

Facility Administrators and Medical Directors:

Quality Insights Renal Network 3 (QIRN3) is contracted by CMS as your ESRD Network. CMS establishes goals that must be met by all certified dialysis facilities.

The role of your ESRD Network: Encourage and support collaborative activities to ensure achievement of these goals through the most efficient and effective means possible, with recognition of the differences among providers (e.g., independent, hospital-based, member of a group, affiliate of an organization) and the associated possibilities/capabilities. Improve the collection, reliability, timeliness, and use of data to: measure processes of care and outcomes; maintain the patient registry; and support the ESRD Network program.

The role of the dialysis facility as noted in the Conditions for Coverage, specifically, 42 CFR §494.180(i) states:

Relationship with the ESRD network: *The governing body receives and acts upon recommendations from the ESRD network. 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.*

The CMS Interpretive guidelines in V772: The ESRD facility must respond promptly within any specified deadlines to requests for information, data, or corrective action plans from its ESRD Network. The facility must participate in Network projects and activities aimed at addressing identified needs and improving quality of care in the individual facility or the Network-wide area.

Facilities that fail to actively participate in network projects/activities and pursue network goals may be required to:

Step 1: Write and submit a performance improvement plan (PIP).

Step 2: Facility administrator/clinic manager, area manager/director and Medical Director must meet with the ESRD Network Medical Review Board (MRB) to present a revised PIP including ways your ESRD Network can support quality improvement efforts.

Step 3: Facilities that fail to meet the above steps will be referred to the State Survey Agency for failing to comply with CMS Conditions for Coverage (V722).

Step 4: Failure to comply could result in referral for sanction imposed by the Secretary as stated in [42 CFR §488.604\(a\)\(b\)](#).