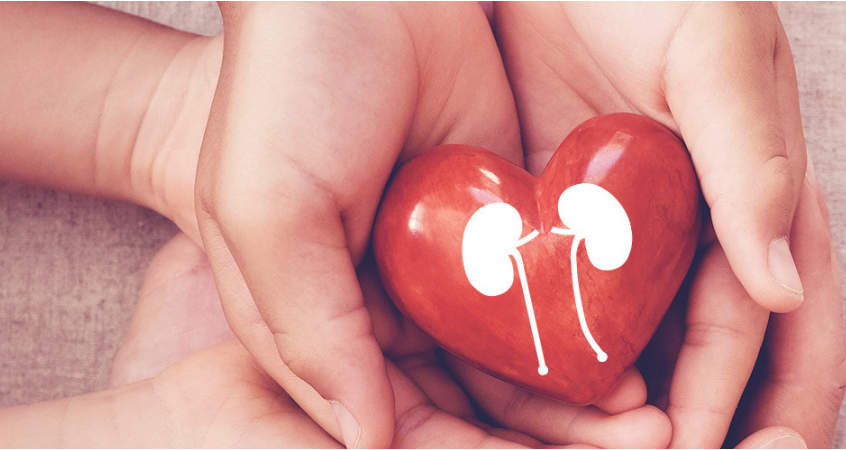




GOOD HEALTH

P A T I E N T N E W S L E T T E R



MARCH IS NATIONAL KIDNEY MONTH
 THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2020
 IS WORLD KIDNEY DAY

WEAR ORANGE AND SUPPORT KIDNEY DISEASE AWARENESS!

DIALYSIS FACILITY COMPARE



Dialysis Facility Compare (DFC) allows patients to compare dialysis centers using a star rating. The more stars a center has, the higher quality of care.

DFC provides detailed information on more than 7,000 dialysis centers across the country. Use DFC to locate a different dialysis center:

- If you are traveling
- If you are moving
- If you want to see how other centers compare to the center where you get dialysis

Compare dialysis centers and choose one that is right for you or your loved one. DFC can help you learn:

- How well dialysis centers care for their patients
- How often dialysis centers follow best practices
- How well centers keep patients healthy
- How patients feel about their experience at dialysis centers

Visit <https://www.medicare.gov/dialysisfacilitycompare/> for more information.

RIGHTS/RESPONSIBILITIES

Your Rights

- You have the right to be told about your rights and responsibilities.
- You have the right to be treated with respect.
- You have the right to meet with the whole health care team to plan your treatment.
- You have the right to see the dietitian for help with food planning and the social worker for counseling.
- You have the right to be told about your health in a way that is easy to understand.
- You have the right to be told about dialysis treatment options.
- You have the right to be told about any tests ordered for you and the test results.
- You have the right to be told about the services offered at the center.
- You have the right to be told about how dialysis works and dialyzer re-use.
- You have the right to be told about any resources available to you.
- You have the right to be told about the rules at your center (for example, rules for visitors, eating on dialysis, and code of conduct).

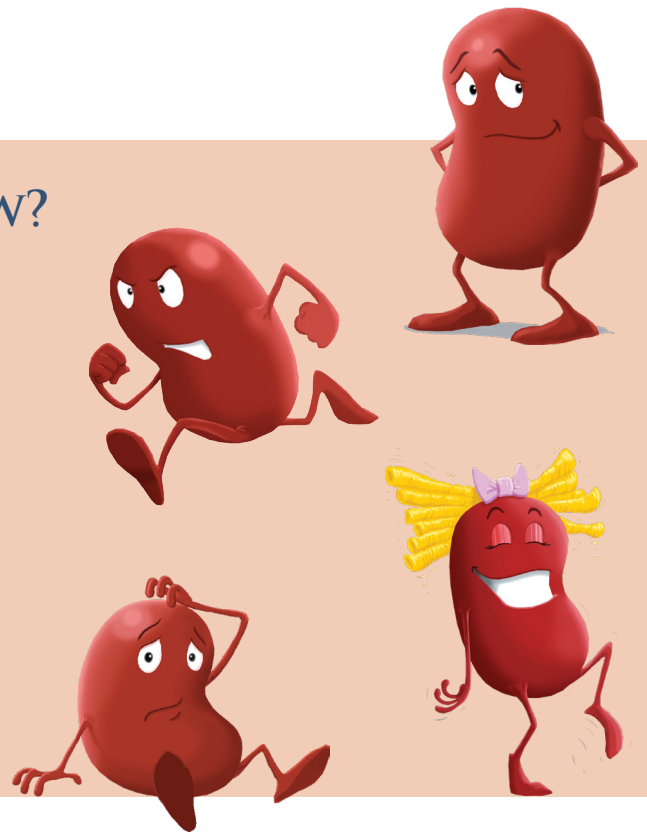
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Your Responsibilities

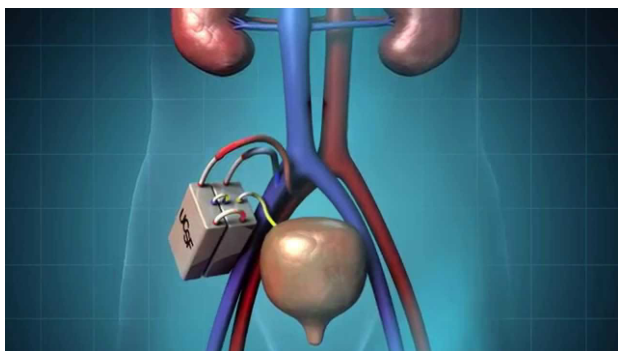
- You need to treat other patients and staff as you would like to be treated - with respect.
- You need to pay your bills on time. If this is hard for you, ask about a payment plan or other help.
- You need to tell your health care team about any changes to medications or treatment.
- You need to tell your health care team if you do not understand your medical condition or treatment plan.
- You need to be on time for your treatments and doctor appointments.
- You need to tell the center staff if you will be late or miss a treatment or a visit with the doctor.
- You need to tell your health care team about medical problems, dental appointments, if you are being treated by another doctor, or have been to the hospital.
- You need to follow the rules of the center.
- You need to get to and from the center for dialysis. Talk with your social worker, if you need help. Medicare does not pay for transportation.

WHAT ELSE DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

- If your behavior is troublesome or rude, you may be asked to leave or may not be able to return to dialysis at your center. Your behavior could also make it hard to get into another center or find another kidney doctor to care for you.
- If you refuse treatment or medications, you may be causing harm to yourself, and you should discuss this with your doctor.
- If you do not show up for treatments, you may have to change your chair time or shift.
- For more information on your rights and responsibilities, please speak to your social worker.



TREATMENT OPTIONS: DID YOU KNOW?



The Kidney Project is a national research project working to create a small, artificial kidney that would be inserted into the body through surgery to treat End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). Kidney Project is following the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) requirements to ensure they do everything necessary to create a safe product. It is a slow and costly process, but it is hoped that the final stage of clinical trials will happen by late 2021.

For more information, visit <https://pharm.ucsf.edu/kidney>.

To file a grievance, please contact Network 8 by phone at 1-877-936-9260, by email at nw8info@allianthealth.org, or by mail at 775 Woodlands Pkwy, Suite 310, Ridgeland, MS 39157.

Visit www.esrdnetwork8.org for more information.
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