

# Network 4's Discharge Checklist for the Dialysis Patient

Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_

Discharge Date \_\_\_\_\_

This multidisciplinary checklist includes practices identified and consistently performed by high performing clinics in Network 4's service area. Use this checklist each time a patient is hospitalized. Always follow your organization's policies and procedures.

\*Tasks performed by high-performing clinics

## Prior to Hospital Discharge:

- ☐ \*Request medical records. If there is online access to hospital records, consider reviewing during hospitalization.
- ☐ \*Communicate with the Social Worker, Discharge Planner and/or Case Manager at the hospital.

## Dialysis:

- ☐ Review any new changes to dialysis orders and confirm changes with facility nephrologist.
- ☐ Review weight changes in the hospital and since discharge. NOTE: Weight fluctuations may be more informative than total weight due to use of different scales. Obtain physician order and adjust target weight as needed.
- ☐ Review most recent lab work.
- ☐ Review recent changes to daily fluid allowance.

## Medications:

- ☐ \*Complete medication reconciliation within 7 days of discharge.
- ☐ Review full list of medications with the patient and confirm their understanding of how and when to take them.
- ☐ Ensure new prescriptions have been picked up from the pharmacy. If not, identify and address barrier(s).
- ☐ Confirm the patient is aware of potential side effects of medications and when they should call a doctor.

## Dietary:

- ☐ Educate patient on any new dietary changes.
- ☐ Consult dietician if needed.

## General:

- ☐ \*Confirm the patient has the necessary equipment (home O2, walker, cane, wheelchair, etc.).
- ☐ Confirm the availability of a caregiver, if needed.
- ☐ Ensure the patient has a list of important phone numbers (PCP, dialysis clinic, hospital, disaster planning, etc.).
- ☐ \*Communicate with local case managers, insurance social workers, community social workers and home care agencies, and patient caregivers, as needed.

## Follow Up Appointments:

- ☐ \*Review follow-up appointment(s) with patient/caregiver; dialysis and non-dialysis related.
- ☐ Confirm the patient has adequate transportation to appointment(s).

## New Diagnoses (this section to be completed if patient has been given a new diagnosis):

- ☐ Confirm the patient is aware of the new diagnosis and has been given an opportunity to ask questions.
- ☐ \*Add all new comorbidities to the medical record.

## Patient Education Materials:

- ☐ \*Supplement hospital materials as needed, especially dialysis related topics.
- ☐ \*Use materials with pictures and minimal text.