

Examples of Topics for Nephrology Fellowship Improvement Project

Dialysis

- Meeting access goals/minimize catheter use in current dialysis patients
- Work on Mineral and Bone Disorder protocol
- Determine whether PICC line placement practice in ESRD patients is appropriate
- Multiple other projects—review with [*unit medical director*]

Transplantation

- Review adequacy of management of any CKD or CVD parameters in transplant patients
- Review whether unnecessary barriers to scheduling rapid recipient & donor evaluations exist
- Other potential projects—discuss with [transplant program medical director]

Hypertension

- Review referrals to HTN nurses for education
- List goal BP in each progress note
- Improve follow-up of home BP readings in fellows' patients

Chronic Kidney Disease

- Develop CKD patient visit questionnaire
- Develop checklist for each CKD patient (management issues)
- Document discussion of access planning
- Develop standardized darbapoietin protocol for outpatients

Documentation and Billing

- Improve documentation of med changes during visit in EOP and importing med list into progress note
- Review appropriateness of individual billing practices (fellows' clinic)

Expense reduction

- Reduce the use of IV albumin during inpatient dialysis
- Reduce unnecessary daily blood tests in hospitalized patients followed by nephrology consult service

Dietary

- Review patterns of referral to dieticians for patients with nephrolithiasis, CKD, HTN, etc.