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## **ACHC Introduces Long-Term Care Dialysis Certification**

*New Certification Available to All Providers, Regardless of Accreditor*

**CARY, N.C. (May 8, 2024)** – Accreditation Commission for Health Care, Inc. (ACHC) has introduced its Long-Term Care Dialysis Certification. This new certification is available to all providers, regardless of accreditor, making them eligible for quality recognition related to the distinctive characteristics of these services. The focus of the certification centers on acknowledging the individual residents’ unique needs regarding their dialysis treatment, infection control before, during, and after treatment, and education and training for both the dialysis and long-term care staff members as it pertains to their delivery of quality care.

“ACHC’s Long-Term Care Dialysis Certification incorporates the existing requirements for home dialysis care with additional standards that recognize the higher acuity level of dialysis patients living in long-term care or skilled nursing facilities,” said Teresa Hoosier, associate clinical director for Renal Dialysis Accreditation at ACHC. “Our dual focus on continuous improvement in clinical outcomes and efficient operational practices supports the need for effective treatment plans for these patients through collaboration between the dialysis provider and the facility staff.”

In 2017, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recognized the benefits of dialysis being performed in a long-term care or other skilled nursing facility if that is the patient’s current residence. Patients whose illnesses make them more vulnerable benefit from in-home treatment and can remain at the long-term care facility for administration of treatment based on the severity of their conditions.

“Allowing these patients to receive dialysis at their place of residence promotes stability and avoids the need for transporting to an off-site, end-stage renal dialysis facility three times a week for multiple hours on each treatment day,” added Hoosier.

Originally introduced in August of 2018 and revised in 2023, specific guidance from CMS allowed home hemodialysis in nursing homes, giving facilities that are contracted with an end-stage renal dialysis provider to offer the dialysis services needed by its residents.

“This elevated care model will promote optimal patient safety by enhancing the continuum of care and ensure that this patient-centered practice is sustainable,” said Hoosier.

For more information about ACHC’s renal dialysis services, visit <https://www.achc.org/renal-dialysis/>.

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**About ACHC**

Accreditation leader ACHC is a nonprofit with 35 years of experience promoting safe, quality patient care. ACHC develops solutions trusted by healthcare providers nationwide and is committed to offering exceptional, personalized service, and a customized, collaborative accreditation experience tailored to individual needs. ACHC focuses on giving providers a positive, educational experience that continually enhances quality of care and business efficiencies.

Learn more about accreditation options from ACHC. For information on programs and accreditation pricing, please email [customerservice@achc.org](mailto:customerservice@achc.org), call (855) 937-2242 or visit [www.achc.org](http://www.achc.org).