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 and Updates

- **Strategic Partnerships**
  - Continued collaboration with CMS, RPA, and other stakeholders
  - Continued development of new toolkits and updates to existing toolkits

- **Board Development**
  - Conducted Board elections for President-Elect, Treasurer, and 3 Members-at-Large in Spring 2023
  - Engaged in NKF Policy presentation at March 2023 Board meeting

- **Customer Outreach, Sharing, & Engagement**
  - Developed social media plan for 2023
  - Reported toolkit downloads (since 2019) via Quality Conference poster
  - Established LinkedIn profile (now have a modest 80 followers)
  - Increased followers on Twitter (331 → 383) and Facebook (303 → 315)
  - Posted *Forum Matters* to the Forum website

- **Resource Identification**
  - Worked on fundraising plan to diversify revenue sources to increase overall asset base
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
• Facilitate flow of information between the Forum and Network Staff/BOD/MRB/PAC
• Relationships with other Stakeholders (i.e., RHA, RPA, LDOs, NKF, AAKP, 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 - 2023)
Kam Kalantar-Zadeh, MD, MPH, PhD  
(2023-Present)
Executive Committee:
President: Kam Kalantar-Zadeh, MD, MPH, PhD
President-Elect: Dan Landry, DO, FASN
Past President: David Henner, DO
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
Dee LeDuc
Debra Hain, PhD, APRN, AGPCNP-BC, FAAN, FAANP, FNKF

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

Emeritus:
Louis Diamond, MB, ChB, FACP, FCP (SA)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chair:</th>
<th>Vicky Cash, MBA, BSN, RN</th>
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<tbody>
<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>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networks 8/14</td>
<td>Mary Albin, BS, CPHQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network 9</td>
<td>Vicky Cash, MBA, BSN, RN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network 10</td>
<td>Audrey Broaddus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Network 11</td>
<td>Dee LeDuc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Network 12</td>
<td>Stephanie Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network 16</td>
<td>Stephanie Hutchinson, MBA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Medical Advisory Council (July 2023)

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, FAAN, FAANP, FNKF
Network 8:    Martha Tankersley, MSN, RN
Network 9:    Anne Huml, MD, MS
Network 10:   Daniel Roseman, 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:   Christine Logar, MD
Network 17:   Ramin Sam, MD
Network 18:   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)
Kidney Patient Advisory Council (July 2023)

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: Marquita Kirk
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
    Abby Ruiz
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)
Forum Executive Committee:
  • Monthly conference calls

Forum Board of Directors:
  • Quarterly conference calls
  • 2023 Meetings: March 7 & 10 (virtual); September 22-23, 2023 (Denver, CO)

CMS/Forum Leadership Calls
  • Monthly conference calls
  • In-person meetings at CMS Quality Conference (2020, no in-person meeting in 2021, 2022, or 2023)

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 1, 2023 (Philadelphia, PA)

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

Kidney Patient Advisory Council (KPAC)
  • Monthly conference calls
Highlights from June 2023 Meeting

• BOD
  • The Board reviewed the March 2023 meeting evaluation results which were positive overall with suggestions for improvement.
  • The Board reviewed the Spring 2023 Board of Directors election results:
    • President-Elect: Dan Landry, DO, FASN
    • Treasurer: Stephanie Hutchinson, MBA
    • Members-at-Large: Christine Logar, MD, Dee LeDuc, Debra Hain, PhD, APRN, AGPCNP-BC, FAAN, FAANP, FNKF

• KPAC
  • The KPAC met with CDC representatives to discuss staph BSI and race. Three KPAC members will participate in a patient panel about infection control at the Making Dialysis Safer Coalition virtual meeting in July 2023.
  • The KPAC is partnering with the MAC on the updated home dialysis toolkit.

• EDAC
  • OY2 began May 1, 2023, with a greater focus on health equity and vulnerable populations. Networks are also required to conduct site visits based and are hiring additional staff to undertake this task.
  • New contract measures include a BMI measure, data quality, and pneumonia vaccination to align with the CDC guidelines.
  • Ms. Cash reviewed the Network goals.
Highlights from June 2023 Meeting

• MAC
  • Dr. Landry reviewed Dr. Howard’s slides on transplant metrics, noting that 2022 was a good year for transplants overall although living donor transplants still lagged.
  • The updated home dialysis toolkit has been through peer review and should be available soon.
  • The health equity and patient-provider collaboration toolkit is underway.
  • Two Sharing Highly Effective Practices (SHEP) initiatives have been posted to the Forum website at https://esrdnetworks.org/education/sharing-highly-effective-practices-in-the-kidney-community/approved-highly-effective-practices/.

• EQRS
  • The transplant dashboard is now available in EQRS.
  • Electronic 2728 and 2746 forms are anticipated for release this summer.
  • Peritonitis reporting should be released this summer.
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></td>
<td>• Impact of ESCOs, ETC Model, Voluntary Models on home therapies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Enhanced modality education: transitional care and hands-on experience</td>
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<td></td>
<td>care options</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Emerging technology and the impact and benefits to home therapies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Addressing disparities and access to care</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Home therapy options in the LTC/nursing home setting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• KPAC Section: Empowering patients and care partners to be successful</td>
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<td>at home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outpatient Medical Director</td>
<td>• Emergency preparedness (Henner)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toolkit</td>
<td>• COVID (Kalantar)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Leadership (Molony)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transitions of Care</td>
<td>• Nursing home communication tool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toolkit</td>
<td>• COVID</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Medication reconciliation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Add flu and COVID vaccine information to the transfer summary forms</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>in the toolkit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vaccination Toolkit</td>
<td>• COVID Vaccination</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Vaccination tracking tool now includes COVID vaccine and pneumococcal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<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, Special Advisor – Data Initiatives
- Melissa Dorsey, Director, Division of Kidney Health, iQIIG
- Ann Turner, Acting Deputy Director, Division of Kidney Health, iQIIG
- Mitzi Christ, Regional Program Manager, Division of Kidney Health, iQIIG
- CORs, ARAs, Central Office staff

2023 Calls: 2/13, 4/17, 6/12, 7/10
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
Highlights from the 2nd Quarter 2023

- Ann Turner has been named Acting Deputy Director of DKH; Melissa Dorsey will remain Director of DKH for at least one year.
- The Forum and CMS discussed the Network obesity measure throughout the 2nd quarter. Dr. Kalantar presented data on the “obesity paradox,” which has strong data to support it; higher BMI in dialysis patients demonstrates survival advantages.
- Discussion continued on staffing shortages. Of note, for the first time in its 50-year history, more dialysis facilities are closing vs. opening.
- The Forum has requested to have further discussions about the QIP measures and the Performance Score Certificates.
- Dr. Howard continued to share transplant metrics, including new data on high KDPI kidneys showing benefits for pre-emptive transplants.
- Mr. Brown continued to share COVID updates, noting data lags making it difficult to track the current vaccination status of patients.
- CMS/Forum leadership calls moved from every other month to monthly to allow for more frequent interaction.
What Else Has the Forum Been Doing?

• In May, the Forum met with DaVita representatives to discuss IVD and the Second Chance Program.

• In June, the Forum submitted comments to Battelle’s Partnership for Quality Measurement (PQM) re: Spring 2023 Quality Measures:
  • Delay in Progression of CKD Measure
  • Risk Standardized Mortality Ratio for Late-Stage CKD and ESRD
  • ESRD Dialysis Patient Life Goals Survey (PaLS)

Read the public comments in full at https://media.esrdnetworks.org/documents/PQMMeasuresSpring2023PublicComment6.23.23.pdf

• Two Sharing Highly Effective Practices (SHEP) initiatives have been approved and posted to the Forum website at https://esrdnetworks.org/education/sharing-highly-effective-practices-in-the-kidney-community/approved-highly-effective-practices/.
• P. Gee. American Heart Association’s Cardio-Kidney Metabolic Health Meeting. Dallas, TX. (April 2023)
• M. Baliker. Featured in UNOS article about pediatric kidney transplant. (April 2023)
• Kidney Patient Advisory Council. Poster: Patient Resources: Toolkits Created BY Patient FOR Patients. CMS Quality Conference. (May 2023)
• P. Gee (Interview). Dialysis was hell to me: A minister’s injustice in his own medical care creates his passion for patient advocacy. ASN Kidney News. May 2023.
• D. Edwards, S. Dixon. Living Your Best Life with Kidney Disease. Decatur, GA. (June 2023)
On the Horizon in 2023

- Advancing American Kidney Health
- Focus on enhancing social media presence
- Updates to MAC Toolkits and development of three 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
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 nonprofit organization and do all this through volunteer members and limited financial resources. Your donation directly supports this work. All donations are tax deductible.

Donate Here

https://esrdnetworks.org/donate
Donate Online!

Welcome to the Forum of ESRD Networks website

Learn about the new Transplant Toolkit for Patients
This 12 minute video provides an
Followers:
Feb 2020 = 134
Aug 2022 = 303
July 2023 = 315

Followers:
Feb 2020 = 95
Aug 2022 = 331
July 2023 = 383

Followers:
March 2023 = 47
July 2023 = 80

Followers:
May 2021 = 6
Aug 2022 = 11
July 2023 = 12
Sharing something about the KPAC? Use #KPACPatientVoice

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