



August 2026 Dialysis Office Hours

Dialysis Event Reporting Change: New Hospitalization and Death Outcome Window

Letty Lamping, MPH

Public Health Analyst II

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion Surveillance Branch

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Objectives

- Understand what changes in reporting hospitalizations and death outcomes.
- Recognize what stays the same.
- How to apply the 30-day window.
- How to get ready for the change and the timeline.
- Team actions for every dialysis event.

The Change at a Glance

Outcome association timing is moving from open-ended to explicit.

CURRENT

No specified timeframe

Death or hospitalization could be associated with a dialysis event without a defined outcome window.

Interpretation could vary across follow-up workflows.



NEW · Q4 2026

30-day timeframe

Death and/or hospitalization are evaluated separately within 30 days of the dialysis event.

A consistent window supports clearer follow-up and data review.

Effective beginning October 1, 2026

What Stays the Same

The change is focused on outcome timing, not on event identification.

NO CHANGE TO DIALYSIS EVENT TYPES

1

**Positive blood
culture**

Event date: specimen collection

2

**IV antimicrobial
start**

Event date: first outpatient dose

3

**Pus, redness, or
increased swelling**

Event date: symptom onset

21-day rule remains part of event reporting

Continue to use existing event rules to determine separate dialysis events.

Only the outcome timeframe is changing

Apply the new 30-day window to death and hospitalization as separate outcomes.

Applying the 30-day Window

Start with the dialysis event date, then track death and hospitalization independently.



Day 0
Dialysis event date

Days 1–30
Outcome follow-up window

After 30 days
Outside the window

Hospitalization

Was the patient hospitalized within 30 days?

Death

Did death occur within 30 days?

Key practice: A patient may have one outcome, both outcomes, or neither outcome within the 30-day window.

Dialysis Form Completion Example

Hospitalization

Select “Yes” if the patient was admitted to a hospital and this outcome was either definitely or possibly related to the event(s) or problem(s) AND if the hospitalization occurred within 30 days of this event.

Example: Dialysis event date of August 1, patient was hospitalized on or before August 30, select “Yes”.

Select “No” if this outcome did not occur, or the patient was hospitalized, but it was definitely not related to the event(s) or problem(s) OR if patient was hospitalized after 30 days following the event.

Example: Dialysis event date of August 1, patient was hospitalized on or after August 31, select “No”.

Death

Select “Yes” if the patient died and this outcome was either definitely or possibly related to the event(s) or problem(s) AND if the death occurred within 30 days of this event. Select “Yes” if cause of death is unknown.

Example: Dialysis event date of August 1, patient passed away on or before August 30, select “Yes”.

Select “No” if this outcome did not occur, or if the patient did die, but it was definitely not related to the event(s) or problem(s) or occurred after 30 days following the event.

Example: Dialysis event date of August 1, patient passed away on or after August 31, select “No”.

Effective beginning October 1, 2026

Readiness Timeline

Prepare follow-up, documentation, and quality checks before Q4 reporting begins.

Now–Q3 2026

Designate owner; update SOPs, forms, and event follow-up logs.

September 2026

Run a dry run on recent events and confirm open issues.

October 1, 2026

Go live for Q4 2026 reporting with the 30-day timeframe.

Q4 2026+

Use routine QA to resolve late information and complete records.



Recommended Operational Focus

Keep a pending event list through the 30-day outcome window; update records when new information becomes available.

Team Actions for Every Dialysis Event

A practical checklist for consistent Q4 2026 implementation.



- 1 Record the event date accurately.
- 2 Start the 30-day outcome follow-up.
- 3 Verify hospitalization and death separately.
- 4 Document “no outcome” when the window closes.
- 5 Update the record if new information is received.

Core message

Same event definitions — clearer outcome window.

Resources & Questions

- **CDC NHSN Dialysis Event Surveillance Protocol**
 - January 2026 <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/pscmanual/8pscdialysiseventcurrent.pdf>
- **Dialysis Event Table of Instructions**
 - January 2026 - https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/forms/instr/57_502.pdf
- **Dialysis Event Webpage** - <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/dialysis/event/index.html>

Questions may be sent via [NHSN-ServiceNow](#) or the NHSN Helpdesk at NHSN@cdc.gov.

Thank you.

For more information, contact CDC
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