

How to manage your kidney disease for veterans



The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) cares for around **600,000 veterans with kidney disease**. And, more than **40,000 veterans are living with kidney failure**.¹

Here are **5 things you should know** as a veteran with kidney disease:



1

There are 5 stages of kidney disease, with each referring to how much damage there is to your kidneys.



2

Basic urine and blood tests tell your doctor how well your kidneys are working and the stage of your kidney disease.



3

Diabetes is the leading cause of kidney disease – 1 in 3 adults with diabetes may have kidney disease.²



4

The VA offers enrolled veterans kidney services that can help prevent, slow down and treat kidney failure, including:



- ★ Screening to prevent kidney failure
- ★ Early management of kidney disease
- ★ Kidney biopsy to assess for kidney disorders
- ★ Management of blood pressure, anemia, bone disorders and kidney stones
- ★ In-center or home dialysis
- ★ Kidney transplants

5

Your VA or other care team can support you in treating your kidney disease. The VA employs more than 200 nephrologists, provides dialysis in over 150 VA medical centers and pays for veterans to receive dialysis from more than 6,600 VA-contracted community providers.



Learn more about managing kidney disease at [KidneyFund.org/get-assistance/veterans-and-kidney-disease](https://www.kidneyfund.org/get-assistance/veterans-and-kidney-disease)

1. news.va.gov/119226/support-for-veterans-with-kidney-disease/

2. [cdc.gov/diabetes/diabetes-complications/diabetes-and-chronic-kidney-disease.html](https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/diabetes-complications/diabetes-and-chronic-kidney-disease.html)