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Vascular Access Navigator Role Overview

What is the Vascular Access Navigator Role?

The **Vascular Access Navigator Role** is designed for a dialysis facility staff member who will assist the LTC QIA Lead (or the person who normally works with long-term catheter reduction related tasks) in patient and staff education & staff training.

Key responsibilities of the role:

- Provide staff and patient training - Vascular access planning, facility protocols, audit tools
- Partner with the Project lead to implement initiatives/interventions and maintain initiatives that are patient centered
- Partner with the **Patient Facility Representative (PFR)**
- Align with goals and quality measures of organization
- Offer PFR on-going guidance, motivation and words of encouragement
- Partner with the Project Lead to complete practice audits, complete the RCA/ Rapid cycle work sheet`

Who is the ideal candidate for this role?

This staff member, ideally, is a Patient Care Technician, or a Treatment Floor RN who is passionate about Vascular Access /or willing to learn and become Subject Mater Experts (SME) in this topic. This team member is someone who is respected by other staff members and patients, s/he is an effective communicator and enthusiastic. In addition, this person will be committed to the role and open to new ideas. This person should have virtues of a leader, and have the desire to give the extra mile.

How to recruit staff members for this role?

You, or your leadership might have someone that comes to mind right away and you might want to approach them to see if they are interested in the **Vascular Access Navigator Role**. However, maybe no one is coming to mind. We recommend that you make all your staff aware of your facility involvement with the LTC QIA project with the ESRD Network and explain what this means, and the activities that you will be performing during the year.

Motivate your staff to take in this leadership role; you might decide to include this responsibility in someone’s annual performance evaluation goals. You may also consider this role for promotions or special recognition. Add this role as a special project for someone who is looking to expand their skills and responsibilities, or desire professional growth.



How to recruit staff members for this role?

The Project Lead is ultimately responsible for the **LTC QIA Project** related day to day activities at the facility, typically Clinic Managers, or the Charge Nurse is responsible for this role. The project lead is who will be leading and coordinating all efforts of the **LTC QIA Project**, attending to scheduled webinars, NCC LAN Calls, submitting requested surveys etc.

In contrast, the **Vascular Access Navigator** is a staff member who will be assisting the Project Lead in additional and interactive activities, such as Lobby Days, distributing educational information, etc. Ideally the **Vascular Access Navigator** will be a staff member that normally works at the treatment floor and can address education right at the place where questions, comments and casual conversations take place.

Which are the ideal steps on establishing this role at your facility?

To assure a successful implementation of the **Vascular Access Navigator** through your participation of the **LTC QIA Project**, and a sustainable plan for this role even after your participation with this project the following steps are recommended:

