Forum Matters
Highlights & Updates
Second Quarter 2022
What is the Forum?

All ESRD Networks are members of the Forum of ESRD Networks, which is a not-for-profit organization that advocates on behalf of its membership and coordinates projects and activities of mutual interest to ESRD Networks. The Forum facilitates the flow of information and advances a national quality agenda with CMS and other renal organizations.

The **MISSION** of the Forum is to support and advocate on behalf of the ESRD Networks in promoting methods to improve the quality of care to patients with renal disease.

**CORE VALUES:**
- Volunteerism
- Collaboration
- Innovation and Flexibility
- Spread of Knowledge
- Integrity
- Autonomy of Individual ESRD Networks
- Person (Patient & Family) Centeredness
ESRD Networks

Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands are part of Network 3
Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa are part of Network 17
Strategic Planning Priorities: Framework for Forum Work

1. Increase Board Effectiveness and Commit to Board Development
2. Resource Identification
3. Commit to Customer Needs
4. Explore and Strengthen Network/Forum Relationship with QIO/QIN Organizations & CMS
5. Sharing Best Practices, Experiences, Innovation
6. Marketing Forum Activities
7. Framework for Alliance Building

➢ Workgroups to meet prior to September BOD meeting to evaluate goals and ensure priorities continue to align with the needs of the Forum and Networks and develop performance metrics.
Forum Organizational Chart

Board of Directors

EDAC
(Executive Director Advisory Council)
Executive Directors

MAC
(Medical Advisory Council)
MRB Chairs

KPAC
(Kidney Patient Advisory Council)
Patients

- Assisting the Networks
- Council Activities: MAC, EDAC KPAC
- Regular Communication with CMS
- Quality Conference Webinars
- Facilitate flow of information between the Forum and Network Staff/BOD/MRB/PAC
- Relationships with other Stakeholders (i.e., RHA, RPA, LDOs, NKF, AAKP, AHQA, CDC, ASN)
Elbert P. Tuttle, Jr.  
(1976-1978)

Robert J. Soberman  
(1978-1980)

Frederick Westervelt  
(1980-1982)

Dominick E. Gentile, MD  
(1982-1984)

William W. Pfaff, MD  
(1984-1986)

Sidney Baskin  
(1986-1989)

John L. Bengfort, MD  
(1989-1992)

John D. Bower, MD  

Louis H. Diamond, MB, ChB, FACP  
(1994-1998)

Jay B. Wish, MD  
(1998-2001)

Alan S. Kliger, MD  
(2001-2004)

Derrick L. Latos, MD, MACP  
(2004-2006)

Richard S. Goldman, MD  
(2006-2009)

Cynthia Kristensen, MD  
(2009-2011)

Klemens Meyer, MD  
(2011-2012)

Andrew D. Howard, MD, FACP  
(2012-2015)

John Wagner, MD, MBA  

Donald Molony, MD  
(2017-2019)

Ralph Atkinson III, MD  
(2019-2021)

David Henner, DO  
(2021 - Present)
Forum Board of Directors
(As of 7/1/2022)

Executive Committee:
President: David Henner, DO
President-Elect: Kam Kalantar-Zadeh, MD, MPH, PhD
Past President: Ralph Atkinson III, MD
Treasurer: Stephanie Hutchinson, MBA
Secretary: Chris Brown
MAC Chair: Dan Landry, DO, FASN
EDAC Chair: Vicky Cash, MBA, BSN, RN
EDAC Vice-Chair: Mary Albin, BS, CPHQ
KPAC Co-Chair: Derek Forfang
KPAC Co-Chair: Dawn Edwards

Members-at-Large:
Christine Logar, MD, FASN
Kelly M. Mayo, MS
Keith Norris, MD PhD
Stephen Pastan, MD
Maria Regnier, MSN, RN, CNN
Preethi Yerram, MD, MS, FASN

Ad Hoc:
Andrew Howard, MD, FACP
Donald Molony, MD
John Wagner, MD, MBA

Emeritus:
Louis Diamond, MB, ChB, FACP, FCP (SA)
# Executive Director Advisory Council (As of 7/1/2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair:</td>
<td>Vicky Cash, MBA, BSN, RN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-Chair:</td>
<td>Mary Albin, BS, CPHQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networks 1/2</td>
<td>Sue Caponi, MBA, RN, BSN, CPHQ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Networks 3/4</td>
<td>Chris Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network 5</td>
<td>Brandy Vinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Network 6</td>
<td>Danielle Daley, MBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Networks 7/13/15/17/18</td>
<td>Helen Rose, MSW, BSW, LCSW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Networks 8/14</td>
<td>Mary Albin, BS, CPHQ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Network 9</td>
<td>Victoria L. Cash, MBA, BSN, RN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Network 10</td>
<td>Audrey Broaddus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Network 11</td>
<td>Dee LeDuc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network 12</td>
<td>Stephanie L. Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network 16</td>
<td>Stephanie Hutchinson, MBA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Medical Advisory Council
(as of 7/1/2022)

Chair: Daniel L. Landry, DO, FASN
Immediate Past Chair: Kam Kalantar-Zadeh, MD, MPH, PhD

Network 1: Daniel L. Landry, DO, FASN
Network 2: George Coritsidis, MD
Network 3: Keith Norris, MD, PhD
Network 4: Paul Palevsky, MD
Network 5: Marc Brazie, MD
Network 6: John J. Doran, MD, FASN
Network 7: Debra Hain, PhD, APRN, AGPCNP-BC
Network 8: Mandeep Grewal, MD, MBA
Network 9: Anne Huml, MD, MS
Network 10: Andres Serrano, MD
Network 11: Louis Raymond, MD
Network 12: Preethi Yerram, MD

Network 13: Laura Rankin, MD
Network 14: Donald Molony, MD
Network 15: Harmeet Singh, MD
Network 16: John Stivelman, MD
Network 16 Alt: Christine Logar, MD
Network 17: Ramin Sam, MD
Network 18: Kam Kalantar-Zadeh, MD

Ad Hoc Member: Stephen Pastan, MD
EDAC Rep: Mary Albin, BS, CPHQ (8/14)
QID Rep: Barbara Dommert-Breckler, RN, BSN, CNN (16)
KPAC Rep: Derek Forfang (17)
| Network 1: | Jerry Calabritto |
| Network 2: | Stephanie Dixon  
Dawn Edwards *(Co-Chair)* |
| Network 3: | Bill Senior  
Maria Casas |
| Network 4: | Timmy Nelson |
| Network 5: | Virna Elly  
Patrick Gee |
| Network 6: | Dolores McGrath |
| Network 7: | Janice Starling |
| Network 8: | Jacqueline Bland  
Terry Peeler |
| Network 9: | Evan Coaker |
| Network 10: | Della Major  
Quin Taylor |
| Network 11: | Jeff Nelson  
Patricia Bologna  
Mary Baliker |
| Network 12: | Shane Blanchard |
| Network 13: | |
| Network 14: | Precious McCowan  
Dawn Goertz |
| Network 15: | Lynne Hall |
| Network 16: | Lisa Custer |
| Network 17: | Derek Forfang *(Co-Chair)*  
Doris Lew |
| Network 18: | Terry McCallum |

EDAC Rep: Dee LeDuc (NW 11)  
PSD Reps: Yessi Cubillo (NW 3)  
Lisa Hall, MSSW, LICSW (NW 16)
Forum Leadership Calls & Meetings

Forum Executive Committee:
• Monthly conference calls

Forum Board of Directors:
• Quarterly conference calls
• 2022 Meetings: March 9 & 11 (virtual), September 9-10 (Chicago)

CMS/Forum Leadership Calls
• Conference calls
• In-Person Meeting at CMS Quality Conference (2020, no in-person meeting in 2021 or 2022)

CMS/Network/Forum COVID-19 Calls
• Weekly calls began April 2020, transitioned to monthly in November 2020, ended May 2021, monthly calls resumed August 2021, bi-monthly calls began February 2022

MAC
• Quarterly conference calls
• Annual MAC Meeting: November 2, 2022 (Orlando)

EDAC
• Monthly conference calls
• Meeting with CMS & Division of Kidney Health/iQIIG Leaders
• Periodic calls with FMC, DaVita, DCI, RHA

KPAC
• Monthly conference calls
• Reviewed strategic priorities in preparation for workgroups to reconvene to evaluate goals and establish performance metrics
• Forum investments and donations continue to be a funding source for the organization. Strong financials through 2022.
• Forum received $5000 grant through PCORI to support the dissemination of Evidence Updates related to treating depression in patients with kidney disease. The Forum has proposed 3 activities to help promote the PCORI Evidence Updates:
  1. Patient-perspective piece summarizing KPAC members’ participation in study and their experiences related to mental health and kidney disease.
  2. Podcast on the topic of mental health in dialysis patients to bring awareness to the topic and offer resources for patients, including the PCORI Evidence Updates and the KPAC Depression Toolkit.
  3. Partnering with the ESRD Networks, the KPAC will host a community webinar on the topic of mental health in dialysis patients, annual depression screening, and treatment options.
Updates from EDAC Leadership:

- Networks shared Base Year outcomes where data were available, as well as Option Year 1 details
- Focus on health equity across Statement of Work
Updates from KPAC Leadership:

- Work continues on the Health Equity Toolkit
- Members contributed a patient-perspective chapter to the MAC Home Dialysis Toolkit, along with a supplemental video
- KPAC reps spoke at 2022 conferences including the KDIGO conference in Berlin and the NKF Spring Clinicals in Boston
- KPAC reps serve on the TAQIL ETCLC committee, sharing the KPAC perspective
- KPAC reps serve on 3 CMS TEPs:
  - Quality Measure Development Plan & Quality Measure Index
  - Dialysis Facility Quality of Patient Care Star Ratings
  - Impact Assessment Report 2024 of CMS Quality and Efficiency Measures
- KPAC reps to serve on advisory committee/focus groups for proposed PCORI grant project looking at shared decision-making and medical management without dialysis
- KPAC reps to serve on advisory board for NIH grant (geriatric care model for dialysis patients)
Updates from MAC Leadership:

- Dan Landry, DO, FASN, elected Chair of the MAC with 2-year term beginning July 1, 2022
- Updated the Home Dialysis Toolkit with input from the KPAC
- Three proposed new toolkits:
  - CKD Care Planning & Measures
  - Conservative Management & Supportive Care
  - Practicing Health Equity (in conjunction with Forum KPAC)
- Sharing Highly Effective Practices page was launched on website
  - Three submissions approved to date
    - Monthly Chairside IDT Meetings
    - COVID-19 Communication Between SNF/PCH & Dialysis Facilities
    - Second Chance: A 90-Day Trial Basis Program
  - Developed merit review by which to evaluate proposals
- MAC Annual Meeting: November 2, 2022, in Orlando, FL
Professional Toolkits
• Inpatient Medical Director Toolkit
• Kidney Transplant Toolkit
• Transitions of Care Toolkit (recently updated)
• Vaccination Toolkit (recently updated)
• Outpatient Medical Director Toolkit (recently updated)
• Home Dialysis Toolkit (update in progress)
• Catheter Reduction Toolkit
• QAPI Toolkit

Patient Toolkits:
• Health Equity Toolkit (in progress)
• Dialysis Patient Depression Toolkit
• Dialysis Patient Grievance Toolkit
• Financial Help Resources
• Kidney Patient Transplant Toolkit
  • Video available for patients providing an overview of the Transplant Toolkit; consider sharing with your patients!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAC Toolkit</th>
<th>Updates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home Dialysis Toolkit</td>
<td>• New sections to address AAKH and Conditions for Coverage updates&lt;br&gt;• Emergency management of home dialysis patients&lt;br&gt;• Impact of ESCOs, ETC Model, Voluntary Models on home therapies&lt;br&gt;• Enhanced modality education: transitional care and hands-on experience care options&lt;br&gt;• Emerging technology and the impact and benefits to home therapies&lt;br&gt;• Addressing disparities and access to care&lt;br&gt;• Home therapy options in the LTC/nursing home setting&lt;br&gt;• KPAC Section: Empowering patients and care partners to be successful at home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outpatient Medical Director Toolkit</td>
<td>• Emergency preparedness (Henner)&lt;br&gt;• COVID (Kalantar)&lt;br&gt;• Leadership (Molony)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitions of Care Toolkit</td>
<td>• Nursing home communication tool&lt;br&gt;• COVID&lt;br&gt;• Medication reconciliation&lt;br&gt;• Add flu and COVID vaccine information to the transfer summary forms in the toolkit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccination Toolkit</td>
<td>• COVID Vaccination&lt;br&gt;• Vaccination tracking tool now includes COVID vaccine and pneumococcal booster + age so facilities can track patients &gt;64 YO for PPSV-23 booster</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Regularly scheduled calls to discuss programmatic/strategic issues:

- **Anita Monteiro**, Director, iQuality Improvement & Innovation Group (iQIIG)
- **Shane Illies**, Deputy Director, iQIIG
- **Paul McGann**, MD, CMS Chief Medical Officer for Quality Improvement
- **Shalon Quinn**, Director, Division of Kidney Health, iQIIG
- **Melissa Dorsey**, Deputy Director, DKH, iQIIG
- **Mitzi Christ**, Regional Program Manager, Div of Kidney Health, iQIIG
- CORs, ARAs, Central Office staff

Calls in 2022: 1/10, 2/14, 4/25, 6/13

**CMS Org Chart:**
https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/CMSLeadership/Office_CCSQ.html
CMS Organizational Chart

Chiquita Brooks-LaSure,
Administrator, CMS

Liz Fowler
Director, Center for
Medicare and Medicaid
Innovation

iQuality Improvement & Innovation Group
Anita Monteiro, Director
Paul McGann, MD, CMS Chief Medical Officer for Quality Improvement

Div of Community & Population Health
Traci Archibald, Dir
Sophia Autrey, Dep. Dir
Craig Bagley, Acting Regional Program Mgr
(Permanent RPM – Shalon Quinn)

Div of Beneficiary Review & Care Mgmt
Steven Rubio, Dir.
Confidence Gbarayor-Hyde, Dep. Dir.
Trevor Stone, Acting Regional Program Mgr.

Div of Strategic Innovation, Evaluation & Communication
Renee Dupee, Dir (vacant), Dep. Dir.
Brenda Gentles, Dep Dir.

Div of Quality Improvement Innovation Models Testing
Jade Perdue, Dir.

Div of Transforming Clinical Practices
Rob Flemming, Dir
Shawan Johnson, Dep. Dir

Division of Kidney Health
Shalon Quinn, Dir
Melissa Dorsey, Dep Dir
Mitzi Christ, Regional Program Mgr
• Bridget Pfaff and Megan Meller from Gunderson Health presented findings and lessons learned from their study “SARS-CoV-2 in ESRD Facilities: Infection Control and Immunization.”

• Forum leadership continued to bring COVID priorities and concerns to CMS during monthly CMS/Forum leadership calls. Forum leaders provided updates on:
  • Rates of COVID testing for kidney patients
  • COVID positivity rates among kidney patients
  • Vaccination rates among kidney patients and dialysis staff
  • Kidney transplant and waitlist rates
  • Network observations on COVID-related technical assistance
  • Kidney patient observations
  ➢ Dialysis supply & staffing shortages

Minutes, recordings, resources: https://esrdnetworks.org/resources-news/covid-19-information-resources/
Forum Members in the Community

- Dan Landry, DO, NKF New England Excellence in Nephrology Award 2022 (April)
- T. Nelson. New Hope, New Health: Charting a Path Forward from a Patient Perspective. CMS Quality Conference, Virtual (April)
- D. Henner. Transitional Care Units. NKF Spring Clinicals, Boston, MA (April)
- P. Gee, V. Elly. Patient Engagement and Kidney Care. NKF Spring Clinicals, Boston, MA (April)
- P. Gee, V. Elly, L. Custer. Health Equity Listening and Learning Panel. NKF Spring Clinicals, Boston, MA (April)
- D. Edwards. Debunking Common Myths about Patient Eligibility for Home Dialysis. NKF Spring Clinicals, Boston, MA (April)
- K. Kalantar-Zadeh et al. e-Poster. Palliative Care Utilization Among Advanced CKD Patients Treated with Conservative Management vs. Dialysis. NKF Spring Clinicals, Boston, MA (April)
- K. Kalantar-Zadeh et al. e-Poster. Racial Disparities in Involuntary Discharges from Dialysis Facilities and Related Patient-Reported Grievances throughout the Nation: Data from 24,718 Affected Dialysis Patients during 2017-2020. NKF Spring Clinicals, Boston, MA (April)
- D. Edwards. Symptom-Based Complications in Dialysis. KDIGO Controversies Conference, Berlin, Germany (April)
- M. Baliker. Challenges in Management of the Kidney Allograft: From Decline to Failure. KDIGO Controversies Conference, Berlin, Germany (April)
On the Horizon in 2022

• Advancing American Kidney Health
• Strategic Priorities, developed in 2018, are under review to ensure they remain relevant and align with and support the activities of the new Network SOW
• Updates to MAC Toolkits
• New KPAC Toolkits
• Actively pursuing additional financial resources to support Forum/Network activities
• Sharing Highly Effective Practices in the Kidney Community; consider submitting a best practice to the Forum’s new community education resource. Available at:
  
Social Media

Followers:
Feb 2020 = 134
Sep 2021 = 288
June 2022 = 256

Followers:
Feb 2020 = 95
Sep 2021 = 242
June 2022 = 323

Followers:
May 2021 = 6
Sep 2021 = 9
June 2022 = 11
- Transplant Video views = 121
- “Thank You” Videos views = 170
Forum Website Updates
Donate Button

Donate to National Forum of ESRD Networks

Select an amount to donate
- $25
- $50
- $100

OTHER
- [ ] Dedicate my donation in Honor or in Memory of someone
  - [ ] in honor of
  - [ ] in memory of
  - [ ] Person you’re honoring/memorializing

Message

[ ] Notify someone of your donation.

Continue
Donor Wall

A gracious "Thank you" to all of our donors, big and small, who are making a difference in the life of a kidney patient!

With more than 75 engaged volunteers actively involved in identifying gaps in care and filling those gaps, the Forum has developed both patient and provider centered resources. Through the generous donations from the community, we will continue this work. What is the community saying about these resources?

"Good info graphics and something for every staff member in the dialysis clinic." ~Corporate VP in Dialysis, about the Kidney Transplant Toolkit

"The information is geared to improving the health and safety of patients with ESRD." ~Dialysis Social Worker, about the Kidney Transplant Toolkit

"It gives a new way to look at things. We need to make sure we continue to meet patient needs." ~Dialysis Nurse, about the Transitions of Care Toolkit

Thank You to all of our Generous Donors in 2021

Thank You to all of our Generous Donors in 2022

Donor Recognition Levels
The Forum is committed to supporting the activities of the ESRD Networks and improving care for all kidney patients. We have a variety of free educational materials on our website and more under development. We are a non-profit organization and do all this through volunteer members and limited financial resources. Consider a donation today to support this work. All donations are tax deductible.

Donate Here

https://esrdnetworks.org/donate

Forum of ESRD Networks
PO Box 70623
Henrico, VA 23255
Forum Media

http://esrdnetworks.org

https://facebook.com/esrdnetworks

https://twitter.com/ESRDNetworks (tag us @esrdnetworks)

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9Vp4Hfu7VmSTbSwG7-6e2g

Sharing something about the KPAC? Use #KPACPatientVoice

Questions / Comments:
Kelly Brooks, Forum Coordinator
kbrooks@esrdnetworks.org
804-390-9822