

# KIDNEY CARE QUALITY ALLIANCE

## KCQA HOME DIALYSIS MEASURE SPECIFICATIONS

	MEASURE A: HOME DIALYSIS RATE MEASURE	MEASURE B: HOME DIALYSIS RETENTION MEASURE
<b>Description</b>	Percent of all dialysis patient-months in the measurement year using a home dialysis treatment modality (Peritoneal Dialysis and/or Home Hemodialysis).	Percent of all new <sup>1</sup> home dialysis patients in the measurement year for whom $\geq 3$ consecutive months of home dialysis was achieved.
<b>Measure Type</b>	Intermediate outcome.	Intermediate outcome.
<b>Score Interpretation</b>	A higher score indicates better performance.	A higher score indicates better performance.
<b>Data Source</b>	Electronic medical records.	Electronic medical records.
<b>Level of Analysis</b>	Aggregated to parent dialysis organizations within a Hospital Referral Region (HRR). <sup>2</sup>	Aggregated to parent dialysis organizations within a Hospital Referral Region (HRR). <sup>1</sup>
<b>Numerator</b>	Patient-months from the denominator using a treatment modality of Peritoneal Dialysis and/or Home Hemodialysis as of the final dialysis treatment of the measurement month.	Patients from the denominator with treatment modality Peritoneal Dialysis and/or Home Hemodialysis for $\geq 3$ consecutive months in the measurement year. <sup>3,4</sup>
<b>Denominator</b>	Total number of eligible patient-months among patients assigned to all facilities within an aggregate HRR unit in the measurement year.	Total number of new home dialysis patients assigned to all facilities within an aggregate HRR unit in the measurement year.
<b>Exclusions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Patients receiving dialysis for AKI only at any time in the measurement month.</li> <li>2. Patients enrolled in hospice at any time in the measurement month.</li> <li>3. Patients residing in a nursing home or other LTCF at any time in the measurement month.</li> <li>4. Patients admitted to the facility <math>\leq 30</math> days prior to the first day of the measurement month.<sup>5</sup></li> <li>5. Patients with home dialysis start date <math>\leq 30</math> days prior to the first day of the measurement month.<sup>6</sup></li> <li>6. Patients discharged from the facility secondary to transplant, death, and/or discontinuation of dialysis at any time in the measurement month.</li> </ol>	Patients discharged from the facility $< 3$ consecutive months following home dialysis start secondary to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transplant.</li> <li>2. Death.</li> <li>3. Admission to hospice.</li> <li>4. Admission to nursing home or other LTCF.</li> <li>5. Discontinuation of dialysis.</li> </ol>
<b>Risk Adjustment</b>	None.	None.
<b>Reporting Stratification</b>	Performance scores to be stratified by age, gender, race, ethnicity, and dual-eligibility.	Performance scores to be stratified by age, gender, race, ethnicity, and dual-eligibility.

<sup>1</sup> New patients are defined as those who started a home dialysis modality during the measurement year.

<sup>2</sup> Facilities that are not subsidiaries are not included in an aggregation group.

<sup>3</sup> Time from the preceding year carries over.

<sup>4</sup> Count of consecutive time contribution toward the numerator and denominator will resume uninterrupted for patients with a home dialysis pause of  $\leq 1$  month.

<sup>5</sup> The “new dialysis patient” exclusion allows facilities adequate time to orient and educate new patients on modality options. This is particularly important in facilities where a substantial proportion of patients have not received sufficient pre-dialysis care to allow for adequate preparation for initiation on a home modality. As many such facilities treat small rural or low-income communities, this exclusion is an important safeguard for financially vulnerable facilities treating the most socially and medically disadvantaged patients.

<sup>6</sup> The “new home dialysis patient” exclusion accounts for the requisite home dialysis training period, wherein a certain proportion of patients can be expected to drop out before completion; the rationale is to avoid creating a disincentive for a home dialysis trial by penalizing providers for treatment failures during this time period.