



ALLIANCE FOR HOME DIALYSIS APPLAUDS THE FINALIZATION OF THE END-STAGE RENAL DISEASE TREATMENT CHOICES MODEL TO REVOLUTIONIZE KIDNEY CARE IN AMERICA AND INCREASE ACCESS TO HOME DIALYSIS MODALITIES

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WASHINGTON, D.C. (September 21, 2020) – Today, the Alliance for Home Dialysis commended the work of the Department of Health and Human Services in finalizing the End-Stage Renal Disease Treatment Choices Model (ETC Model), a measure designed to increase access to home dialysis for thousands of Americans who live with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). The Administration’s final ETC Model signifies a commitment to revolutionizing kidney care in America, including giving thousands of ESRD patients new access to home dialysis, with all the benefits that home modalities can offer.

Kidney disease affects approximately 37 million Americans and is a leading cause of death in the United States. ESRD is the final stage of kidney disease and requires that a patient undergo a transplant or dialysis treatments to live. Studies show that some patients receiving dialysis treatment in their home can feel healthier, have reduced heart and blood pressure problems, and go to the hospital less frequently. Studies also show that home dialysis patients have better mental health outcomes, including in their social function. While 11.9 percent of dialysis patients in the U.S. currently receive treatment in the home, patients in other developed nations have access to home treatment at much greater rates. For example, more than half of ESRD patients in Hong Kong, Australia, and New Zealand dialyze at home.

“We strongly support the Administration’s commitment to transforming kidney disease treatment and increasing the quality of life and care for ESRD patients, including through the creation of innovative new payment models,” said Stephanie Silverman, Executive Director of the Alliance for Home Dialysis. “Our members stand ready to work with the Administration to implement the ETC Model, and we look forward to seeing ESRD patients realize the many benefits that these new incentives for home treatment can offer them and their families.”

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The Alliance for Home Dialysis represents patients, clinicians, providers, and industry working to promote policies that facilitate treatment choice for individuals in need of dialysis, and to address systemic barriers that limit access to the many benefits of home dialysis. These issues are particularly important given that over 700,000 Americans are currently living with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) and most of them depend on dialysis for survival.