

Plan of Care — Elevated Hemoglobin for Patients Receiving Erythropoiesis-Stimulating Agents (ESA)

*This measure is to be reported for all patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of advanced CKD (stage 4 or 5, not receiving renal replacement therapy [RRT]) — a minimum of **once per calendar month**.*

Measure description

Percentage of patient calendar months during the 12-month reporting period in which patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of advanced CKD (stage 4 or 5, not receiving renal replacement therapy [RRT]), receiving ESA therapy, have a hemoglobin < 13 g/dL OR patients whose hemoglobin is ≥ 13 g/dL and have a documented plan of care

What will you need to report for each patient with advanced CKD (stage 4 or 5, not receiving RRT) for this measure?

If you select this measure for reporting, you will report:

- Whether or not the patient is receiving erythropoiesis-stimulating agent (ESA) therapy

If the patient is receiving ESA therapy, you will then need to report:

- A hemoglobin level for each patient with CKD receiving ESA therapy, once per calendar month:
 - Hemoglobin level ≥ 13 g/dL
 - Hemoglobin level between 11 g/dL and 12.9 g/dL
 - Hemoglobin level < 11 g/dL

If the hemoglobin level is greater than or equal to 13 g/dL, you will then need to report:

- Whether or not you documented a plan of care for elevated hemoglobin level¹

What if this process or outcome of care is not appropriate for your patient?

Some measures provide an opportunity for the physician or non-physician provider to document when a process or outcome of care is not appropriate for a given patient (also called performance exclusions). Because this measure is applicable to most if not all patients, there are no allowable performance exclusions.

¹A documented plan of care should include reducing the ESA dose and repeating hemoglobin at a specified future date.