

DIALYSIS PRACTICES THAT DISTINGUISH TOP VERSUS BOTTOM PERFORMING FACILITIES BY STANDARDIZED MORTALITY RATIO (SMR)

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Metric	N ^b	Top Mean	N ^b	Bottom Mean	ES ^c
MDC ^a held after hospital discharge	35	4.44	39	3.46	0.80
Patients extremely motivated	42	3.47	45	3.06	0.60
Patients learn to care for themselves	42	4.84	45	4.34	0.60
Patients able to care for themselves	42	4.49	45	3.93	0.60
Patients compliant with diets	42	3.91	45	3.24	0.60
Facility uses computers on wheels	34	0.32	38	0.08	0.60

^aMDC=Multidisciplinary Conference; ^bN = Facilities; ^c $p < 0.05$

Personnel in units achieving lower SMR report that patients are more motivated, self-efficacious, and compliant with diets. Low SMR centers perform timely MDC conferences post hospitalization, and use more computers on wheels. This suggests both patient-level and facility-level practices are associated with differentiating SMR outcomes across dialysis units.