



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 May issue of the Quality Insights Renal Network 4 e-newsletter. In this issue, we bring you information about Mental Health Month, 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: MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

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.

- Mental Health Month ([English](#) / [Spanish](#))



**ESRD NCC PATIENT GRANT LIBRARY IS NOW  
AVAILABLE**

## QUICK LINKS

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[Quality Insights Renal Network 4 Website](#)

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[Medicare's Dialysis Facility Compare](#)

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[National Kidney Foundation](#)

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[American Kidney Fund](#)

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[Kidney Foundation of Central Pennsylvania](#)

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

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[Western PA Kidney Support Groups](#)

Do you know a patient who has an idea for providing education or advocacy to other kidney patients? Did you know that an individual can apply for a grant? The new ESRD National Coordinating Center (NCC) Patient Grant Library can help.

The Patient Grant Library is a user-friendly resource for identifying credible funding sources. It highlights a range of opportunities, including:

- Traditional government and private foundation grants
- Crowdfunding resources, such as Plumford and HelpHopeLive
- Unique, talent-based grant sources awarded by the Awesome Foundation

The Patient Grant Library also includes an *Introduction to the Internet* tutorial for individuals who are newer to the online world. The first tutorial, *Internet Basics*, is available on the website. The second, which focuses on Internet privacy and safety, will be available later this month. There is even a section devoted to avoiding fraud and scams. The resources of the Patient Grant Library help users understand how to keep personal information safe online and provide tips on avoiding fraud and scams.

Help support your patient's ideas for supporting others. Refer them to the ESRD NCC Patient Grant Library so they can find a grant for their ideas. Visit the [Patient Grant Library](#) today.

## 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**

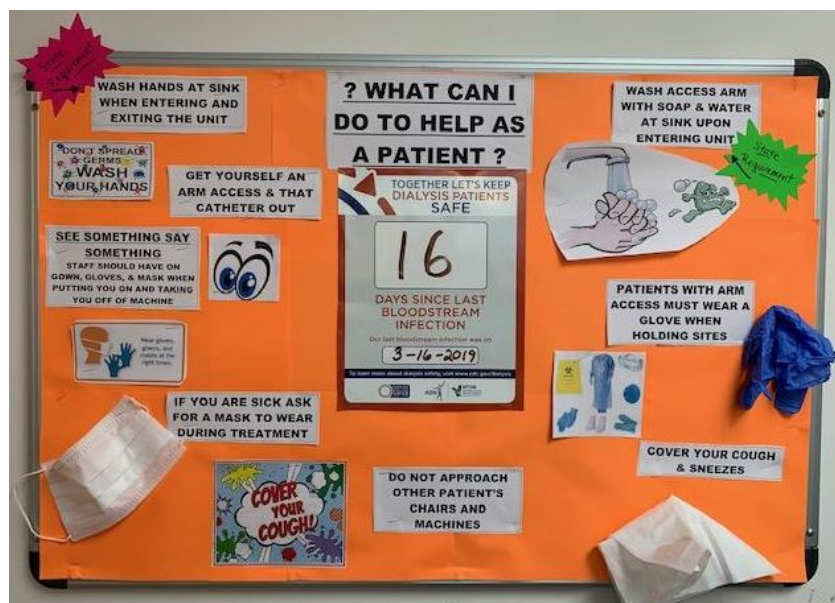
[Register today](#).

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](mailto:NHSN@cdc.gov) with "Dialysis" in the subject line with any questions.

## NEW CHANGES TO NHSN DIALYSIS COMPONENT

Changes have been made to the NHSN Dialysis Component and are featured below. To [view all NHSN changes](#), please view the entire document under the NHSN Release Schedule/Q2-2019.

### Analysis and Reporting:

1. Updated dialysis aggregate data from 2016 to 2017 data for dialysis ratetables and run charts.
2. Created a new TAP report type and changed report icon for Excess Infections. A new Excess Infections report type allows for modifications to the TAP report without disturbing functionality used by other NHSN components.
3. In 2018, the Dialysis Component began collecting data using an Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) location. Now that some data have been collected, we are including data reported to that AKI location in dialysis rate tables and run charts so facilities and groups can review AKI-specific rates for the various dialysis event measures.

## 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](http://MyCROWNWeb.org).

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS: UPCOMING CROWNWEB TRAININGS

All ESRD Networks and facilities are invited to the following CROWNWeb training events in May. Each event is aimed at providing attendees with the knowledge needed to complete tasks in the ESRD Systems, as well as information on important system requirements and updates.

### **New User Training - May 14, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. ET**

*EQRS and CROWNWeb Concepts: System Walk-Through and Q&A Opportunity*

[Register here.](#)

### **May 2019 Town Hall - May 23, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. ET**

*Special Q&A Session: Removing Facility Personnel Review and Clinical Closures*

[Register here.](#)

### **Additional Resources**

- [May 2019 Newsletter](#)
- [Add, Edit and Delete Facility Personnel](#)
- [Help File](#)

For more information, contact the Outreach, Communication and Training team at [craft@mycrownweb.org](mailto:craft@mycrownweb.org).

## Upcoming Events

### **NKF TO HOST REGIONAL RENAL GRAND ROUNDS IN JUNE**

The National Kidney Foundation (NKF) is holding a Regional Renal Grand Rounds in Pittsburgh, PA on **Thursday, June 6, 2019** from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Dr. Jai Radhakrishnan from Columbia University Medical Center will be delivering a talk on glomerular disease. The program will be accredited for 1 CME/CE, and the target audience is renal physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners and nurses. The Regional Renal Grand Rounds will be held at the Allegheny County Medical Society, 713 Ridge Avenue in Pittsburgh's North Side. Parking is free on-site, and a dinner will also be

included. Registration is \$25 for NKF members and \$45 for non-members. [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.](#)

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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.

This material was prepared by Quality Insights Renal Network 4 under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The contents do not necessarily reflect CMS policy.

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