

KIDNEY CARE QUALITY ALLIANCE

KCQA HOME DIALYSIS MEASURE SET SPECIFICATIONS

	MEASURE A: HOME DIALYSIS RATE MEASURE	MEASURE B: HOME DIALYSIS RETENTION MEASURE
Description	Percent of all dialysis patient-months in the measurement year in which the patient was dialyzing via a home dialysis modality.	Percent of all new home dialysis patients in the measurement year for whom ≥ 90 consecutive days of home dialysis was achieved.
Measure Type	Intermediate outcome.	Intermediate outcome.
Scoring	A higher score indicates better performance.	A higher score indicates better performance.
Data Source	Electronic medical records.	Electronic medical records.
Level	Facility, or aggregated to parent dialysis organization within a Hospital Referral Region (HRR). ¹	Facility. ⁴
Numerator	Patient-months from the denominator in which the patient was dialyzing via a home modality (peritoneal dialysis and/or home hemodialysis) as of the final dialysis treatment of the given measurement month.	Patients from the denominator who achieved ≥ 90 consecutive days of home dialysis (peritoneal dialysis and/or home hemodialysis) in the measurement year. ^{5,6}
Denominator	All dialysis patient-months ² (in-center and/or home) attributed to a facility (or aggregate HRR) in the measurement year.	Total number of eligible ⁷ new ⁸ home dialysis patients attributed to a facility in the measurement year.
Exclusions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patient-months in which the patient was admitted to the facility to which they are attributed for < 30 days as of the final day of the measurement month.³ 1. Patient-months in which the patient is receiving dialysis for AKI only at any time in the measurement month. 2. Patient-months in which the patient is enrolled in hospice at any time in the measurement month. 3. Patient-months in which the patient is residing in a nursing home or other LTCF at any time in the measurement month. 4. Patient-months in which the patient was discharged from the facility secondary to transplant, death, discontinuation of dialysis, and/or recovery of function at any time in the measurement month. 	<p>Exclude patients from the denominator who are discharged from the facility < 90 days after meeting the 30-day eligibility criterion⁴ for any of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transplant; 2. Death; 3. Discontinuation of dialysis; 4. Recovery of function; 5. Admission to hospice; and/or 6. Admission to nursing home or other LTCF.
Reporting Stratification	Performance scores stratified by age, gender, race, ethnicity, and dual eligibility.	Performance scores stratified by age, gender, race, ethnicity, and dual eligibility.

1. In recognition of the structure of the dialysis market, if a company owns multiple facilities in a given Hospital Referral Region (HRR), it would report an aggregated score for all facilities located within the HRR owned wholly or in part by the company.
2. A patient-month construct is used in Measure A to account for patients' potentially varying time contributions to both the numerator and denominator.
3. The intent of this exclusion is to allow 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.
4. Unlike the all-patient construct of Measure A, Measure B only captures new home dialysis patients, such that only facilities offering/providing home dialysis in the measurement year are captured in the Measure B denominator. As such, aggregating up to the DO's HRR-level performance to account for facilities that do not offer home dialysis is unnecessary.
5. The numerator consecutive time count is carried forward into the subsequent calendar year for patients who commence home dialysis after October 2 of the measurement year. E.g., To determine if a patient who started home dialysis on November 1, 2021 met the 90-day numerator criterion, it is necessary to look through January 30, 2022.
6. To differentiate home dialysis pauses secondary to respite and hospitalizations from true treatment failures, the count of consecutive time contribution toward the numerator and denominator will resume uninterrupted for patients with a home dialysis pause of ≤ 30 days.
7. To account for the requisite home dialysis training period (up to 4 weeks for home hemodialysis), wherein a certain proportion of patients can be expected to drop out before completion, new home dialysis patients are not eligible for inclusion in the denominator until Day 30 following their first home dialysis treatment, at which time the consecutive time count towards the numerator criterion commences. The rationale for this "eligibility criterion" is to avoid creating a disincentive for a home dialysis trial by penalizing providers for treatment failures during this training period.
8. New patients are defined as those who started a home dialysis modality during the measurement year (between January 1 and December 31, 202X).

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KCQA TRANSPLANT PAIRED MEASURE SET SPECIFICATIONS

	MEASURE A: TRANSPLANT REFERRAL + WAITLISTING RATE	MEASURE B: PERCENT WAITLISTED AMONG REFERRED
Description	Percent of all dialysis patient-months attributed to a dialysis facility during the measurement year in which the patient is EITHER on the kidney and/or kidney-pancreas transplant waitlist OR has a documented referral to a transplant center for evaluation.	Percent of all dialysis patients with a documented referral to a transplant center for evaluation who were placed on the kidney and/or kidney-pancreas transplant waitlist during the measurement year.
Measure Type	Intermediate outcome.	Intermediate outcome.
Interpretation	A higher score indicates better performance.	A higher score indicates better performance.
Data Source	Electronic medical records.	Electronic medical records.
Level of Analysis	Dialysis facility.	Dialysis facility.
Numerator	<p>Patient-months from the denominator in which the patient is EITHER on the kidney and/or kidney-pancreas waitlist OR has a documented referral to a transplant center for evaluation within the preceding 24-month period.</p> <p>A documented referral must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be documented in the medical record; AND 2. Include the name and/or other identifying information of the transplant center(s) to which the patient was referred; AND 3. Include the date of the referral(s). 	Patients from the denominator who were placed on the kidney and/or kidney-pancreas transplant waitlist during the measurement year.
Denominator	All dialysis patient-months attributed to a dialysis facility in the measurement year.	All dialysis patients attributed to the dialysis facility who were identified in Measure A as having a documented referral to a transplant center for evaluation within the preceding 24-month period in any one or more months of the measurement year. ¹
Exclusions	<p>Patient-months in which any of the following criteria are documented in the medical record as a basis for nonreferral in the measurement month:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patient is ≥ 75 years of age. 2. Patient is receiving dialysis for AKI only. 3. Patient is enrolled in hospice. 4. Patient is residing in a nursing home or other LTCF. 5. Patient has been treated at the facility < 90 days. 6. Patient was previously evaluated by a transplant center and determined to not be a transplant candidate; contraindication still present and relevant. 7. Patient has with one or more of the following contraindications to transplant: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Active malignancy; b. Active or untreated infection; c. Active substance abuse; d. BMI > 40; e. Severe heart disease; f. Severe respiratory disease; g. Severe PVD; h. Severe cognitive impairment. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patients who were already on kidney and/or kidney-pancreas waitlist on the first day of the measurement year and/or at facility admission. 2. Patients who were discharged from the facility during the measurement year and prior to waitlisting secondary to any of the following events: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Admission to hospice, nursing home, or other LTCF b. Death c. Transfer of care d. Recovery of function
Adjustment	None.	None.
Stratification	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.

¹ NOTE: Each unique patient is counted in the Denominator B only once, regardless of the number of patient-months contributed to Measure A.