

## Medicare End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Treatment Choices (ETC) Model Beneficiary Notification

*Disclaimer: The contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way, unless specifically incorporated into a contract. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law.*

This document contains:

1. On this page: Instructions for using the ETC Beneficiary Notification Form
2. On the next page: ETC Model Beneficiary Notification Form

### Instructions for using the ETC Model Beneficiary Notification

All ETC Participants are required to prominently display informational materials using a CMS-provided template in each of your facilities and locations where Medicare ESRD Beneficiaries receive dialysis care. The template is included on the next page of this document and may be found on the ETC Model website at <https://innovation.cms.gov/innovation-models/esrd-treatment-choices-model>. Please note the following requirements:

- The ETC Model Beneficiary Notification form must be posted prominently, that is within reasonable, readable eyesight, in the common area of your facility or location for the duration of your participation in the ETC Model.
- You may not alter or delete any of the CMS provided content in the form.
- You may provide original content in the space provided in the template, with the following requirements:
  - You may communicate to beneficiaries the benefits of receiving care at your facility or location, if otherwise consistent with the requirements of applicable laws and regulations.
  - You may not provide communications that would suggest a restriction of the beneficiary's freedom to select the provider and treatment modality of their choice.
  - You may not provide communications that are discriminatory, materially inaccurate or misleading.

For questions related to the ETC Model, please contact the ETC Model team at [ETC-CMMI@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:ETC-CMMI@cms.hhs.gov).

## Medicare End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Treatment Choices (ETC) Model Beneficiary Notification

The Managing Clinicians and/or ESRD Facility at this location have been selected by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to participate in the ESRD Treatment Choices Model (ETC Model). For purposes of the ETC Model, Managing Clinician means a Medicare-enrolled physician or non-physician practitioner who provides dialysis management services to Medicare beneficiaries with ESRD. Under the ETC Model, CMS will make certain payment adjustments that would encourage participating ESRD facilities and Managing Clinicians to ensure that ESRD beneficiaries have access to and receive education about their kidney disease treatment options with the goal of promoting home dialysis and kidney transplants. The ETC Model only affects payments for dialysis related services in Original Medicare and does not affect payments or services for Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare Prescription Drug Plans, or private health insurance plans.

As a patient, the ETC Model does not change your existing Medicare benefits, choices, or protections. The Managing Clinician and ESRD Facility cannot limit your choice of health care providers or Medicare covered medically necessary services or treatment options. You still have the right to visit any doctor, hospital, or other provider that accepts Original Medicare at any time, just like you do now. All Medicare Beneficiaries have the right to:

- Be treated with dignity and respect at all times
- Be protected from discrimination
- Have personal and health information kept private
- Get information in a format and language they understand from health care providers
- Have questions about Medicare answered
- Have access to doctors, other health care providers, specialists, and hospitals for medically necessary services
- Learn about their treatment choices in clear language that they can understand, and participate in treatment decisions

Please contact the following entities with any questions or concerns about your Medicare covered health services:

- For additional information, questions or concerns about Medicare benefits and providers, please call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048. You may also visit the website: <https://www.Medicare.gov>
- For additional information, questions or concerns about your experience as a Medicare beneficiary with ESRD, please contact your local ESRD Network Organizations at (844) 472-4250. You may also visit the website: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/End-Stage-Renal-Disease/ESRDNetworkOrganizations>
- To report suspected instances of fraud or abuse by any Medicare provider, contact the HHS Office of Inspector General hotline at 1-800-HHS-TIPS (1-800-447-8477). TTY users can call 1-800-377-4950.
- For additional information related to the ETC Model please visit the ETC Model website at: <https://innovation.cms.gov/innovation-models/esrd-treatment-choices-model>

### Original Content from Managing Clinician and/or ESRD Facility:

\*Disclaimer: The statements contained below are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The authors assume responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of the information contained below in this document: