



Quality
Insights
Renal Network 4



Network 4 NEWS

A Monthly Newsletter for Quality Insights Renal Network 4

STAY CONNECTED



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GREETINGS FROM QUALITY INSIGHTS RENAL NETWORK 4

Welcome to the April issue of the Quality Insights Renal Network 4 e-newsletter. In this issue, we bring you information about Dialysis Facility Compare (DFC), upcoming webinar opportunities, an innovative idea for facilities, CMS updates, upcoming events and more. We encourage you to [contact us](#) with any questions, concerns or suggestions.



FACILITY-LED PATIENT EDUCATION TOPIC OF THE MONTH: DIALYSIS FACILITY COMPARE

We will provide a Network 4 Patient Education Sheet each month in 2019. Please provide all of your patients with this education sheet each month. Also, we ask that you please encourage your facility's Patient Representatives to pass out this educational information.

- Dialysis Facility Compare ([English](#) / [Spanish](#))



QUICK LINKS

[Quality Insights Renal Network 4 Website](#)

[Medicare's Dialysis Facility Compare](#)

[National Kidney Foundation](#)

[American Kidney Fund](#)

[Kidney Foundation of Central Pennsylvania](#)

[Pennsylvania Health Department: Health Alert, Advisories and Updates](#)

[Western PA Kidney Support Groups](#)

NEW PATIENT AND FAMILY PARTNER PROGRAM TRAINING OPPORTUNITY



The Kidney Foundation of Central PA (KFCP) is excited to be offering a Spring Patient and Family Partner Program Training. KFCP is looking for a variety of mentors, including people with CKD and ESRD; on in-center hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, home hemodialysis, post transplant and also caregivers.

KFCP would like your support of this program and thanks you in advance for your referrals. [Download the mentor application](#). If you have any questions, please email PFPP@KFCP.org.

Location: Kidney Foundation of Central PA, 900 Arlington Ave, Harrisburg PA 17109

Date: Tuesdays, beginning Tuesday, April 30, 2019 through Tuesday, June 4, 2019 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Due Date for Applications: Friday, April 26, 2019

NKF PRESENTS WEBINAR ON POPULATION HEALTH STRATEGIES FOR KIDNEY DISEASE RISK REDUCTION

Please join the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the NKF on **May 22, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. EST** for a presentation on *Population Health Strategies for Kidney Disease Risk Reduction*.



Intended Audience

Nephrologists, dialysis facility medical directors and renal care providers are invited and encouraged to attend.

Objectives

- Introduce the National Kidney Foundation CKD Change Package
- Describe systematic strategies for improved identification and management of CKD
- Apply a population health strategy for registry function, quality improvement and patient engagement for people living with CKD

Presenter Information

Elizabeth Montgomery, Senior Project Director, Primary Care Initiative, joined NKF in 2014. In this role, she has since designed CKDintercept, a multi-year initiative to identify people with undiagnosed CKD and formulated a population health strategy for CKD in primary care.

Access the [NKF Chronic Kidney Disease Change Package](#).

[Register today](#).

WEBINAR OPPORTUNITY: ACHIEVING ACHC ACCREDITATION

Do you know the difference between an Accreditation survey and a CMS survey? Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC) has developed a webinar in partnership with the Renal Service Exchange to compare and contrast these two types of surveys and highlight the value accreditation can bring to your organization.

Wednesday, May 15 at 1:00 p.m. ET

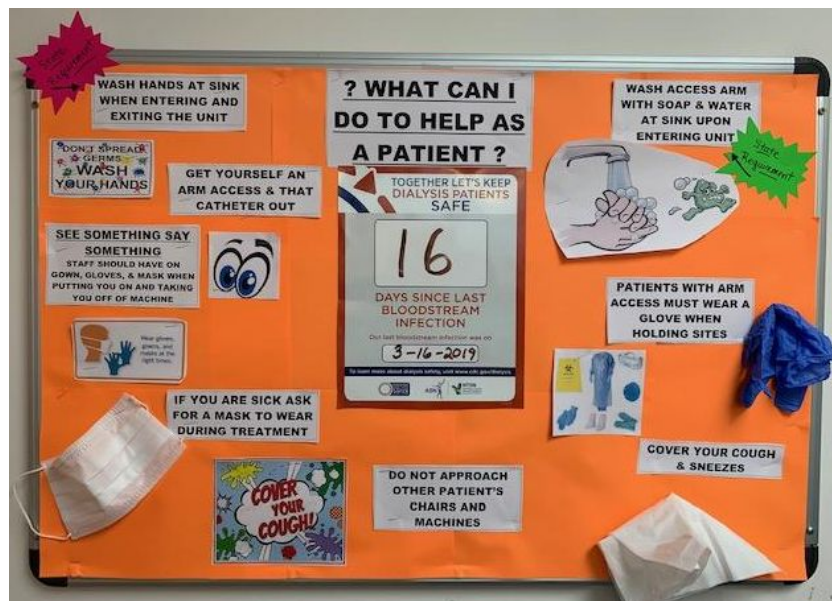
[Register today.](#)

This webinar taught by Teresa Hoosier, ACHC's Clinical Educator, will guide you through each step of the accreditation process, from pre-survey preparation to post-survey requirements. In addition, there will be a comprehensive review of the ACHC Accreditation Standards for Renal Dialysis Facilities and tips for compliance. At the conclusion, you will have a clear understanding of the essential components for accreditation preparation and the best practices for a successful on-site survey.

ACHC is a not-for-profit accrediting body with CMS Deeming Authority for Home Health, Hospice, and DMEPOS. ACHC recently launched its Renal Dialysis Facilities Accreditation and is pending CMS approval to perform initial Medicare certification surveys. Since 1986, ACHC has offered an accreditation process that is collaborative, educational, and genuinely patient-focused.

INNOVATIVE IDEA: BULLETIN BOARD FOR DAYS SINCE LAST BSI

DCI Oakland - Renal Services of Pittsburgh found a colorful and creative way to teach patients about their role in preventing infections by using this poster as the center piece of a patient education bulletin board. This approach has acted as a conversation starter with many of their patients. The board tracks the number of days that have passed since the last bloodstream infection (BSI) in the facility.



Facilities can create and place a poster like this in areas visible to patients, family members and staff to raise awareness about infections. It provides immediate feedback to front line staff and can motivate and inspire them to get involved by using the [CDC's Core Interventions](#) to reduce BSIs in facilities. The CDC also provides templates to print posters. These templates can be accessed on the [CDC website](#).



If you have a creative approach to using this poster, please contact [Jeannette Shrift, RN](#), Quality Improvement Coordinator at Network 4 to share your story, pictures, successes, etc. Your success story will appear in future newsletters.

CMS Updates

NHSN WEBINAR OPPORTUNITIES COMING UP IN MAY

The National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Dialysis Team will provide live webinars for new and experienced NHSN users. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) subject matter experts will be available to answer your questions about NHSN Dialysis Event Surveillance. Please see below for webinar information.



Thank you to all of you who have already taken the NHSN Dialysis Event Module Training Needs Assessment. However, some users experienced a system error which only permitted them to complete the 'Demographics' section of the survey. If you experienced this, please retake the training needs assessment at the link below, we apologize for the inconvenience and truly value your input. If you have not taken the training needs assessment yet, you may also click the link below to help us better understand the training needs for the Dialysis Event module of NHSN. Training Needs Assessment: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DialysisEventTNA> (Open until May 31, 2019).

Upcoming Webinars

Introduction to the NHSN Dialysis Event Surveillance Protocol : National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Dialysis Event Surveillance reporting is required for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Quality Incentive Program (QIP). This session will provide a complete introduction to the NHSN Dialysis Event reporting requirements and the surveillance definitions necessary to complete accurate monthly reporting.

- Tuesday, May 14 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. EDT
 - Pre-registration is required at <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/l1vqutexc1hq&eom>
 - Join the meeting online at <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/l1vqutexc1hq&eom>
 - Participant dial-in number: (303) 248-0285
 - Access Code: 6393927
- Wednesday, May 15 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. EDT
 - Pre-registration is required at <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/oe5g566h5x5a&eom>
 - Join the meeting online at <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/oe5g566h5x5a&eom>
 - Participant dial-in number: (303) 248-0285

- Access Code: 6393927

Advanced NHSN Dialysis Event Surveillance Reporting and Introduction to NHSN Reports : Learn how to apply National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Dialysis Event Surveillance definitions through case studies that address common reporting questions. The session also will include an introduction to running and interpreting the most popular NHSN reports so you can review your facility's data, including Dialysis Event bloodstream infection rates.

- Tuesday, May 21 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. EDT
 - Pre-registration is required at <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/uh4t4sw8bvd0&eom>
 - Join the meeting online at <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/uh4t4sw8bvd0&eom>
 - Participant dial-in number: (303) 248-0285
 - Access Code: 6393927
- Wednesday, May 22 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. EDT
 - Pre-registration is required at <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/e3wsls2bpee3&eom>
 - Join the meeting online at <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/e3wsls2bpee3&eom>
 - Participant dial-in number: (303) 248-0285
 - Access Code: 6393927

Please contact NHSN@cdc.gov with "Dialysis" in the subject line with any questions.

OPIOID RESOURCES NOW AVAILABLE

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) introduced new Medicare Part D opioid policies in 2019 that include improved safety alerts when a patient fills an opioid prescription at a pharmacy and drug management programs to help coordinate care for patients with high-risk opioid use, such as those receiving high levels of opioids from multiple prescribers and/or pharmacies. To help address any questions or misconceptions surrounding the new policies, view blogs posted on [cms.gov](https://www.cms.gov) and [medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov).

Additionally, an [updated CMS Roadmap](#) called "Fighting the Opioid Crisis" highlights the three-pronged strategy focusing on prevention, treatment and using data to target prevention and treatment efforts.

Additional opioid resources developed by Quality Insights include:

- [Opioid Report Overview](#)
- [QPP and Opioids Crosswalk](#)
- What is an Opioid? ([Flyer](#) / [Poster](#))

CROWNWEB PAIN ASSESSMENT SUBMISSION NO LONGER REQUIRED

Starting **March 1, 2019**, CMS will no longer require facilities to submit Pain Assessment data into CROWNWeb. The Pain Assessment screen will remain active for facilities to review previously reported data in the system. For information on the requirements and instructions on how to submit data on Pain Assessment in CROWNWeb, please visit the Training videos on the Education page at [MyCROWNWeb.org](https://www.mycrownweb.org).

Upcoming Events

NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION TO HOLD 2019 SPRING CLINICAL MEETINGS SCM19

May 8-12, 2019

**Hynes Convention Center
Boston, MA**

The National Kidney Foundation 2019 Spring Clinical Meetings (SCM19) presents a unique opportunity for busy renal health care providers to learn new developments related to all aspects of nephrology. An important objective of SCM19 is to present the latest insights into chronic kidney disease care. Participants will learn about new and evolving concepts related to kidney disease through a carefully designed combination of interesting courses, practical workshops, thought-provoking symposia and insightful debates incorporating the latest developments in clinical nephrology.

[Register today.](#)

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF KIDNEY PATIENTS (AAKP) NATIONAL PATIENT MEETING

September 6-8, 2019

**Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill
Washington, DC**

Celebrating this patient organization's 50th anniversary, the AAKP National Patient Meeting is the largest event of its kind in the U.S., providing both patients and care partners with access to the most accurate and timely disease information through direct interaction, educational sessions and an extensive exhibit hall. This year's meeting agenda will focus on relevant information critical to those impacted by kidney diseases and highlight the latest in research and innovations in the renal space. AAKP will host a diverse line-up of speakers crossing all sectors of the kidney community including the Federal government; the U.S. Congress, academia; industry; allied kidney organizations and associations; patients and other various stakeholders.

[Register today.](#)

ESRD Resources

LATEST ISSUE OF KCER WATCH NOW AVAILABLE

KCER Watch is a monthly environmental scan that provides timely and pertinent information related to emergency preparedness. Each month, KCER will review available literature from peer-reviewed journals and emergency and disaster related trade publications, social media postings, and stakeholder websites to identify news and events in the emergency management field that are beneficial to the ESRD community. The goal of



KCER Watch is to facilitate the exchange of information, sharing of resources, and advancement of knowledge and expertise among ESRD and emergency management stakeholders. [View the latest edition.](#)

NEW HEPATITIS CLINICAL RESOURCES PAGE AVAILABLE

Network 4 recently established a special page dedicated to hepatitis clinical resources. [Check it out.](#) Remember, Network 4 also has [hepatitis reporting resources](#) available.



MEDICATION CONVERSION GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE

A Medication Conversion Guide was developed by members of the Medical Review Board for IPRO ESRD Network of New England (Network 1). The Forum's Medical Advisory Council (MAC) finalized and approved the Guide for national use by all dialysis facilities and providers.

The Guide was developed partly in response to concerns expressed by dialysis patients who did not receive their current medications while visiting other dialysis facilities.

This tool is intended to assist physicians to convert the dose of a medication a patient is currently receiving, to a substitute medication that is available, or less costly. Medications converted using this tool must be approved or ordered by the patient's Nephrologist, however, we encourage all care providers and patients to share this guide with their care teams.

[Download the free guide.](#)

DIALYSIS PATIENT DEPRESSION TOOLKIT 2.0 USEFUL FOR BOTH PATIENTS AND FACILITIES

The Forum of ESRD Network's Kidney Patient Advisory Council (KPAC) has developed the Dialysis Depression Toolkit to help patients who feel they may be experiencing depression. This toolkit was designed BY patients and FOR patients. The toolkit could be useful for both patients and facilities. The toolkit is available in both English and Spanish and is [free to download](#).

DIALYSIS PATIENT GRIEVANCE TOOLKIT EXPLAINS PROCESS THROUGH PATIENT EYES

The Forum of ESRD Networks' Kidney Patient Advisory Council (KPAC) made The Patient Grievance Process Toolkit to help patients as they work through the Grievance System. The toolkit, designed BY patients and FOR patients will help explain the grievance system to meet patient needs. The toolkit could be useful for both patients and facilities. While most facilities and all Networks have a grievance process, this is the first time that process has been explained through the patient's eyes. Available in both English and Spanish, the toolkit is [free to download](#).

NEWLY REVISED TRANSITIONS OF CARE TOOLKIT NOW AVAILABLE

Originally published by the National Forum of ESRD Networks in 2015, the Transitions of Care Toolkit provides information about challenges in transitions of care for ESRD Patients and suggestions to help create solutions. Updates include guidance on the care of transient patients and two tools to assist you in the care of kidney patients visiting your dialysis facility. [Download for free.](#)



NEW RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR PATIENT ENGAGEMENT IN PLANS OF CARE

Medical Education Institute (MEI) has developed several tools that may help patients participate more in their plans of care.

- [Goal Setting Worksheet](#)
- [Patient Interest Checklists](#)

Please share these resources with patients and to do the following:

1. Invite the patient to the care plan meeting, offering alternative options for participating around their schedule
2. Before the meeting, talk to the patient about their concerns. The MEI tools may help them to articulate these.
3. If the care plan is to be written before meeting with the patient (which is contrary to the intent of the Conditions for Coverage), ensure the write-up is done with the patient's concerns in mind. No care plan should be completed without input from the patient.

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IMPORTANT NOTE:

This bi-weekly e-newsletter will serve as our primary method of communicating important news and updates. We encourage you to visit our Web site for the most up-to-date information or to contact us with questions, comments or suggestions.

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