

➡ Patient Sample Selection:

Purpose - To select a core patient sample that represents the facility systems for patient care and management in the data-driven focus areas, i.e., clinical areas where facility data indicates improvements are needed, and areas pertinent to quality patient care/management and patients' rights that are not represented by available data

Review the patient-specific information submitted by facility on the Entrance Conference Materials List

Select 10% of the total number of patients on census (minimum 4; maximum 10) representing all dialysis modalities offered at the facility. Attempt to include in-center hemodialysis patients from different days/shifts. You may expand the patient sample if indicated. Select patients using the criteria below:

Criteria for patient selection:

- **Unstable** - To review the facility process for interdisciplinary team (IDT) functionality in the patient assessment and plan of care process for the most fragile patients
- **New admission <90 days** - To review facility processes for assuring timely evaluation and appropriate care of patients new to the facility prior to and during their first treatment and first weeks at the facility.
- **Involuntarily discharged (IVD) in the past 12 months, if applicable** - To review facility actions taken in attempt to avert the IVD prior to the patient's discharge. **An IVD of a dialysis patient is a grave situation, because the patient has no reliable means for obtaining their dialysis treatments, and may expire as a result. Note:** Do not include patients who voluntarily or involuntarily transferred to other dialysis facilities.
- **Long Term Care (LTC) residents receiving home hemodialysis (HHD) or peritoneal dialysis (PD) at the LTC facility** - If the dialysis facility supports long term care (LTC) residents who receive home dialysis at their LTC facility, select at least one patient to sample and follow the process as outlined in the current CMS Survey and Certification guidance for review of the care of the home dialysis LTC resident.
- **Not meeting outcome goals in the data-driven focus areas** selected during the Entrance Conference. Using the patient-specific information submitted on the Entrance Conference Materials List, i.e., the lists of patients' names in the Clinical Outcomes tables; lists of patients' labs, hospitalization logs, infection logs. Select patients with trends of not meeting outcome goals in the data-driven focus areas for the survey.
- **Based on observations and complaints** - You may also sample patients for whom you identified possible concerns during the survey. Patients involved with a complaint being investigated during the survey may also be included in the patient sample.

Minimum patient sample: If there are fewer than 10% of patients on census who fit into any of the criteria listed above, the survey team should select at least 10% of the total number of patients on census (minimum of 4; maximum of 10) representing every dialysis modality provided at the facility, for "Patient Interviews" and "Medical Record Review."

Record the patient sample - Designate the rationale used for selecting each patient. **Note** that when patients fit more than one criterion above, they may only be counted once in the core patient sample of 4-10 patients.

