

February is Patient Assessment Month!

February 2009

FEBRUARY IS PATIENT ASSESSMENT MONTH!

The updated Conditions for Coverage indicate that the interdisciplinary team must address the psychosocial needs of the patient in the Patient Plan of Care. The Plan of Care must include interventions and be individualized to meet the patient's psychosocial needs and assist with the patient's adjustment to kidney failure and its treatment. The social worker is expected to assist patients in achieving their psychosocial goals and to use a standardized mental and physical assessment tool.

The Renal Network Web site has a number of resources that may be helpful to you.

Conditions for Coverage Resources for Social Workers

This section provides resources that explain the new conditions for coverage and provides resources for patient assessments and plans of care. http://www.therenalnetwork.org/home/CfC_sw.php

KDQOL Resources

This section provides links to the Kidney Disease Quality of Life (KDQOL) tool, scoring assistance (provides an excel template), and other information about using the tool. It also contains a link to an online KDQOL sample to actually use and score the instrument. <http://www.therenalnetwork.org/services/kdqol.php>

CAHPS Resources

The **Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS)** program is a public-private initiative to develop standardized surveys of patients' experiences with ambulatory and facility-level care. There is also an In-center Hemodialysis Survey. <http://www.therenalnetwork.org/services/cahps.php>

Depression Scales and Screens

This section contains some general resources and tools that may be helpful in the assessment of depression which may affect the functional status of patients. <http://www.therenalnetwork.org/services/depression.php>

HELPGUIDE

This nonprofit site is geared towards understanding, preventing, and resolving life's challenges. It provides a list of mental health conditions, their symptoms, and suggestions on ways to address some of the challenges

http://www.helpguide.org/mental/generalized_anxiety_disorder.htm



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