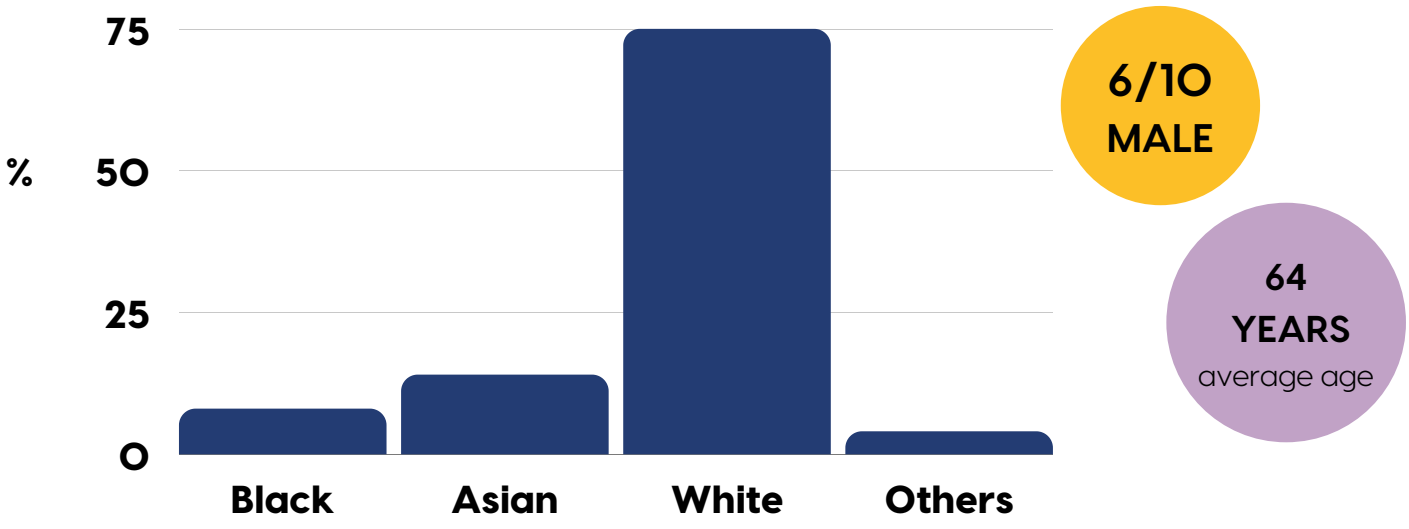
Peritoneal dialysis is one of the ways a person can manage their treatment at home.

Around **3,800 adults** were on **peritoneal dialysis** at the end of 2020 - around **1 in 20** of all those on **kidney replacement treatments**.

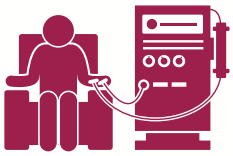
In 2020 the number of adults who started kidney replacement treatment on peritoneal dialysis varied between 1 in 20 at some centres to 8 in 20 at others.



Characteristics of all people on peritoneal dialysis in 2020



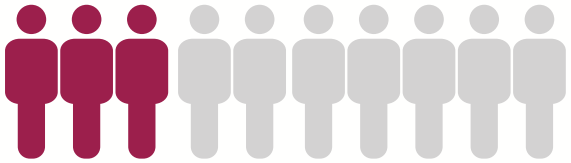
PEOPLE ON IN-CENTRE HAEMODIALYSIS



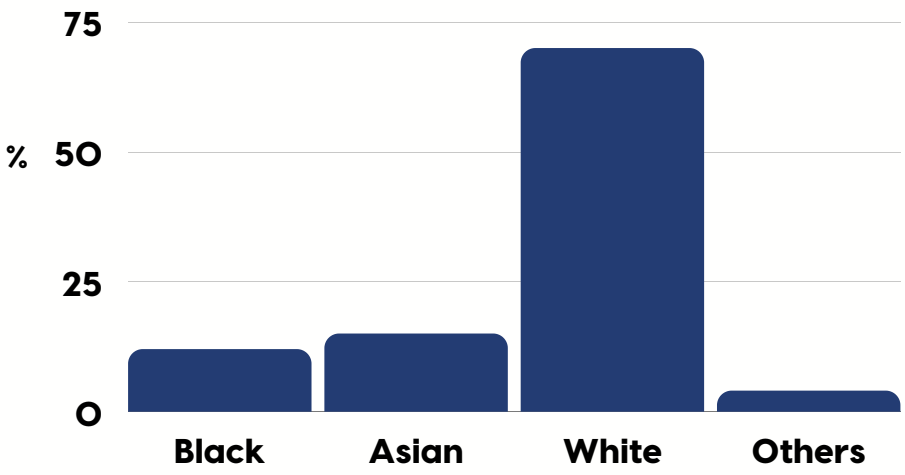
Most people receiving haemodialysis are treated in a kidney centre or a satellite dialysis unit.

Around **24,000 adults** were on **in-centre haemodialysis** at the end of 2020 - around **4 in 10** of all those on **kidney replacement treatments**.

In 2020 the number of adults who started kidney replacement treatment on in-centre haemodialyisis varied between 3 in 10 at some centres to all at others.

from  to 

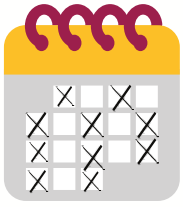
Characteristics of all people on in-centre haemodialysis in 2020



6/10 MALE

66.5 YEARS average age

2/3 of people dialysed for 4-5 hours per session.



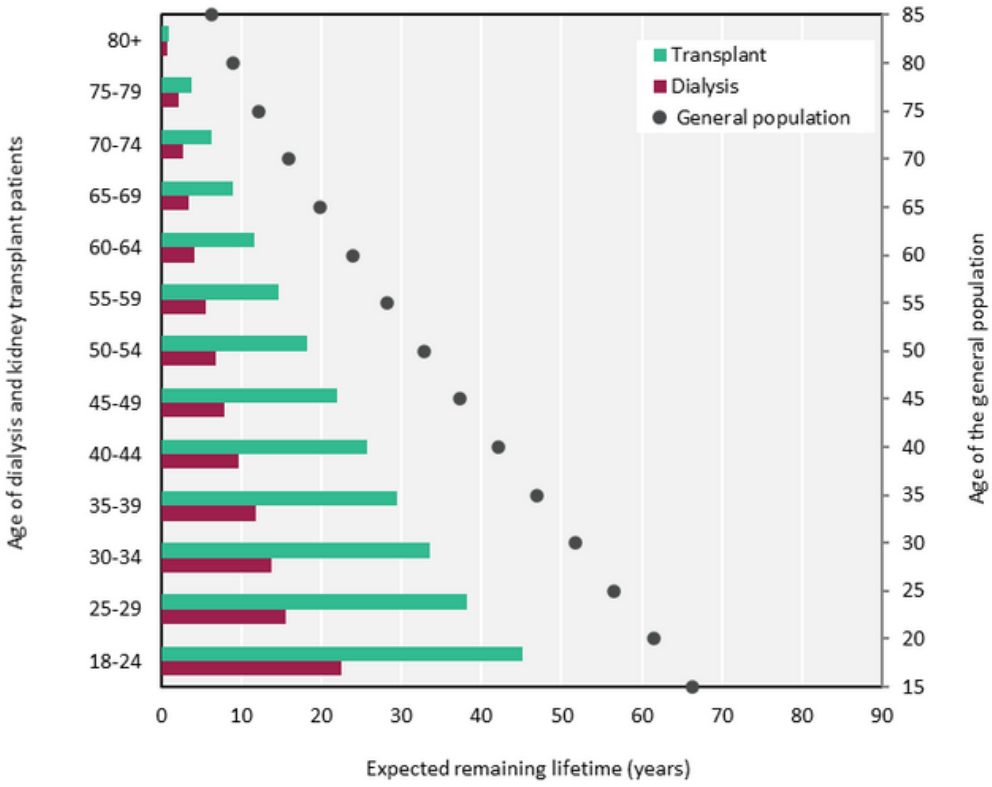
The vast majority of people dialysed 3 times per week.

LIFE EXPECTANCY FOR PEOPLE ON KIDNEY REPLACEMENT TREATMENT

Life expectancy* of people on kidney replacement treatment depends on a number of factors, for example a person's age and other health problems.

Older adults over the age of 70 years, who are on **dialysis,** have an average **life expectancy** which is about **half** of that of people with a **kidney transplant**, and about **3 times less** than people of the same age in the **general population.** This difference in average life expectancy increases as age decreases.

Across all age groups under 80 years, patients with a working transplant have a higher remaining life span than those on dialysis. This difference is particularly noticeable in younger people under 50 years of age.



During 2020 and the first year of the pandemic, average life expectancy* was not significantly different for dialysis patients except patients under 30 for which it was 3-4 months shorter.

Transplant patients were more affected with 4-6 months shorter life expectancy for those aged 40-55 and around 12 months shorter for those under 40.

*Life expectancy is defined as the average number of years remaining for an individual or a group of people at a given age. However, as life expectancy is calculated based on averages, a person may live for many years more or less than expected. For example, life expectancy may also be affected by other illnesses as well as kidney disease.

This analysis is based on data collected in 2020. It has been produced for this summary and it is not reported in the UKRR Annual Report.

UK Kidney Association
UK Renal Registry

For more information about this report, or the UK Renal Registry, please contact:

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www.ukkidney.org

@UKKidney

Kidney Patient Reported Experience Measure (PREM) reports are available from:

ukkidney.org/kidney-patient-reported-experience-measure

ukkidney.org