

Cruising on Dialysis *Checklist*

Facts checked on each cruise line's official website, 28 September 2026.

A starting point, not medical advice. Your cruise line and your nephrologist have the final word — always confirm with them before you book.

What each line publishes

LINE	PERITONEAL (PD)	HOME HEMODIALYSIS YOU RUN YOURSELF	HEMODIALYSIS BY A MEDICAL TEAM
Royal Caribbean	Welcome; bring or ship supplies	Welcome "under certain requirements"	Dialysis at Sea, select sailings: 1-800-544-7604
Celebrity	Welcome on all ships	Permitted "under certain requirements"	Dialysis at Sea, select sailings: 1-800-544-7604
Princess	Welcome if stable; yourself or a trained companion	Allowed (e.g. NxStage)	Staff "not equipped or trained to perform any type of dialysis"
Holland America	Welcome if stable; port clearance required for deliveries	Allowed; 12 months' experience, including anyone assisting	No nephrology aboard; no back-up battery
Carnival	Welcome if stable; you bring and self-administer	Allowed (e.g. NxStage), 12 months' experience	Staff "not equipped or trained to perform any type of dialysis"
Virgin Voyages	You may bring your own equipment	Virgin cannot provide equipment — ask their accessibility team	
Norwegian, Cunard, MSC	Reported only — nothing verified on their own sites. Ask at booking.		

Rows above Norwegian were read on each line's own published pages, 28 September 2026.

Contacts and deadlines

Royal Caribbean — Guest Special Needs Form at least **30 days** before sailing. Say whether you're bringing supplies or having them delivered, with the vendor's name and phone. For hemodialysis, call. Access Department: **(866) 592-7225** · special_needs@rccl.com

Celebrity — Access Department: **(954) 628-9708** · special_needs@celebrity.com

Princess — stable on dialysis at least **12 months**; medical clearance and a prescription report for your itinerary; all supplies for the whole voyage; vendor delivery arranged; not recommended on remote itineraries or ocean crossings.

Dialysis at Sea — staffed hemodialysis on select Royal Caribbean and Celebrity sailings, with a nephrologist and two or more dialysis nurses. Spots are limited.

dialysisatsea.com · **+1 813-775-4040** (lines list 1-800-544-7604)

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Ask your kidney doctor

1. Am I stable enough to travel, and for how long have I been stable?
2. Can you write a medical clearance and a report with my prescription for this itinerary?
3. How many sessions or exchanges will I need, and how much extra supply should I pack for delays?
4. What should I do if I miss a treatment or feel unwell at sea?
5. Which ports have dialysis centers if I need one?

Ask your cruise line

1. Which type of dialysis can I do on this ship?
2. How do supplies get delivered, and where are they stored?
3. What forms do you need, and by when?
4. Is this a sailing that Dialysis at Sea serves, if I need staffed hemodialysis?
5. What happens if a port call is canceled?

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Packing and supply checklist

- ☐ Supplies for **the full trip, plus extra days** for delays and itinerary changes
- ☐ Prescriptions, in original labelled packaging
- ☐ Doctor's letter: medical clearance and your prescription for this itinerary
- ☐ Vendor delivery confirmation, in writing, with the vendor's phone number
- ☐ Port clearance confirmation from the cruise line for that delivery
- ☐ Insurance card, policy number and the insurer's 24-hour number
- ☐ Travel insurance covering your condition *and* medical evacuation
- ☐ Recent labs and a current medication list
- ☐ Every item labelled with your name, contact details and stateroom number
- ☐ Cruise line's accessibility form submitted, and the reply saved

Costs and coverage

- Travel Guard says onboard treatment "can cost up to **\$700 per session.**"
- Travel Guard also says "Medicare and Medicaid typically do not cover dialysis treatment on a cruise." Check your own plan.

- Princess strongly recommends extra insurance covering your condition and medical evacuation.
- We are **not licensed insurance agents**, and nothing here is insurance advice.

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