### Policy Statement

Qualified dietitians will participate in End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)/Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) programs and provide nutritional care in accordance with CMS guidelines.

### Purpose of Policy

To define the scope of services provided for patients within the ESRD/CKD program.

### Procedure

1. A qualified dietitian will participate in development of long-term patient care programs which includes individual treatment recommendations based on the needs and resources of the patient. Dietitian’s nutritional care plan will be based on a nutritional assessment. The plan will be updated yearly and more often if necessary.

2. For individuals with ESRD (chronic dialysis or transplant)/CKD stage 4 - 5 a qualified dietitian will, in conjunction with the attending physician:
   a. Assess nutrition needs
   b. Recommend therapeutic diets
   c. Counsel patients and their families on prescribed diet
   d. Monitor adherence and response to diet.
   e. Update dialysis patients monthly, with lab results and make appropriate dietary recommendations.
   f. Complete medical nutrition therapy counseling on all post-transplant and living donors prior to discharge from the hospital.

3. The dietitian will develop, in conjunction with the professional team and the patient, a nutritional care plan. The plan will be reviewed, and revisions will be documented in the medical record during monthly care rounds.

4. The qualified dietitian will implement these procedures through:
   a. Participation in Hemodialysis patient care conferences
   b. Review of medical records
   c. Individual patient visitation and assessment
   d. Consultation with other health care team members as well as the patient.
   e. Participate in transplant multi-disciplinary rounds.

5. Pertinent transfer information will be sent to other facilities via fax or mail as appropriate.
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6/2/2008  
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7/1/2014  
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Review/Revision Completed By:  
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