

HUDDLE UP

Preventing Hospitalizations and ED Visits

Quick Tips for Dialysis Staff

Key Focus Areas

- **Patient Monitoring:** Check vitals, labs, infection signs, fluid management.
- **Vascular Access:** Review CVC only patients. Ensure proper site care to prevent infections.
- **Medication Management:** Review for medication changes. Ensure patients receive and take meds correctly.
- **Education:** Reinforce hand hygiene, access care at home, symptoms, treatment adherence.

Resource for Staff: [How Dialysis Staff Can Impact Hospitalizations](#)

Use Quality Improvement Tools

- **Root Cause Analysis (RCA):** Identify causes of hospitalizations.
- **Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA):** Test and track improvements.

Enhance Communication

- **Patient Engagement:** Use conversation starters to uncover concerns.
- **Staff Education:** Educate on identified trends and prevention strategies
- **Care Coordination:** Maintain clear communication with other providers.

Monitor & Adjust

- **Track Metrics:** Hospitalizations, ER visits, and key performance indicators.
- **Staff Feedback:** Adjust huddle practices as needed.

Keep It Short & Consistent

- Schedule before treatments begin.
- Limit to **5-15 minutes** in a quiet, convenient spot.



Assign Roles & Structure

- **Huddle Leader:** Rotating role to keep focus.
- **Agenda:** Cover patient updates, safety concerns, and recent incidents.
- **Open Communication:** Encourage staff to share concerns without judgment.

Preventing Hospitalizations and ED Visits

Date: _____ Huddle Leader: _____

Staff Signatures (Print & Sign):

[illegible]

Huddle Tracker

Team Input/Feedback

Next Huddle