

End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Quality Reporting System (EQRS)

ESRD Quality Program Support Contractor

Webinar Question and Answer Summary Document:

Forms CMS-2744A and CMS-2744B

This document is based on questions asked and answered during the January 21st Monthly EQRS Stakeholder Meeting. Event slides are available on the events page of the MyCROWNWeb website at: https://mycrownweb.org/events/.

Form CMS-2744A is available on the CMS.gov website at: https://www.cms.gov/medicare/cms-forms/cms-forms/downloads/cms2744a.pdf.

Form CMS-2744B is available on the CMS.gov website at: https://www.cms.gov/medicare/cms-forms/cms-forms/downloads/cms2744b.pdf.

Additional questions can be asked using the QualityNet Help Desk:

- By email at <u>qnetsupport-esrd@cms.hhs.gov</u>.
- With an Online Ticket submission at https://cmsqualitysupport.servicenowservices.com/ccsq_support_central.

DISCLAIMER: The responses provided in this document reflect answers that were current and accurate as of the date on which the event referenced above occurred. Subsequent to the event, questions and answers were compiled and edited for clarity and completeness. We recommend that this question-and-answer document be relied on for the clearest answers to questions posed during the event.

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Questions and responses are arranged in the sections noted below:

General Questions

Questions about Patient Load

Questions about Treatment and Staffing

General Questions

Question 1. Should facilities with in-center and home-based dialysis programs submit one Form CMS-2744 or one form for each program?

If your facility has one CCN that covers both your home and in-center programs, then you should complete one Form CMS-2744.

Question 2. How do we print out the Form CMS-2744? I do not see a print button.

EQRS does not currently have a print button. You should have the option of using a "print screen" button on your keyboard. You also can generate the report for the completed Form CMS-2744 to review the information it includes for each field.

Question 3. Is there any reason why we should keep hard copies of the Form CMS-2744 from prior years?

No. CMS does not require dialysis facilities to keep hard copies of the Form CMS-2744, as these documents are stored in EQRS.

Question 4. When you make a correction in EQRS, is there a delay in having the corrected information appear on the reports or is the change made immediately?

The change should be immediate. However, you need to regenerate the Form CMS-2744 and save it. You can then download a new report that will include the corrected information.

Question 5. Should dialysis facilities fill out both Form CMS-2744A and Form CMS-2744B?

No. The Form CMS-2744A is for dialysis facilities while Form CMS-2744B is for transplant centers. Dialysis facilities only need to fill out Form CMS-2744A.

Question 6. When is Form CMS-2744 due?

The due date set by the ESRD Networks is 03/31/2025. This is the date by which your Form CMS-2744 should be submitted to your ESRD Network for review. Some organizations may set earlier internal deadlines.

Questions about Patient Load

Question 7. Are we reporting patients who receive treatment in our facility on a temporary basis?

No. Transient patients (those that transfer in and out of your facility in less than 30 calendar days) are not reported.

Question 8. How do we include transients if we do not enter transient patients into EQRS?

You should not include transient patients in admissions and discharges on your Form CMS-2744.

Question 9. Where can we get help if a patient's dialysis modality is listed incorrectly in EQRS?

Please contact your local ESRD Network to discuss this situation.

Question 10. Where should transplant support patients be counted in the Form CMS-2744?

If a patient is admitted in EQRS as dialysis in support of transplant (transplant has not failed), they will not be counted in the Form CMS-2744 for the dialysis facility. If the patient's kidney transplant failed, they are counted in field 7a or 7b (return after transplantation).

Question 11. If a patient's death occurred more than 30 days after stopping dialysis, is our facility still responsible for completing a Death Notification Form (Form CMS-2746)?

No. If death occurred more than 30 days after stopping dialysis, your facility is not responsible for completing a Form CMS-2746.

Question 12. If a patient discontinued dialysis at the end of December 2024, but died in January 2025 (within 30 days of their last treatment in December 2024) - is that patient counted as a death in 2024 or in 2025?

The death should be counted in the year it occurred. In this scenario, you should count the patient's death in 2025.

Question 13. Question 38 asks the number of "other" treatments provided in-center. Are outpatient peritoneal dialysis (PD) exchanges counted in this? What about PD exchanges that we provide in our facility for outpatients?

Field 38 includes Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis (CAPD and Continuous Cycling Peritoneal Dialysis (CCPD) training days where an exchange took place inside your facility. Therefore, you will not count individual exchanges performed. This count should be based on the number of training days for all home dialysis patients.

Questions about Treatment and Staffing

Question 14. Is the staffing based on the number of positions and staff at the end of survey period, or do we count all of the staff that worked during the survey period?

Staffing is based on the number of positions at your facility as of 12/31. It includes staff that are employees, contracted staff and PRN staff. All positions and staff must be classified as either full-time (32+ hours per week) or part time (under 32 hours per week).

Question 15. If a staff member works 32 hours per week in our facility, would they be considered full-time?

Yes. Full-time is defined as a position with at least 32 hours employment per week. Part time is defined as a position with less than 32 hours per week. If a staff member works 20 hours per week in your facility and 20 hours per week in another facility, both facilities should classify the person as part time.