

Name of facility / Provider # \_\_\_\_\_

Facility Contact/Position \_\_\_\_\_

Root Cause Assessment  
Anemia

Major Barriers to Prevent Anemia	Potential Root Cause For Anemia	Problem in facility?	Potential to change
<b>Patient Factors</b>			
<b>Awareness/Knowledge</b>	• Lack of knowledge concerning the causes of anemia		Y/N
	• Lacks knowledge about proper nutrition that supports RBC production		Y/N
	• Lacks knowledge regarding s/s of anemia		Y/N
	• Lack of knowledge about infection control practices		Y/N
	• Lack of education regarding treatment for anemia		Y/N
<b>Physical factors that increase the chances of anemia</b>	• Certain diseases processes cause anemia (sickle cell , diabetes, thyroid disease)		Y/N
	• Infection and inflammation		Y/N
	• Iron deficiency		Y/N
	• Malnutrition (B12 and or folic acid deficiency, low albumin)		Y/N
	• Bleeding (GI, trauma)		Y/N
	• Menstruation		Y/N
	• Bone marrow depression (leukemia, chemotherapy)		Y/N
	• Hemolysis (dialysis or due to disease such as thalassemia)		Y/N
<b>Communication/ Education</b>	• Failure to recognize and report s/s of anemia to healthcare workers		Y/N
	• Lack of awareness about proper personal hygiene and lack of hand washing that can increase possibility of infections		Y/N
<b>Social</b>	• Cultural bias regarding sickness, hygiene, foods,		Y/N
	• Lacks insurance		Y/N
<b>Other</b>	• Failure to take medications (oral iron, vitamin B12 or folic acid) as prescribed		Y/N
	• Aware that catheters are a major source of infection, but tend to ignore medical advice to have another type of access placed		Y/N
	• Patient complacency or depression		Y/N
	• Under dialyzed		Y/N
	• Hospitalization (missed ESA or iron doses)		Y/N
<b>Nephrologist Factors</b>			
<b>General</b>	• Failure of nephrologists to educate patients about anemia and its causes		Y/N
	• Failure of nephrologist to investigate possible causes of anemia		Y/N
	• Failure to monitor labs and adjust EPO and/or iron needs in a timely manner		Y/N
	• Failure to maintain an up-to-date protocol for EPO and iron dosing		Y/N
	• Failure of nephrologists to lead the CQI program; monitoring Hgb, planning prevention and/or treatment of anemia		Y/N

Facility Factors			
Awareness/Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facility failed to educate staff about the multiple causes of anemia</li> </ul>		Y/N
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facility lacks method for tracking patient trends for Hgb, Tsat and ferritin</li> </ul>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facility lacks an anemia manager who is responsible for following the facility's anemia protocol</li> </ul>		Y/N
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facility lacks a Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement program (QAPI) that addresses anemia</li> </ul>		Y/N
Communication/Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inadequate communication / education between dialysis facility nurses, technicians and nephrologists regarding anemia protocol</li> </ul>		Y/N
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Failure by nurses or technicians to report s/s of anemia in patients</li> </ul>		Y/N
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Failure to track and report lab results that contribute to anemia such as; decrease in Hgb, iron, ferritin levels or increase in WBC</li> </ul>		Y/N
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of written Policy and Procedure regarding anemia</li> </ul>		Y/N
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Techs and nurses may lack adequate training/experience in assessing and following anemia policies and procedures.</li> </ul>		Y/N
Training/Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff lacks training/ experience about facility anemia policies/procedures</li> </ul>		Y/N
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff lacks training about proper infection control and hand hygiene</li> </ul>		Y/N
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nurses and technicians may not follow proper infection control policies and procedures (hand washing, routine immunizations not given)</li> </ul>		Y/N
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff lacks training and experience in developing QAPI programs</li> </ul>		Y/N
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facility lacks adequate anemia management training program for staff</li> </ul>		Y/N
Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administration does not ensure that a QAPI program for anemia is developed</li> </ul>		Y/N
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administration does follow recommended CMS Conditions for Coverage for infection control and/or anemia</li> </ul>		Y/N
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facility lacks Infection control team</li> </ul>		Y/N

\* This list does not include every root cause affecting anemia

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