



Quick Start Guide to Using the Hospitalization Dialysis Change Package

Introduction: The End Stage Renal Disease National Coordinating Center (ESRD NCC) develops and updates a series of [change packages](#).

- Change packages contain practical strategies and tactics for quality improvement (QI) at dialysis facilities across a range of topics.
- If you are unsure where to begin with change packages or are new to your role, this quick-start guide may help you focus on appropriate drivers and sub-drivers once you have identified your problem statement(s).
- Remember, your local [ESRD Network](#) is a valuable resource as you work through quality improvement activities.

How Will Your Facility Benefit?

- ✓ Building a cohesive team by working on a common goal.
- ✓ Improving relationships with physicians, staff, patients, families, and caregivers.
- ✓ Empowering and appreciating the whole staff through inclusion in QI activities to drive change.

Problem Statement	Where to Start	Where to Learn More
I am new to my role at the dialysis facility and am not sure how to use the change package.	1b: Create a culture that contributes to low hospitalization rates.	ESRD Network
Focus on Improving QI Meetings by Reviewing Data Trends		
I want to use data and the team’s input to come up with new ways to reduce hospitalizations.	2a: Track hospitalizations and related measures.	ESRD NCC Learning and Action Network Call Expert Team Call
Focus on Implementing Processes to Prevent Hospitalizations and Avoid Readmissions		
Staff need more education on reducing hospitalizations.	3a: Take proactive steps to prevent hospitalizations.	Hospitalization Risk Assessment
We could do better at preventing hospital readmissions.	3b: Give focused attention to patients who have been hospitalized.	How Staff Can Impact Hospitalizations
Focus on Educating Patients and Staff		
We could use new ideas to help keep patients involved in their care and out of the hospital.	4a: Provide patients with knowledge, so they can play an active role in staying out of the hospital.	10 Steps You Can Take to Avoid Unnecessary Hospitalizations
We could use ideas to identify causes of hospitalizations.	4b: Prepare staff to prevent hospitalizations.	Sit Down—Don't Stand—Reducing Hospitalizations

Visit the ESRD NCC at www.esrdncc.org for more patient and professional resources.