**Dialysis**

**Competency**

Leader’s Guide

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The intent of the regulation is to ensure the resident receiving dialysis receives care and services consistent with professional standards of practice. Providing resources for comprehensive education and a system to ensure competency of the nursing staff for caring for a resident receiving dialysis either in or outside of the facility will be crucial for quality and compliance.

On the resident’s comprehensive assessment, the facility will ensure that each resident receives care and services for the provision of hemodialysis and/or peritoneal dialysis consistent with professional standards of practice including the:

* “Ongoing assessment of the resident’s condition and monitoring for complications before and after dialysis treatments received at a certified dialysis facility;
* Safe administration of hemodialysis at the bedside and/or peritoneal dialysis when provided in the nursing home. It should be provided by qualified trained staff/caregivers, in accordance with State and Federal laws and regulations;
* Ongoing assessment and oversight of the resident before, during (if provided at the nursing home) and after dialysis treatments, including monitoring the resident’s condition during treatments (if provided at the nursing home), monitoring for complications, implementing appropriate interventions, and using appropriate infection control practices; and
* Ongoing communication and collaboration with the dialysis facility regarding dialysis care and services.”[[1]](#footnote-1)
* When utilizing the facility transportation service to take residents to and from dialysis, the facility needs to incorporate into their respective policies and procedures and training processes that the transportation driver is trained on emergency procedures for fistula bleeding during transport.

It is important that all staff understand the expectations of the regulators. Providers are obligated to comprehensively assess each individual resident and design an individualized care plan to support/achieve the residents’ goals and preferences.

Not providing a comprehensive assessment, designing goals, implementing interventions, reassessing the resident as indicated will lead to citations and sanctions.

Keeping the individual at their highest level of functioning has a dramatic impact on quality of life. Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) continues to monitor providers’ compliance with comprehensive assessment, planning of care, implementing interventions and re-evaluation. This includes identification of resources and services necessary to care for all residents as identified in the facility assessment.

Nursing Homes are not required to offer dialysis services, however if services are provided or arranged for, facilities will need to ensure quality, evidence-based care in accordance with standards of practice.

Organizational Leaders will need to coordinate an appropriate process and communication plan with each dialysis facility. Leaders will also need a system to ensure competency of all staff members involved in dialysis.

Adequate resources for the program will need to be evaluated including:

* Staff
	+ Licensed Nurses
	+ CNA’s
	+ Interdisciplinary Staff
	+ Dialysis documentation
* Documentation Considerations
	+ Paper vs. Electronic Health Record
	+ Assessment/documentation Forms
	+ Care Planning
	+ Hospital/dialysis center agreement
* Education
	+ Licensed Nurses
	+ CNA’s
	+ Interdisciplinary Staff
* Evaluation and Monitoring
	+ Identification of Responsibility
	+ System to Evaluate
	+ QAPI Considerations
* Supplies and Equipment
	+ Dialysis supplies
	+ Dialysis equipment
	+ Communication system with Dialysis provider(s)

1. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) State Operations Manual, Appendix PP. Guidance to Surveyors for Long Term Care Facilities: <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/som107ap_pp_guidelines_ltcf.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)