

## Kidney Care Choices

We are partnering with Medicare in the Kidney Care Choices Model (KCC) which helps manage the care for Medicare Beneficiaries with chronic kidney disease (CKD) stages 4 and 5 and end stage renal disease (ESRD) delay the onset of dialysis and incentivize kidney transplantation.



### How does participation in KCC work?

- ▶ **The patient is a key component of the Model design.**
- ▶ As a KCC participant, we receive additional flexibilities that help us educate you on kidney disease and manage your care, which may include resources to delay the progression of CKD to ESRD, manage the transition onto dialysis, support you through the transplant process, and keep you healthy post-transplant.
- ▶ KCC isn't a Medicare Advantage plan which is an "all in one" alternative to Original Medicare offered by private companies approved by Medicare. The KCC Model isn't an HMO plan or an insurance plan of any kind.
- ▶ Providers in the KCC model that do a good job may earn a financial bonus. Those that earn a bonus may use the payment to invest more in your care or share a portion directly with your health care providers.



### How does KCC affect me, the Medicare patient?

- ▶ Our participation in Kidney Care Choices (KCC) doesn't limit your choice of health care providers. **Your Medicare benefits are not changing.** You still have the right to visit any doctor, hospital, or other provider that accepts Medicare at any time, just like you do now.



### What information will be shared about me?

- ▶ Medicare shares information about your care with your health care providers such as dates and times you visited a health care provider and your medical conditions. Sharing your data helps make sure all the providers involved in your care have access to your health information when and where they need it.
- ▶ **We value your privacy.** KCC participants must put important safeguards in place to make sure all your health care information is safe. We respect your choice on how your health care information is used for care coordination and quality improvement.
- ▶ If you **don't** want Medicare to share your health care data information, **call 1-800-MEDICARE** (1-800-633-4227). Tell the representative that your health care provider is part of the KCC model and you don't want Medicare to share your health care information. Beneficiaries who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, or have speech disabilities should call 1-877-486-2048.



### How can I make the most of getting care from the KCC Model?

- ▶ As a Medicare patient, you can choose or change your provider at any time. Your nephrologist is the health care provider responsible for coordinating your overall care for your kidney related disease. Your nephrologist can help you make informed decisions about your health care, track your treatment, and monitor your health outcomes.



### What if I have concerns about being part of the KCC Model?

- ▶ If you have questions or concerns about the quality of care or other services you receive from your provider, you can contact **1-800-MEDICARE**.
- ▶ If you suspect *Medicare fraud or abuse from your KCC provider* or any Medicare provider, we encourage you to make a report by contacting the HHS Office of Inspector General (1-800-HHS-TIPS).
- ▶ If you believe your *privacy rights have been violated*, you may file a privacy complaint with CMS (visit Medicare.gov, or call 1-800-MEDICARE) or with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office for Civil Rights (visit [hhs.gov/hipaa/filing-a-complaint](https://hhs.gov/hipaa/filing-a-complaint)). Filing a complaint won't affect your coverage under Medicare.



KSM



evergreen  
nephrology

BETTER TOGETHER

Welcome to the Kidney Care  
Choices (KCC) Program.

Dear Patient,

### **Good news! You have been enrolled in the Kidney Care Choices (KCC) Program.**

Providing you with the best care possible is always our top priority, and we're always looking for ways to improve. That's why we've partnered with Evergreen Nephrology to expand the types of services we can offer you through your Medicare plan.

This new program is called Kidney Care Choices (KCC) and is designed specifically for people living with chronic kidney disease (CKD) or end stage kidney disease (ESKD).

Understandably, you might have questions about how this new program will impact you. We've provided answers to some frequently asked questions below. If you have any other questions, you can always call us at 763-307-9022.

### **Here's how the program works.**

- You are automatically enrolled. You don't have to do anything to start receiving additional services – we'll reach out to you to get you started. If you haven't heard from someone on your care team in the next few weeks, feel free to call us at 763-544-0696.
- Your Medicare premium remains the same. You may still be responsible for certain cost-sharing amounts, like copays, when you receive health care services. But the added benefits you receive from being part of the KCC program will not increase your monthly payments.
- The program is designed for YOU. The KCC program was made for people living with kidney disease. We're here to provide education and support if you need it. For example, if it makes sense for you, we can help with a transition to dialysis or support you before and after a kidney transplant.
- We help you coordinate your care. KSM and Evergreen Nephrology provide you with a full care team through the KCC program and aim to make it easy for you. That means we'll take on the work of helping you schedule appointments, access care when you need it, and navigate living with kidney disease.

### **We're here to help you make the most of being part of the KCC program.**

If you have any questions or concerns about the care or other services you receive from us, call your KSM doctors at 763-307-9022. If you have questions about your Medicare plan or benefits, you can also call 1-800-MEDICARE (TTY: 711).

From your partners in care,

Your KSM Kidney Doctors and Evergreen Care Team