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
Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands are part of Network 3
Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa are part of Network 17
Strategic Planning Priorities were updated by the Board in September 2022:

- Strategic Partnerships
- Board Development
- Customer Outreach, Sharing, & Engagement (focus on social media)
- Resource Identification
• 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)
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
MAC Vice-Chair: Preethi Yerram, MD, MS, 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 (July 2022)

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

Chair: Daniel L. Landry, DO, FASN
Vice Chair: Preethi Yerram, MD, MS, FASN
Immediate Past Chair: Kam Kalantar-Zadeh, MD, MPA, 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: Martha Tankersley, MSN, RN
Network 9: Anne Huml, MD, MS
Network 10: Andres Serrano, MD
Network 11: Louis Raymond, MD
Network 12: Preethi Yerram, MD, MS, FASN
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 17: Kam Kalantar-Zadeh, MD, MPH, PhD
Ad Hoc Member: Stephen Pastan, MD
EDAC Rep: Sue Caponi, MBA, RN, BSN, CPHQ (1/2)
QID Rep: Barbara Dommert-Breckler, RN, BSN, CNN (16)
KPAC Rep: Derek Forfang (17)
Welcome to Our First Ever MAC Vice Chair!

PREETHI YERRAM, MD, MS, FASN

- Professor of Medicine, Division of Nephrology, University of Missouri Columbia
- Medical director for outpatient home dialysis and transitional care units, as well as an acute dialysis program
- MRB Chair ESRD Network 12
- Forum of ESRD Networks' Board of Directors (BOD) as Member at Large
- Active Forum Medical Advisory Council (MAC) member
- Lead facilitator for the HUB Team of Missouri’s telehealth network’s ECHO project
Kidney Patient Advisory Council  (November 2022)

Network 1: Jerry Calabritto
Network 2: Stephanie Dixon
Dawn Edwards (Co-Chair)
Network 3: Bill Senior
Joy Solomon
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: Quin Taylor

Network 11: Jeff Nelson
Patricia Bologna
Mary Baliker
Network 12: Shane Blanchard
Network 13: Bobby Walker
Network 14: Precious McCowan
Dawn Goertz
Network 15: Lynne Hall
Network 16: Bob Crabtree
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)
Welcome New KPAC Members!

BOB CRABTREE

- ESRD Network 16
- Transplant recipient
- Executive Director, The Road Back to Life (https://www.kidneysupportgroup.org/)

JOY SOLOMON, MSN, RN, PNP

- ESRD Network 3
- Home hemodialysis patient
- Nurse practitioner and registered nurse

BOBBY WALKER

- ESRD Network 13
- Transplant recipient
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

Medical Advisory Council (MAC)
- Quarterly conference calls
- Annual MAC Meeting: November 2, 2022 (Orlando)

Executive Director Advisory Council (EDAC)
- Monthly conference calls
- Meeting with CMS & Division of Kidney Health/iQIIG Leaders
- Periodic calls with FMC, DaVita, DCI, RHA

Kidney Patient Advisory Council (KPAC)
- Monthly conference calls
• Dr. Stephen Pastan and Dr. Priti Patel of Emory University presented on efforts to expand Medicaid coverage to undocumented patients.
• Dr. Henner shared changes in CMS leadership to include Melissa Dorsey now serving as Acting Director of the Division of Kidney Health. Dr. Shalon Quinn is now the Special Advisor for Data Initiatives.
• Dr. Andy Howard reviewed transplant metrics as of December 9, 2022, noting that it has been a good year for transplant overall with total transplants up from 2021, and steady growth each year driven by deceased donors. Unfortunately, living donations are still lagging. Waitlisting is up due to the efforts of the Networks and others.
Updates from EDAC Leadership:
- Vicky Cash, EDAC Chair, shared current Network performance for Option Year 1
Updates from KPAC Leadership:

• KPAC members published several articles in *Kidney 360*, *Peritoneal Dialysis International*, and *Current Opinion in Nephrology and Hypertension*.

• KPAC members spoke at conferences including the NCC’s NPFE-LAN Summit and ASN Kidney Week.

• KPAC members serve on the TAQIL ETCLC committee, sharing the KPAC perspective.

• KPAC members 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 members are producing a webinar, podcast, and patient perspective piece as part of the PCORI grant on depression in dialysis patients.
Updates from MAC Leadership:

- Welcomed Preethi Yerram, MD, MS, as first MAC Vice Chair and Sue Caponi, MBA, RN, BSN, CPHQ, as EDAC representative to the MAC
- Home Dialysis Toolkit is almost ready for peer review
- Three proposed new toolkits:
  - Person-Centered CKD Care Planning and Measures
  - Conservative Management & Supportive Care for Kidney Patients
  - Practicing Health Equity & Patient-Provider Collaboration in Kidney Care (in conjunction with Forum KPAC)
- Sharing Highly Effective Practices (SHEP)
  - Challenge to Networks to submit highly effective practices resulted in numerous submissions which are currently under review.
  - LTC facility/dialysis facility communication form has been updated as part of a communication SHEP on the Forum’s website at https://esrdnetworks.org/education/sharing-highly-effective-practices-in-the-kidney-community/approved-highly-effective-practices/
Forum Toolkits
Available at: https://esrdnetworks.org/toolkits

Professional Toolkits
• Inpatient Medical Director Toolkit
• Kidney Transplant Toolkit
• Transitions of Care Toolkit
• Vaccination Toolkit
• Outpatient Medical Director Toolkit
• 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
  • Patient video providing an overview of the toolkit available at
    https://media.esrdnetworks.org/documents/Is_A_Kidney_Transplant_Right_For_Me.mp4; 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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Emergency management of home dialysis patients</td>
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<td>• Impact of ESCOs, ETC Model, Voluntary Models on home therapies</td>
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<td>• Enhanced modality education: transitional care and hands-on experience</td>
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<td>• Emerging technology and the impact and benefits to home therapies</td>
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<td>• Addressing disparities and access to care</td>
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<td>• Home therapy options in the LTC/nursing home setting</td>
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<td>• KPAC Section: Empowering patients and care partners to be successful at</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outpatient Medical Director Toolkit</td>
<td>• Emergency preparedness (Henner)</td>
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<td>• COVID (Kalantar)</td>
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<td>• Leadership (Molony)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transitions of Care Toolkit</td>
<td>• Nursing home communication tool</td>
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<td>• COVID</td>
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<td>• Medication reconciliation</td>
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<td>• Add flu and COVID vaccine information to the transfer summary forms in</td>
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<td>the toolkit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vaccination Toolkit</td>
<td>• COVID Vaccination</td>
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<td>• Vaccination tracking tool now includes COVID vaccine and pneumococcal</td>
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<td>booster + age so facilities can track patients &gt;64 YO for PPSV-23 booster</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Regularly scheduled calls to discuss programmatic/strategic issues:

- Anita Monteiro, Director, iQuality Improvement & Innovation Group (iQIIG)
- Shane Illies, Deputy Director, iQIIG
- Vacant, CMS Chief Medical Officer for Quality Improvement
- Shalon Quinn, Director, Division of Kidney Health, iQIIG (through 12/3/2022)
- Melissa Dorsey, Deputy Director, Division of Kidney Health, iQIIG (Acting Director, effective 12/4/2022)
- Mitzi Christ, Regional Program Manager, Div of Kidney Health, iQIIG
- CORs, ARAs, Central Office staff

2022 Calls: 1/10, 2/14, 4/25, 6/13, 8/15, 10/17, 12/12
Chiquita Brooks-LaSure,
Administrator, CMS

Liz Fowler
Director, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation

CMS Org Chart:
https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/CMSLeadership/Office_CCSQ.html
• Discussion continued on the increase in involuntary discharges and how CMS, the Forum, and other stakeholders can collaborate to address this issue.

• The Forum submitted innovations to address the critical staffing shortage to CMS; discussion continues on this topic.
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
The Forum received a $5000 grant from PCORI to support the dissemination of Evidence Updates related to treating depression in patients with kidney disease. The Forum will complete 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 January 5, 2023, on the topic of mental health in dialysis patients, annual depression screening, and treatment options.

Visit [https://esrdnetworks.org/education/depression-in-dialysis-patients/](https://esrdnetworks.org/education/depression-in-dialysis-patients/) for more information!
New Resources Available on the Forum Website

- Past issues of *Forum Matters* now available at [https://esrdnetworks.org/resources-news/forum-matters/](https://esrdnetworks.org/resources-news/forum-matters/)
- COVID-19 Patient Fact Sheet, including Bivalent Booster Information, English and Spanish (Oct 2022)
  - [https://media.esrdnetworks.org/documents/Facts_about_Bivalent_COVID_Vaccine_for_Hemodialysis_Patients_Final3.pdf](https://media.esrdnetworks.org/documents/Facts_about_Bivalent_COVID_Vaccine_for_Hemodialysis_Patients_Final3.pdf)
  - [https://media.esrdnetworks.org/documents/Facts_about_Bivalent_COVID_Vaccine_for_Hemodialysis_Patients_Final3_Spanish.pdf](https://media.esrdnetworks.org/documents/Facts_about_Bivalent_COVID_Vaccine_for_Hemodialysis_Patients_Final3_Spanish.pdf)
- National ESRD Census Data - updated quarterly
  - [https://esrdnetworks.org/resources-news/national-esrd-census-data/](https://esrdnetworks.org/resources-news/national-esrd-census-data/)


• D. Edwards. Living Your Best Life with Kidney Disease Patient Education Event. (October 2022)

• D. Goertz. Bridging the Gap: Developing Resources for Patients by Patients. 2022 National Patient and Family Member Engagement Learning and Action Network (NPFE-LAN) Summit. (October 2022)


• D. Edwards. A Look in the Crystal Ball: COVID-19 and the Future of Outpatient Dialysis – Most Important Good and Bad Impacts of COVID in Dialysis. ASN Kidney Week, Orlando, FL. (November 2022)

• D. Edwards. Life participation: When there is more to life than dialysis. *Peritoneal Dialysis International*. 2022;42(6):552-553. (November 2022)

On the Horizon in 2023

- Advancing American Kidney Health
- Focus on enhancing social media presence
- Updates to MAC Toolkits and development of 3 new 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
Donate Online!

Consider a tax-deductible end-of-year donation to the Forum!
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
Social Media

Followers:
Feb 2020 = 134
Sep 2021 = 288
December 2022 = 306

Followers:
Feb 2020 = 95
Sep 2021 = 242
December 2022 = 339

Followers:
December 2022 = 22

Followers:
May 2021 = 6
Sep 2021 = 9
December 2022 = 12
  • Transplant Video views = 123
  • “Thank You” Videos views = 171
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