## Dialysis Unit

**Department Director:**
Dr. Meir Zohar
Certified specialist in Internal Medicine
and Nephrology

**Head Nurse:**
Mrs. Bat-Sheva Oren
RN
Post professional studies in Nephrology

## General

The dialysis unit was founded in 1979, and it includes 21 treatment stations that provide hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis services for the population of the Netanya area. The unit also offers services to tourists visiting Israel from many countries worldwide.

The “news” that a patient must begin dialysis in the near future often leads to fear and denial. In addition, many patients have misconceptions about dialysis stemming from their cultural background, from conversations with non-professionals, and from incomplete knowledge of the subject.

Upon reception of a new patient, we hold a meeting in order to coordinate expectations. At this meeting, after explaining the treatment goals and process, we encourage the patient and the family to ask questions and address areas of fear and difficulty. This meeting gives the patient the feeling that s/he is not alone in dealing with dialysis. The patient receives treatment that is professional, personal, and warm. Physicians are present in the unit and hold visits throughout the unit’s hours of operation, so that the patients receive a physician’s attention during each visit.

During hemodialysis, the unit organizes activities for the patients, including art therapy, medical clowns, and musical performances with patient participation.

Patients receive regular counseling from a dietician and social worker. The social services staff organizes events for the patients and their families, such as parties, trips, and support groups.

Candidates for kidney transplants enter the database of the National Transplant Center.

[illegible] peritoneal dialysis (PD) [illegible] patients

[illegible] 13:30

[illegible] 09-8604668

[illegible] location map