Our sincere appreciation to the teammates in our nearly 1600 clinics who work every day not only to take care of patients but also to ensure the extensive data collection on which our work is based.

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INTRODUCTION

• Fact: Typically the majority of patients reaching Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) stage 5 are placed on in-center hemodialysis (ICHD)
• But: 90% of physicians and nurses would choose a home therapy for themselves and believe at least 25-30% of patients would qualify for a home therapy
• And: Better outcomes, improved quality of life (QOL), and a more active lifestyle may be obtained on a home therapy

Research Question: What drives modality selection?

METHODOLOGY

• We divided the needs assessment and implementation into 4 phases as illustrated in the Assessment and Implementation Section.
• Our goals were to:
  1. Assess current practice of patient education on available treatment options
  2. Assess current available modality education materials
  3. Design comprehensive tools to improve modality education
  4. Educate every patient on available treatment options using unbiased information

SUMMARY of RESULTS

• From Phase I, “Kidney Education and You” by NKF was the most frequently used modality education program and “Baxter’s Choices” was the most frequently used video with 73% of users finding the video effective (8-10 rating out of 10).
• Survey results showed the top 3 perceived needs for new training were (1) more realistic explanation of modalities, (2) more comprehensive overview, and (3) more realistic explanation of expectations for care partners. As a result, the team developed tools in both English and Spanish for modality education (Figure 1).
• After Phase II, 1,500 patients in 464 centers were educated. Peritoneal dialysis home starts were 10.8% higher and transfers from ICHD to PD were 5.6% higher in facilities in the pilot program compared to the facilities without access to the newly developed tools.

KEY LEARNINGS

• Focus on modality education resulted in a higher percentage of patients choosing home dialysis & multimedia materials improved the quality and consistency of modality education
• Standardized and consistent approach to modality education facilitated time management for educators
• The more successful programs assigned a modality education “Champion” to the process

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