

Kidney failure is where they stop working and unable to remove waste and extra water from the blood or keep body chemicals in balance. The kidney is what manages the removal of waste products from the blood. We as humans, can live with just one kidney, but it can be fatal if both fail. As for treatment, kidney failure can be treated by:

- Organ transplant, this is where an organ is replaced with a healthier version from another body
- Dialysis, this is where somebody with kidney failure is attached to a dialysis machine that act as the role as an artificial kidney. It removes most of the urea and maintains the water and ion balance of the blood.

Dialysis does have disadvantages:

- very expensive
- risk of infection
- risk of blood clotting
- time consuming

But they also have advantages:

- maintenance of health
- no risk of rejection
- no risk of surgery

Transplants also have disadvantages:

- risk of rejection
- shortage of organ donors
- must take immunosuppressants so more chance of illness

But the advantages are:

- patients can live relatively normal lives
- overall, less expensive for the NHS
- lower risk of blood clots and infection compared to dialysis