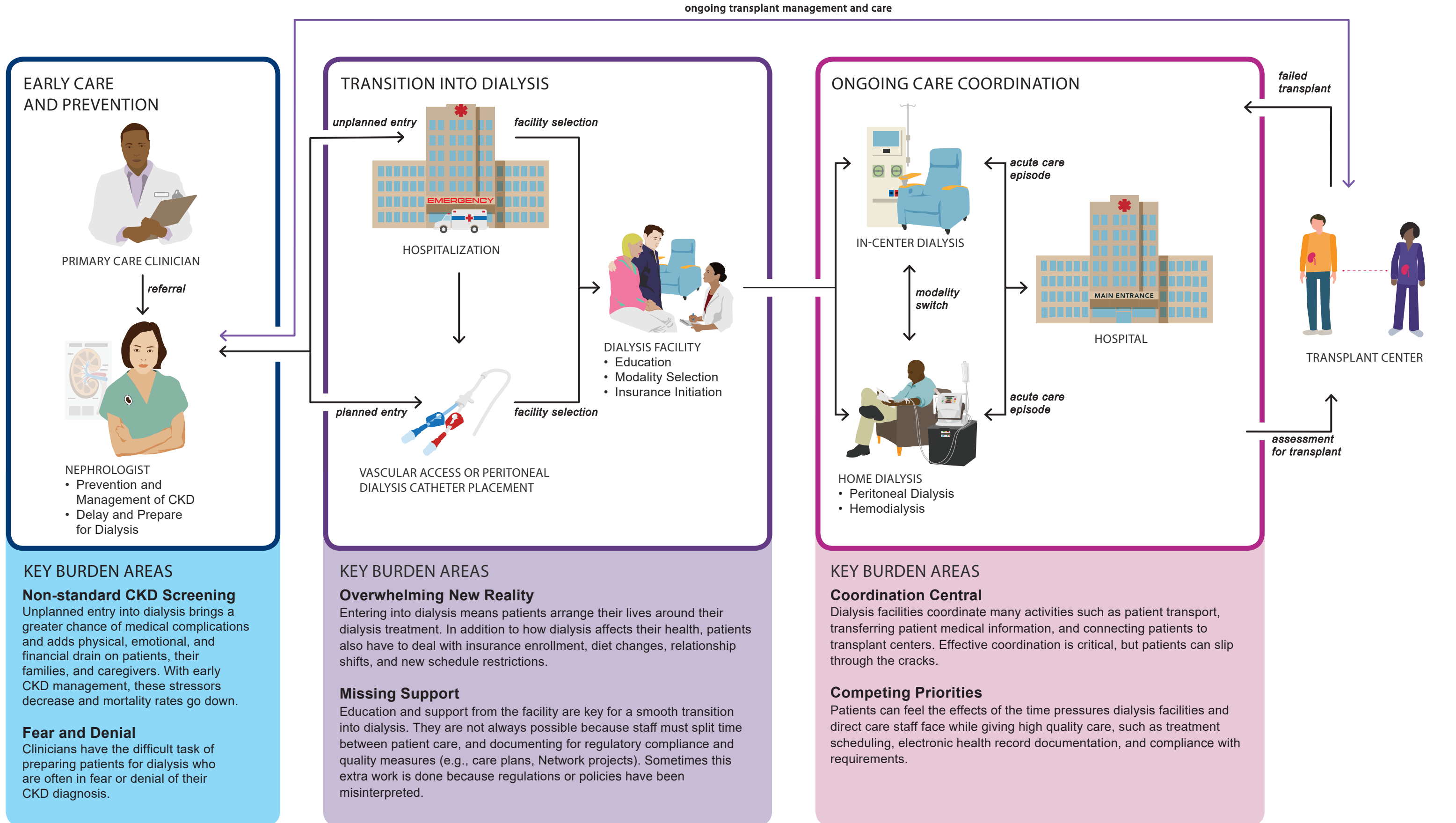


# TRANSITIONS THROUGH THE DIALYSIS PATIENT JOURNEY

Patients diagnosed with chronic kidney disease (CKD) face many challenges as they move from initial CKD diagnosis to end-stage renal disease (ESRD).



## KEY BURDEN AREAS

### Non-standard CKD Screening

Unplanned entry into dialysis brings a greater chance of medical complications and adds physical, emotional, and financial drain on patients, their families, and caregivers. With early CKD management, these stressors decrease and mortality rates go down.

### Fear and Denial

Clinicians have the difficult task of preparing patients for dialysis who are often in fear or denial of their CKD diagnosis.

## KEY BURDEN AREAS

### Overwhelming New Reality

Entering into dialysis means patients arrange their lives around their dialysis treatment. In addition to how dialysis affects their health, patients also have to deal with insurance enrollment, diet changes, relationship shifts, and new schedule restrictions.

### Missing Support

Education and support from the facility are key for a smooth transition into dialysis. They are not always possible because staff must split time between patient care, and documenting for regulatory compliance and quality measures (e.g., care plans, Network projects). Sometimes this extra work is done because regulations or policies have been misinterpreted.

## KEY BURDEN AREAS

### Coordination Central

Dialysis facilities coordinate many activities such as patient transport, transferring patient medical information, and connecting patients to transplant centers. Effective coordination is critical, but patients can slip through the cracks.

### Competing Priorities

Patients can feel the effects of the time pressures dialysis facilities and direct care staff face while giving high quality care, such as treatment scheduling, electronic health record documentation, and compliance with requirements.