

DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTEGRATED END-STAGE KIDNEY DISEASE (ESKD) CARE COORDINATION MODEL: AN OBSERVATIONAL TRIAL PROTOCOL



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PAYER-PROVIDER PARTNERSHIP

- Integrated care models involving collaboration among clinicians, dialysis providers, and health plans have potential to reduce costs and improve outcomes.

Cigna partnered with DaVita to develop the Integrated Kidney Care (IKC) Model in 2018

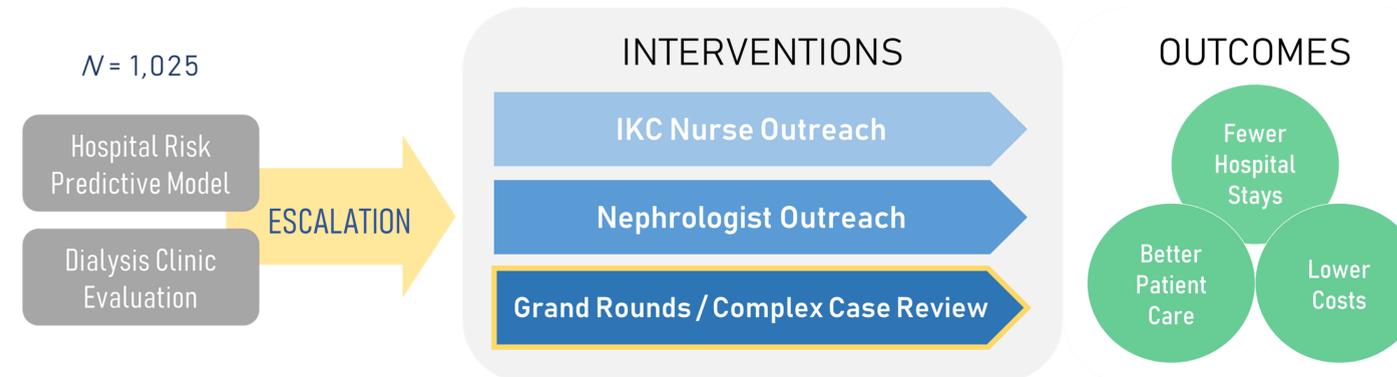
Figure 1. Partnership for Integrated ESKD Care Coordination



- The payer-provider partnership (Figure 1) is a 50-50 shared savings program designed to coordinate and improve quality of care for ESKD patients and lower total medical costs.
- The goal was to improve patient outcomes by leveraging Cigna's resources and DaVita IKC's care management programs to identify and close gaps in care.
- This study describes early outcomes of the IKC Model of coordination for high-complexity ESKD patients.

OBSERVATIONAL TRIAL PROTOCOL

Figure 2. Risk Stratification Approach and Complex Case Interventions



- The interdisciplinary health team's approach to care delivery (Figure 2) uses advanced predictive analytics and qualitative, real-time clinical evaluations by dialysis staff to identify patients at risk for hospital admission.
- Interdisciplinary health teams include members from both Cigna and DaVita IKC.
- Team members consist of nephrologists, behavioral health specialists, physicians, pharmacists, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, transplant case managers, analysts and business operations managers.
- Eligible ESKD patients ($N = 1,025$) were systematically stratified by risk to determine case complexity.
- Interdisciplinary health teams for patients identified in the highest-complexity tier meet monthly for Grand Rounds discussions to address patient needs and coordinate care.
- Outcome measures and costs are determined from medical and pharmacy claims, medical records data, and provider notes.
- One year of follow-up data will be compared to patient baseline results.

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What are Grand Rounds?

- » The interdisciplinary health team convenes monthly for a cooperative discussion to review the most highly complex patient cases and evaluate real time gaps in care.
- » An enhanced collaborative plan of care is developed to support the transplant process, medication management, and resource navigation.

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

- Although only a small subset of total patients received complex case interventions, implementation of Grand Rounds contributed to improved outcomes across the entire managed population.
- Early results are promising, including a **10% reduction in non-dialysis costs PMPM**, a **7% reduction in rate of hospitalization**, and at least **\$10M in total shared savings**.

CONCLUSION

- The IKC model leverages predictive data analytics and clinical insights for enhanced interdisciplinary coordination of patients with complex ESKD.
- Study findings evaluating the effectiveness of the IKC approach are expected to inform value-based payment models.

PMPM – per member, per month

KEYWORDS: case management, end stage kidney disease, outcomes, care coordination, integrated care delivery models, collaborative care