



NETWORK OF NEW ENGLAND

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DO YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT A SPECIFIC TOPIC?
SUBMIT SUGGESTIONS TO:

AMBER BORGES
PATIENT SERVICES COORDINATOR
ABORGES@NW1.ESRD.NET



DANIELLE DALEY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR
DDALEY@NW1.ESRD.NET

OR CALL
866-286-3773 TOLL FREE PATIENT LINE

HELPFUL TIPS TO EMPOWER
DIALYSIS PATIENTS

Kidney Chronicles

End Stage Renal Disease Quality Incentive Program



In 2008, Congress passed a law under the Social Security Act that is related to the End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Medicare payment system. One part of this new payment system is called the Quality Incentive Program or QIP.

The goal of this program is for Medicare to develop a way to keep track of how well your dialysis facility is delivering care to you. Medicare has defined performance measures and a method to withhold a portion of the Medicare payment to your dialysis facility if they do not meet performance standards in a given year. The quality of care given to patients in your facility in 2010 has been evaluated. The results of this evaluation are posted in your facility for your review.

WHAT IS A DIALYSIS FACILITY PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATE?

It's a facility report card on two measures using the average of patients' laboratory values in:

Anemia Management
(using Hemoglobin levels)

Dialysis Adequacy
(using Urea Reduction Ratio, "URR")

Each month blood tests are conducted by your healthcare team and this includes Hemoglobin and URR.

What is Hemoglobin?
The part of red blood cells that carries oxygen throughout the body.

What is Urea Reduction Ratio (URR)?

A measure of how well dialysis cleans the blood.

What does it mean?

Your facility has been graded using these measures and may have payment withheld from Medicare based on the scores; next year's measures may be different. Medicare wants you to know your facility's scores:

- ◆ To give you information to discuss with your dialysis staff and doctor.
- ◆ To help staff improve the care they provide you and others.
- ◆ So that you can compare your facility with others, using www.medicare.gov/dialysis.

continued on page 2

THIS IS A SAMPLE OF THE OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE:

continued from page 1

Why is this important to me?

The more you know about your illness and how dialysis helps you to feel better, the easier it will be to avoid medical problems.

QUESTIONS FOR MY HEALTHCARE TEAM

What is my Hemoglobin level?

What is my Urea Reduction Ratio (URR)?

IF MY HEMOGLOBIN IS NOT BETWEEN 10 AND 12 AND MY URR IS UNDER 65%:

Are there things that I can do to improve them?

Are there things that dialysis staff can do to improve them?

U.S. DEPARTMENT of HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS for MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

End-Stage Renal Disease Quality Incentive Program
2012 Certificate of Dialysis Facility Performance - Part 1

CMS
100% for MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

Facility CMS Certification Number: XXXXXX

** The information communicated below is based on 2010 data. **

Certificate of Dialysis Facility Performance			
This Facility Meets 1 of 3 Quality Standards			
TOTAL PERFORMANCE SCORE		27 out of 30	
National Average		29	
MEASURES OF QUALITY	FACILITY SCORE	NATIONAL AVERAGE	MEETS STANDARD
<i>Anemia Management: (Shows how well a facility keeps red blood cell counts in the target range)</i>			
Percentage of patients with hemoglobin less than 10 grams per deciliter (g/dL)	10 of 10	9 of 10	YES
Percentage of patients with hemoglobin greater than 12 g/dL	8 of 10	8 of 10	NO
<i>Dialysis Adequacy: (Shows how well a facility cleans blood during a dialysis treatment)</i>			
Percentage of patients with urea reduction ratio of at least 65%	9 of 10	10 of 10	NO

Facility Name and Address: _____ Facility Director: _____ CMS Chief Medical Officer: _____
 Facility Name: _____ Street Address: _____ City, State zip: _____ Director, Office of Clinical Standards and Quality

Note: Dialysis facilities are required to post both parts of this Certificate prominently in a patient area. This Certificate expires December 31, 2012.

See what a dialysis facility Performance Score Certificate (PSC) looks like above.

If you have any questions about your facility's Performance Score Certificate ask your nurse or doctor today.

Technical Assistance

The Network would like to let you know of our willingness to offer technical assistance. Visiting dialysis facilities or transplant centers provides an opportunity for face-to-face discussion and exchange of information, helpful for improving patient care. If you are interested in the Network coming to your facility or if you need assistance regarding your dialysis care, please contact Amber Borges, MSW, Patient Services Coordinator

at 203-387-9332 x. 118, or via email at aborges@nw1.esrd.net.



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