



Problem: Patients arriving at the hospital emergency department for dialysis treatment.

Involuntary Discharge (IVD): A situation in which, a patient is informed in writing that treatment at a dialysis facility will terminate in 30 days or the dialysis facility notifies the Network and State Agency (SA) that it is following an abbreviated termination procedure for a patient who has made an immediate severe threat of physical harm.

<https://network2.esrd.ipro.org/provider/access-to-care/>

Tips to Help You with the Next Steps:

- Determine if the patient was discharged from his or her facility. The Network can confirm if there was an IVD.
- If the patient does not have an outpatient dialysis unit and needs to be referred to the community to obtain a new outpatient facility, here are some tips to guide you through what could be a difficult process:
 - Talk to the nephrologist currently treating the patient to determine if the nephrologist's dialysis facility can accept the patient.
 - Instead of referring the patient electronically, first call nearby facilities to discuss the case so that the patient is not judged solely on the IVD incident.
 - Request the psychosocial assessment completed by the patient's social worker from the dialysis facility that initiated the IVD or from the IPRO ESRD Network's Patient Services department. The assessment can provide more information about the patient's strengths and details about his or her life. This will give you a clearer perspective of the patient as a person, beyond the incident that led to the discharge.
 - Explore whether the patient is a candidate for home dialysis.
 - Identify the patient's challenges (e.g., housing, mental health, denial of dialysis treatment, insurance, etc.) and mitigate them as best you can.

Network Assistance:

- IPRO ESRD Network 30 Day Program – in collaboration with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the NYS Department of Health, the Network works with prospective dialysis facilities to offer the option accepting the patient for a 30-day trial period. For more information: <https://network2.esrd.ipro.org/provider/access-to-care/>
- Discharge planning resources: outpatient facilities, nursing homes with onsite dialysis, nursing homes with bedside dialysis.
- Contact the IPRO ESRD Network Patient Services Department (516) 209-5624

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