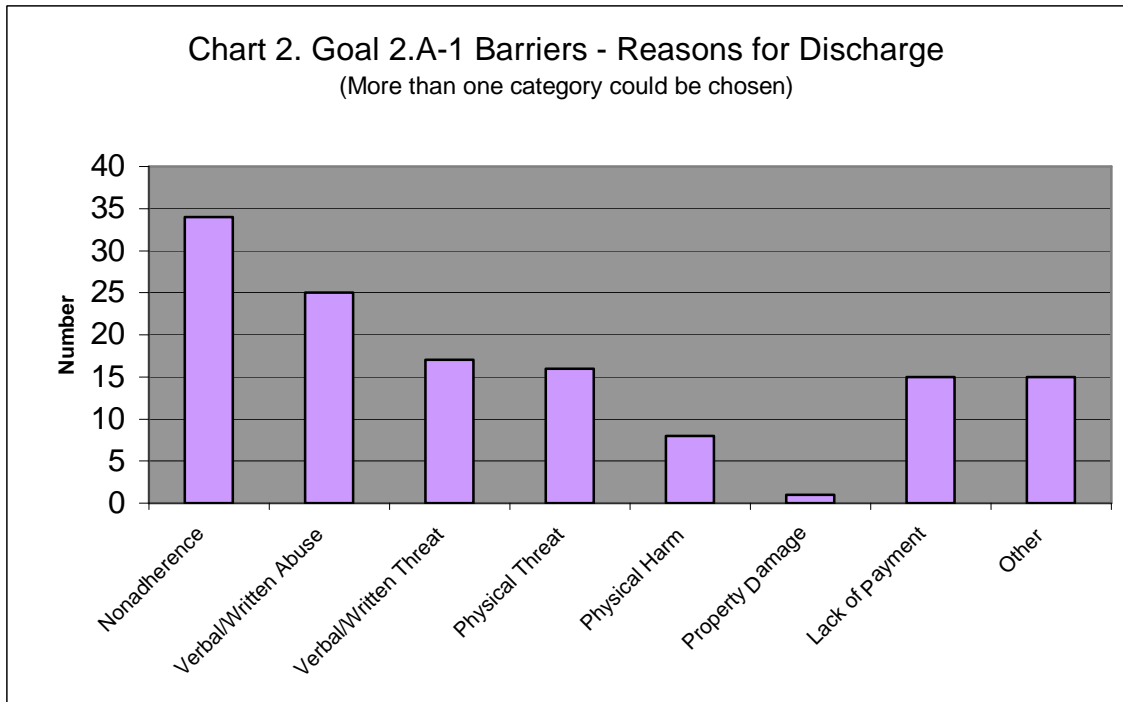


## A. Pilot Program: Barriers to Outpatient Dialysis

In 2006, CMS funded the Barriers to Outpatient Dialysis Placement Project. One outcome of the project was to conduct a pilot program using the standardized forms developed as part of the project. Eight ESRD Networks, including networks 1,9,10,11,14,15,16, and 18, participated in the three-month pilot project. From January 2007 until March 2007, the networks completed an Admission Form for all calls related to barriers to placement and a Discharge Form for all calls related to involuntary discharges. In total, 53 Admission Forms and 87 Discharge Forms were submitted to Network 9/10, which compiled and analyzed the barriers information.

A number of patients that are involuntarily discharged have difficulty finding placement in other dialysis units. Non-compliance is the most frequent reason given for an involuntary discharge. See Chart 2. Goal 2.A-1 for the reasons given for discharge.



The combined network demographics for the participating networks were used to identify any demographics that were outside what would be expected. For example, a higher percentage of patients were in the 18-44 year old category, were males, and were black. See Chart 2 Goal 2.A-2, A-3, and A-4 for the discharge demographics by age, gender, and race, respectively.

## Chart 2 Goal 2.A-2 Discharge Demographics By Age

Age Breakdown  
(n=87)

Age	Forms	Percentage of Forms	Networks Percentage
<18	0	0%	1%
<b>18-44</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>14%</b>
45-64	38	44%	41%
65-74	6	7%	22%
75-Up	5	6%	21%
Unknown	12	14%	0%

## Chart 2 Goal 2.A-3 Discharge Demographics By Gender

Age Breakdown  
(n=87)

Gender	Forms	Percentage of Forms	Networks Percentage
<b>Male</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>55%</b>
Female	22	25%	45%
Unknown	12	14%	0%

## Chart 2 Goal 2.A-4 Discharge Demographics By Race

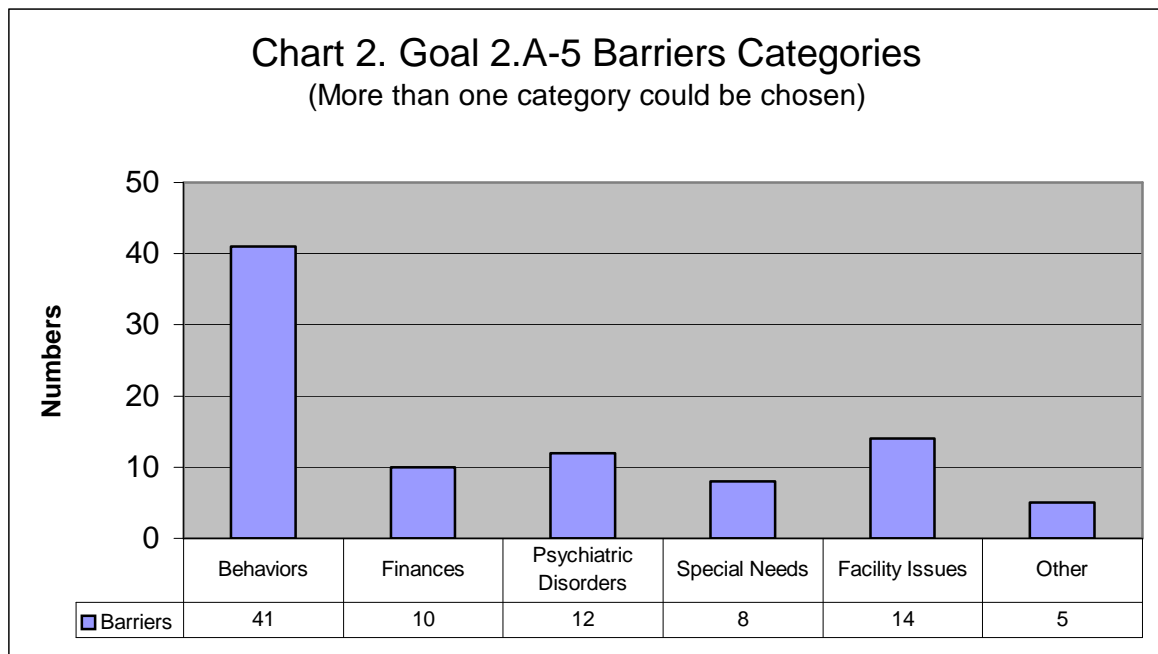
Age Breakdown  
(n=87)

Race	Forms	Percentage of Forms	Networks Percentage
American Indian	1	1%	2%
Asian	1	1%	3%
<b>Black</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>24%</b>
White	35	40%	69%
Other	0	0	1%
Unknown	12	14%	0%

Most of the patients who came to the attention of the networks were unable to find dialysis placement due to being discharged by the facility. In addition, the patient's behavior was identified as the primary barrier. See Chart 2, Goal 2.B-1 for the Placement Barrier Categories.

## Chart 2. Goal 2.A-5 Barriers Categories

(More than one category could be chosen)



Comparing the combined network demographics with the demographics identified on the forms identified potential demographic placement barriers. A higher than expected number of patients within the 18 to 44 age group, male patients, and black patients had barriers to outpatient dialysis placement. See Chart 2 Goal 2.B-2, B-3, and B-4 respectively.

### Chart 2 Goal 2.A-6 Placement Demographics By Age

Age Breakdown  
(n=53)

Age	Forms	Percentage of Forms	Networks Percentage
<18	0	0%	1%
<b>18-44</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>14%</b>
45-64	21	40%	41%
65-74	3	6%	22%
75-Up	2	4%	21%
Unknown	9	17%	0%

### Chart 2 Goal 2.A-7 Placement Demographics By Gender

Age Breakdown  
(n=53)

Gender	Forms	Percentage of Forms	Networks Percentage
<b>Male</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>55%</b>
Female	14	26%	45%
Unknown	1	2%	0%

## Chart 2 Goal 2.A-8 Discharge Demographics By Race

Age Breakdown  
(n=87)

Race	Forms	Percentage of Forms	Networks Percentage
American Indian	0	0%	2%
Asian	1	2%	3%
<b>Black</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>24%</b>
White	28	53%	69%
Other	0	0%	1%
Unknown	6	11%	0%

This project will continue into 2008 and data collection will be ongoing. Other ESRD Networks committed to join in the process, as well.