



INFORMATON SESSION
Quality Insights Renal Network 5

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Executive Director



House Keeping

- Lines are on mute
- Please use the chat to ask questions

ESRD Network Program

- 18 ESRD Networks
- Contracted with CMS to support achieving national quality improvement goals and statutory requirements
- Network goals align with the Department of Health and Human Services National Quality Strategy, CMS Quality Strategy
- ESRD Networks are required to conduct specific quality improvement activities focused on patient care, maintaining a patient registry, providing educational materials, and investigating patient grievances.



Conditions for Coverage

- CMS established regulations that in order for facilities to be certified under the Medicare program, the CfC must be followed.
 - “The dialysis facility must cooperate with the ESRD network designated for its geographic area, in fulfilling the terms of the Network's current statement of work. Each facility must participate in ESRD network activities and pursue network goals.” *42 CFR 494.180(i)*
- Partner with State Survey Agency to ensure CfC are met.

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-42/chapter-IV/subchapter-G/part-494?toc=1>



ESRD Network 5



- **Quality Insights Renal Network 5 (QIRN 5)**
 - Formerly know as Mid-Atlantic Renal Coalition (MARC)
 - VA, MD, WV, DC
 - 451 Dialysis Facilities
 - 14 Transplant Centers
 - Over 28,000 dialysis patients and 17,000 transplant recipients

Data Source: Admission EQRS data as of January 3, 2022, provided by the ESRD NCC



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Network Goals

- Facilities assigned specific goals
- Goals announced during Virtual Council Meeting held May 24, 2022
- Attached to Facility/Network Membership Agreement that is renewed in September 2022
- Posted to Network website (QIRN5.org)
- Individual facility progress can be tracked by logging into the ESRD Facility Report



Network Goals cont.

- Goals need to be achieved by April 30, 2023
- Current performance period is May 1, 2022 – April 30, 2023



Network Goals – Data Quality

- Improve the data quality of the ESRD Patient Registry in EQRS
- Goals are established based off of performance during the baseline period of January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020
- Data source is EQRS
- Applicable to every facility in the Network, regardless if you are enrolled in a Network project or not



Data Quality Goals

- **EQRS Admissions**
 - Increase the rate of admissions entered into EQRS within 5 business days
- **Form 2728**
 - Increase the rate of initial CMS-2728 forms submitted into EQRS within 45 days
- **Form 2746**
 - Increase the rate of CMS-2746 forms submitted into EQRS within 14 days of the date of death



Network Goals - Modalities

- Improve care in high-cost/complex chronic conditions
- Goals are established based off of performance during the baseline period of January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020
- Data source is EQRS



Home Goals

- **Direct to Home**
 - Increase in the number of ESRD patients that start dialysis utilizing a home modality. (Referred to as incident starts by the Network staff)
 - Only applicable to facilities that offer home dialysis, regardless if you are enrolled in a Network project or not
- **Transition to Home**
 - Increase in the number of ESRD patients transitioning from in-center dialysis to a home modality.
 - Home-only facilities are excluded from this measure. This measure is applicable to all other facilities, regardless if you are enrolled in a Network project or not
- **Telemedicine Visits**
 - Increase in the number of rural ESRD patients using telemedicine to access a home modality
 - Applicable only to facilities that offer home modalities and have patients who reside in rural areas, regardless if you are enrolled in a Network project or not
 - Additional data source, Medicare Claims



Transplant Goals

- **Waitlisted**
 - Increase in the number of ESRD patients **ADDED** to the kidney transplant waitlist
 - Additional data source, UNOS
 - Applicable to every facility in the Network, regardless if you are enrolled in a Network project or not
- **Transplanted**
 - Increase in the number of ESRD patients receiving a kidney transplant
 - Additional data source, UNOS
 - Applicable to every facility in the Network, regardless if you are enrolled in a Network project or not



Network Goals - Hospitalizations

- Improve and maintain the health of ESRD patients
- Goals are established based off of performance during the baseline period of June 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021
- Data source is Medicare Claims
- Only hospitalizations for certain priority diagnosis categories that occur during this time period will impact these measures.
- Applicable to every facility in the Network, regardless if you are enrolled in a Network project or not



Hospitalization Goals

- ESRD Admissions
 - Decrease in hospital admissions
- ED Visits
 - Decrease in outpatient emergency department visits
- Unplanned Readmissions
 - Decrease in hospital 30-day unplanned readmissions
- COVID Admissions
 - Decrease in patients hospitalized with COVID-19



Network Goals - Vaccinations

- Improve care in high-cost/complex chronic conditions
- Goals are established based off of performance during the baseline period of January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020
- Data source is EQRS, NHSN for COVID-19 vaccinations and staff influenza
- These measures are applicable to every facility in the Network, regardless if you are enrolled in a Network project or not



Vaccination Goals

- **PCV 13**
 - Increase in patients vaccinated for pneumococcal
- **PPSV 23**
 - Increase in patients vaccinated for pneumococcal, increase in patients receiving a PPSV 23 booster, and increase in patients ≥ 65 years of age being protected against pneumonia
- **COVID-19**
 - 80% dialysis patients receive primary series, 80% booster
 - 100% staff receive primary series, 100% booster
- **Influenza**
 - 90% dialysis patients vaccinated
 - 90% staff vaccinated



Network Goals – PFE

- Improve patient and family engagement at the facility level
- Data source, self reported to the Network
- These measures are applicable to every facility in the Network, regardless if you are enrolled in a Network project or not



Patient & Family Engagement Goals

- QAPI
 - Integrate patients and families into QAPI meetings
- Life Plan
 - Assist patients to develop a life plan
- Peer Mentoring
 - Develop and support a patient peer mentoring program



Network Goals – Behavioral Health

- Improve behavioral health outcomes
- Goals are established based off of performance during the baseline period of January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020
- Data source is EQRS and Medicare Claims
- These measures are applicable to every facility in the Network, regardless if you are enrolled in a Network project or not



Behavioral Health Goals

- **Identifying Depression**
 - Increase the percentage of patients identified as having depression and documented in EQRS (Annual QIP requirement, increase in reporting options 1, 2, 3)
- **Receiving Treatment for Depression**
 - Increase the percentage of patients with Medicare Part B identified as having depression who have received treatment by a mental health professional



Network Goals – Nursing Home

- Improve patient safety and reduce harm and improve nursing home care in low performing providers
- Goals are established based off of performance during the baseline period of January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020
- Data source is EQRS and Medicare Claims
- These measures are applicable to only dialysis facilities that provide home dialysis to patients who reside in nursing homes, regardless if you are enrolled in a Network project or not



Nursing Home Goals

- CVC Infections
 - Decrease hemodialysis catheter infections
- Peritonitis
 - Decrease the incidents of peritonitis
- Blood Transfusions
 - Decrease the rate of patients that receive blood transfusions



Pulse Check

- ESRD Facility Report
 - Launched online July 2022, Facility Administrators notified <https://esrdreportsnw5.qualityinsights.org>
 - Provides individual facility's progress on Network goals
 - Usernames and passwords included in notification monthly
 - Social workers included in notification in September and October
 - [Click here to view the ESRD Facility Report User Guide](#)
 - [Click here to view a quick video on the ESRD Facility Report](#)



ESRD Facility Report

<https://esrdreportsnw5.qualityinsights.org/>

Quality Insights
Renal Network 5

Please Login

Username
123456

Password
.....

Login

PW provided by Brandy each month (doesn't change)

Shows when data last refreshed

Updated: 2022-08-31 Facility Action Plan

ESRD Facility Report

CCN: [REDACTED]
Facility: [REDACTED]
State: MD
Network: S (DC, MD, VA, & WV)
Services: Home Care
Number of facilities in State: 171
Number of Facilities in Network: 449

Select Measures:

- ESRD Admissions
- Form 2728
- Form 2749
- Direct to Home
- Transition to Home
- Telemedicine Visits
- Visitated
- Transferred
- ESRD Admissions
- ED visits
- Unplanned Readmissions
- COVID Admissions
- PCV13
- HPV/C23
- COVID Vaccination: Patients
- Flu/RSV Vaccination: Patients

Download Full Report

Facility Progress Rank

Yes
Goal Met for this Measure?

Bottom 25%
State Rank

Bottom 25%
Network Rank

Ranking: Facilities in a state or network are grouped into 4 quartiles based on measurement or average measurement values: Top 25%, Average (Middle 50%), Bottom 25%

Blue bar represents your progress, gray bar represent CMS goal

Represents how your facility ranks compared to other NW5 facilities

Select different measures to see progress and goal

Flu Campaign

- Launched 9/26
 - Action requested 10/4
 - <https://www.qirn5.org/Files/Vaccine-Goal-Poster.aspx>

FLU VACCINE Goals

Percentage of our patients who have received the flu vaccine.

100%
80%
60%
40%
20%

GOAL: 90%

What is the Network

- Action requested 10/12
 - Information Sessions



WE ARE THE MISSING PIECE

What is the Network?

CMS → ESRD Networks → Dialysis Facilities

- End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Networks are contracted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to oversee the quality of care provided by dialysis and transplant facilities to ESRD and transplant patients.
- The ESRD Conditions for Coverage (42 CFR Part 494.1000) require dialysis facilities to cooperate with the ESRD Network designated for its geographic area (Network 5), in fulfilling the terms of the Network's current statement of work. Each facility must participate in ESRD Network activities and pursue Network goals.
- The Network is a liaison between the federal government (CMS) and ESRD providers.

Who is your Network?

- **Quality Insights Renal Network 5**, formerly Mid-Atlantic Renal Coalition (MARC), serves as the ESRD federal contractor for the Network 5 region.
- The Network 5 region encompasses Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia.
- Quality Insights Renal Network 5 oversees more than 465 hemodialysis facilities and 13 renal transplant centers (as of our 2021 annual report).

Contact your Network:

Quality Insights Renal Network 5

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We are here to help.

Contact us to advance patient engagement, discuss grievances or potential involuntary discharges (IVDs), gain assistance with data entry in EQRS or NISRA, improve quality measures and so much more. The Network advocates for both patients and staff. If in doubt, reach out!

Sign up for the Network newsletter:



Visit our website:



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Network Expectations

- **Engage**
 - Respond to inquiries and request for information
 - Take action
 - Sign up and read electronic newsletter, e-Lerts
- **Notify the Network of major events**
 - Facility emergencies/closures
 - Leadership/staff changes
- **Inform patients of available Network resources**
 - Grievance resolution
 - Educational materials
 - Patient & Family Advisory Committee
- **Pursue Network Goals**
 - Participate in Network Quality Improvement Activities (QIAs)
 - Engage in Network facilitated technical assistance
 - Monthly, monitor progress utilizing the ESRD Facility Report, discuss and document in QAPI meetings
 - Quarterly, provide feedback utilizing the Facility Action Plan



Network Monitoring

- **Facility engagement**
 - Communication
 - Responsiveness
 - Timeliness
 - Effort
- **Facility performance**
 - Goal achievement
 - Progress towards goal achievement



Consequences

- Performance Improvement Plans
 - Including oversight by CMS and State Survey Agency
- Referral to State Survey Agency
 - Failure to adhere to Conditions for Coverage
- Recommend Sanctions
 - Identify facilities that have consistently failed to cooperate with Network goals



Key Takeaways

- **All** facilities are required to be working towards **ALL** goals (exception: incident home, telemedicine, NH)
- Goals are determined by CMS
- Individual projects may focus on a few specific goals, but this does not disqualify a facility from making progress on the others
- Engage with the Network – the CfC require it!



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