

Nephrology Clinician Agreement: Vascular Access

As a provider of nephrology care for patients in this facility, I understand the importance of the following and agree to abide by the guidance set forth by the Conditions for Coverage relating to vascular access quality improvement.

I agree to:

1. ***Assist in the development, implementation, and evaluation of an effective, data-driven, quality assessment and performance improvement program that reflects the complexity of the dialysis facility's organization and services, and must focus on indicators related to improved health outcomes.***

The dialysis facility must measure, analyze, and track quality indicators or other aspects of performance that the facility adopts or develops that reflect processes of care and facility operations. The program must include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a. *Adequacy of dialysis*
 - b. *Vascular access*
 - c. *Infection control*
2. ***Assist in the monitoring of the facilities vascular access performance, take actions that result in performance improvements, and understand the facilities method for tracking performance to ensure that improvements are sustained over time.***
 3. ***Take an active role as a member of the interdisciplinary team and complete all patient assessments and patient plans of care in accordance with the guidance provided in the Conditions for Coverage, including but not limited to:***
 - a. *Evaluation of the appropriateness of the dialysis prescription, blood pressure, and fluid management needs*
 - b. *Evaluation of dialysis access type and maintenance (for example, arteriovenous fistulas, arteriovenous grafts, and peritoneal catheters)*
 4. ***The interdisciplinary team must provide vascular access monitoring and appropriate, timely referrals to achieve and sustain vascular access.*** The hemodialysis patient must be evaluated for the appropriate vascular access type, taking into consideration co-morbid conditions, other risk factors, and whether the patient is a potential candidate for arteriovenous fistula placement. The patient's vascular access must be monitored to prevent access failure, including the evaluation of symptoms and physical findings that suggest stenosis, aneurysm formation, ischemic steal syndrome, and other conditions that may develop and require further evaluation with possible intervention.

Clinician Signature, Date