



Changes to NHSN Dialysis Surveillance Forms 2026

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Overview

- Review changes to the Outpatient Dialysis Center Practices Survey, Home Dialysis Center Practices Survey, Monthly Reporting Plan, and Dialysis Surveillance Event form to become effective Quarter 1 2026.

Outpatient Dialysis Center Practices Survey

Upcoming Changes to Outpatient Dialysis Survey –

- **Question #3 on facility accreditation other than CMS has been removed in its entirety.**

Upcoming Changes to Outpatient Dialysis Survey – Question 11

- Question 11 was rewritten for better clarity. The wording changes are identified by BOLD.

Which of the following resources/ staff **does your center have to** ensure permanent vascular access placement and maintenance? (to decrease CVC use in hemodialysis patients) (select all that apply)?

- ☐ Dedicated vascular access coordinator
- ☐ **Dedicated nephrologist** who oversees patient education and coordinates patient care related to vascular access
- ☐ Relationship with or access to a surgeon skilled in access placement (or a process to refer patients to a surgeon that is skilled in access placement)
- ☐ Cannulation expert
- ☐ Relationship with or access to interventional nephrologists or interventional radiologist
- ☐ Other, specify: _____
- ☐ None

Upcoming Changes to Outpatient Dialysis Survey - Questions 27, 34, 42, and 49

- Questions #27, 34, 42, and 49 now include the COVID-19 vaccine (see example below).

Of the patient care staff members counted in question 26, how many received:

- a. A completed series of hepatitis B vaccine (ever)?
- b. The influenza (flu) vaccine for the current/most recent flu season?
- c. The COVID19 vaccine?

Upcoming Changes to Outpatient Dialysis Survey – Question 62

The CDC Core Interventions question has been modified for better clarity (changes in bold).

Which of the following CDC Core Interventions does your center apply for prevention of blood stream infections in hemodialysis? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Surveillance and feedback using NHSN
- ☐ **Staff hand** hygiene observations
- ☐ **Staff catheter** /vascular access care observations
- ☐ Staff education and competency on infection control topics/skills
- ☐ Patient education/engagement on infection prevention topics
- ☐ Catheter reduction efforts
- ☐ Chlorhexidine with alcohol for skin antisepsis for catheter dressing changes
- ☐ Catheter hub disinfection (“scrub the hub”)
- ☐ Antimicrobial ointment for catheter exit site dressing
- ☐ Chlorhexidine-impregnated dressing for catheter exit site
- ☐ None

Home Dialysis Center Practices Survey

Upcoming Changes to the Home Dialysis Survey – Question 14

- **The race options have been reordered to be consistent with Outpatient Dialysis Survey.**
 - American Indian or Alaska Native
 - Asian
 - Black or African American
 - Middle Eastern or North African
 - Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
 - White
 - Unknown
 - Declined to respond

Upcoming Changes to the Home Dialysis Survey – Questions 17, 19, and 25

- These three questions now include the **COVID-19 vaccine** for patient care staff.

Of the patient care staff members counted in question 15, how many received:

- a. A completed series of hepatitis B vaccine (ever)?
- b. The influenza (flu) vaccine for the current/most recent flu season?
- c. **The COVID-19 vaccine?**

Upcoming Changes to the Home Dialysis Survey – Question 35

- **This question has been reworded for clarity and options for performance of staff knowledge assessments.**

Does your center perform staff knowledge assessments for infection prevention and control? (select all that apply)

- ☐ **Upon Hire**
- ☐ At least annually
- ☐ **Multiple** times each year
- ☐ **Less than once a year**
- ☐ When new equipment or procedures are introduced

Monthly Reporting Plan

Upcoming Changes to the Monthly Reporting Plan

- The single change to the Monthly Reporting Plan is the removal of the CLIP option under Events.

Dialysis Surveillance Event Form

Upcoming Changes to the Dialysis Event Form – Sex Field

- The options under Sex will include M (Male), F (Female), and N (Missing/Not Available).
- No other options will be available beginning Jan 2026.

Upcoming Changes to the Dialysis Event Form – Preferred Language and Interpreter Needed

- The Preferred Language and Interpreter Needed fields will not be included beginning with the Jan 2026 dialysis event form.

Thank you!

Questions?