



Net Link



Stay Connected with Network 14!

July 2008

Keep up with what's *new*, what's *due* & what's *upcoming*

End Stage Renal Disease Network of Texas, Inc. (#14)

4040 McEwen Rd., Suite 350 Dallas, Texas 75244 ♦ 972-503-3215 phone ♦ 972-503-3219 fax ♦ www.esrdnetwork.org



PLEASE POST FOR ALL STAFF! Important information from Network 14

Network #14 Updates:

Be on the Lookout for the NPR mail out...

In keeping with the 2008 Goals & Objectives of the ESRD Network of Texas. Every facility is asked to "appoint and support a Network Patient Representative (NPR)". To update this information, log onto the Network website at www.esrdnetwork.org and click on **Provider Directory** and click on **Notice of Change in Key Personnel**. Print out this form and update the names and fax to the Network office at 972-503-3219.

The Network will be sending a packet of information to the Network Patient Representative (NPR) at each facility the week of July 7, 2008. Please make sure your facility NPR receives their packet and assist them with returning the fax back form. For questions or information regarding the mail out or the NPR program, please contact Geli Brown at 469-916-3800 or gbrown@nw14.esrd.net.

Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Update:

For the latest information and updates for Disaster/Emergency Preparedness, visit our website at www.esrdnetwork.org and click on Disaster Planning. You can also access the Texas Emergency ESRD Coalition website through this link. Don't forget to update EMSsystem by the 8th of July. For assistance with Emergency Planning or EMSsystem, please contact Geli Brown at 469-916-3800 or gbrown@nw14.esrd.net.

QI Quips

ALERT - Coming Soon To Your Facility! Annual Dialysis Facility Report:

Your facility's 2008 Annual Dialysis Facility Report (DFR) will be mailed to your facility by the end of July 2008! This report is extremely important because:

- 1) Facility-specific data reported on YOUR DFR (mortality, hospitalization, transplantation, anemia and adequacy) is also reported to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) ESRD Licensure Division.
- 2) DSHS relies heavily on the outcome data reported in the Dialysis Facility Reports to determine which Texas facilities will receive DSHS ESRD Facility Surveys during the upcoming year.
- 3) If your DFR data is inaccurate, you only have a short time period to submit an official comment about the data inaccuracies to the survey office (instructions for how to submit comments will be included with the DFR).
- 4) DFR data is also posted on the Dialysis Facility Compare public website!
- 5) Last, but not least – If a surveyor enters your facility to do a survey, he/she will ask you to produce this report.

Network #14 Strongly Recommends Your Facility Take the Following Actions:

- Alert staff that open your facility's mail to be on the look-out for your DFR report the end of July! (It will arrive in a large envelope with a bright sticker)
- Review your DFR data ASAP to ensure that it is accurate.
- If your DFR data is **NOT** accurate – submit official comments on the website noted on the cover letter mailed with the report.
- Keep a copy of the DFR readily available – in case your surveyor "drops in".
- Discuss/present DFR data in your next monthly CQI meeting.

2008 Texas Quality of Care (QOC) Indicators Data:

We expect to receive the 2008 Quality of Care Reports during July and will be distributing them to you as soon as they arrive. We are excited to be able to return the data to you so quickly this year!

- We ask that you review your QOC report in CQI to make sure your data is accurate.
- QOC data is used by the Network to identify facilities that do not meet the Medical Review Board's cut-points for minimally acceptable care.
- Notify Network QI staff if your data is incorrect.
- If your data is correct, but you identify during CQI that improvement is needed – we recommend your facility CQI team develop/ implement an Improvement Plan immediately to improve the indicator.

Fistula First Data Validation Project:

Validation of FF data is underway! To ensure that the FF data collected from LDOs and non-LDOs is being collected and transmitted accurately, a small sample of NW #14 facilities were selected for data validation. These facilities are being contacted and will either receive a site visit from NW QI staff or will be asked to submit vascular access and census data to the NW office. Not all facilities will be participating – but a big thank you to those that have been contacted and will be participating in this project!

Thank you for everything you do – The QI Team!!

2008 Clinical Performance Measures (CPM's) have arrived!

CPM's were mailed out to the participating facilities on June 20, 2008. Not all facilities receive CPM forms, however, if **YOU** have received one of these forms, please honor these deadlines:

- 1) Fax-back due June 27, 2008
- 2) Completed CPM forms due by July 18, 2008

Timely submission of data has received increased emphasis by CMS, and in turn the Network is unable to be as flexible with deadlines. Failure to submit data timely will result in the facility being referred to DSHS based on non-compliance with Network Goals and Objectives.

The Network is still looking for a few good facilities...

We need **27** facilities that are interested in voluntarily working with the Network to review and critique materials that will be sent out statewide. The materials would be sent to your facility for staff and/or patients to review. A short evaluation about the usefulness of the materials would need to be filled out and returned to the Network office. The evaluation would also have room to add comments, suggestions or other helpful information for the Network staff to consider prior to sending out the materials. This type of feedback is critical to the work the Network will be doing and your opinion matters to us. If you are interested in becoming one of the chosen facilities, please call or email Geli Brown, Outreach Coordinator at 469-916-3800 or gbrown@nw14.esrd.net



Network 14 July 2008 Calendar



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 OFFICE CLOSED 	5
6	7	8 June PARs due EMSystem update due	9	10  Non-LDO June FF data due	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Missing Forms Due	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 Missing Forms Sent		



PAR TIP:
Use our Website to locate provider numbers for the PARs: www.esrdnetwork.org.