

Ascend Clinical is the leading provider of dialysis laboratory testing and services to healthcare clinics across the United States.

## Colony Count Testing

Ascend offers **Colony Count RD52, RD62** and **Colony Count AAMI/ISO** for two source types: Dialysate and Dialysis Water.

<p><b>Colony Count RD52, RD62</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meets the minimal standards required by CMS with a maximum allowable limit of <b>200</b> cfu/mL.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Colony Count AAMI/ISO</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follows the most recent AAMI guidelines which have a maximum allowable limit of <b>100</b> cfu/mL.</li> <li>The lower maximum limit increases:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of samples that reach this threshold, requiring additional reagents and culture dishes.</li> <li>The frequency of secondary reviews performed by an Environmental Analyst.</li> </ul> </li> <li>This new threshold is also endorsed by accreditation organizations such as the Joint Commission (formerly JCAHO) and NDAC (National Dialysis Accreditation Commission).</li> </ul>
<p><b>NY Colony Count Testing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In addition to the above standards, the state of New York requires all samples to be run in duplicate.</li> </ul>

## LAL Testing

Ascend offers **LAL Endotoxin**, **LAL Dialysate (ISO)**, and **LAL Water (ISO)** for source type dialysate and dialysis water, respectively.

<p><b>LAL Endotoxin</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meets the minimal standards required by CMS with a maximum allowable limit of <b>2</b> EU/mL.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LAL Dialysate (ISO) and LAL Water (ISO)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follows the most recent AAMI guidelines which have a maximum allowable limit of <b>0.5</b> EU/mL for dialysate and <b>0.25</b> EU/mL for water.</li> <li>This lower maximum limit requires batching ISO samples separately to avoid the possibility of a false positive resulting from sample dilution.</li> <li>This process requires a manual review by an Environmental Analyst, segregation of ISO samples, and a re-run on a different instrument prior to releasing the results.</li> </ul>