



Creating a Pro-Home Culture in Dialysis Without Support From a Home Program



Creating a pro-home culture within a facility can empower both patients and staff. However, facilities with limited access to a home program face challenges in educating about home dialysis. This guide is intended to provide resources and strategies to educate your team about home dialysis even when a home dialysis facility isn't available.

What is home dialysis?

- Home dialysis refers to dialysis treatments that are completed in the comfort of a patient's own home.
- Home dialysis treatments may be completed independently by the patient or with assistance from a care partner.
- There are two different types of home dialysis treatments:
 - **Peritoneal Dialysis** – Needleless dialysis that uses the peritoneal membrane along with dialysis solutions to help filter and remove extra fluid and waste products from the body.
 - **Home Hemodialysis** – A process where the blood is filtered using an external filter to help remove extra fluid and waste products in the body. This process is similar to in-center hemodialysis but is completed in the home.

Why it is important to educate patients on home dialysis

- Home dialysis increases a patient's level of independence.
 - Patients have more flexibility in their schedules.
 - They can travel and dialyze around their schedule.
 - They spend less time in the dialysis clinic.
- Because they have more frequent treatments, patients tend to have better fluid volume control and increased energy levels.
- Home patients are very knowledgeable about their health and tend to have better clinical outcomes leading to decreased hospitalizations.

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How to educate a facility without the support of a home program

- Invite home dialysis vendors to your facility to give hands-on demonstrations and discuss the benefits of home dialysis with both staff and patients.
- When available, have staff travel to a home program. Staff can then observe a home nurse to learn more and share their experiences with the in-center team and patients.
- Leverage virtual education programs and online resources.
 - Online resources can provide a great substitute for learning from a home dialysis program.
 - Virtual education can provide the opportunity to learn from experts and leaders in home dialysis.
 - Online resources can provide education for both staff and patients.
 - Often education can include training modules, video demonstrations, and personal experiences.

Where to find virtual education on home dialysis

Many online resources provide education on home dialysis. A few of our favorites are listed below. You may also find home dialysis information on your company website, vendor websites, and the websites of your nearest home program.

- Home Dialysis Central - <https://homedialysis.org>
- The Renal Support Network - <https://www.rsnhope.org>
- IPRO End-Stage Renal Disease Program - <https://esrd.ipro.org>
- Home Dialyzors United - <https://www.homedialyzorsunited.org>
- American Association of Kidney Patients - <http://www.aakp.org>

Does your facility have a home dialysis success story?

One of the biggest impacts in creating a pro-home culture comes from patients! Does your facility have a patient who transitioned to home dialysis?



Share their success story!

- Invite patients back to the facility to share about their home dialysis experience!
- Home dialysis patients can participate in a lunch and learn with the staff to help them better understand the process of starting home dialysis.
- Invite home dialysis patients to a lobby day to share their experiences with both patients and staff.



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