



December 2024 E-Newsletter from Network 11

Kidney Patient Advocate Dawn Edwards Talks Sepsis

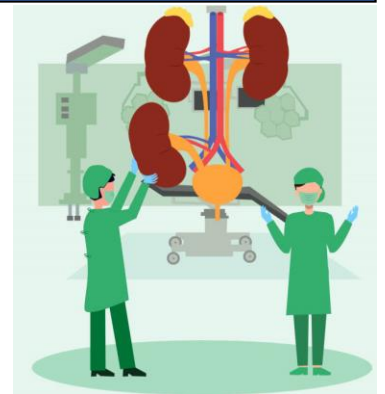


American Association of Kidney Patients (AAKP) Ambassador and 35-year kidney patient Dawn Edwards was recently featured in the [Sept/Oct issue of AAKP's RENALIFE](#). She shares her story on her recent hospitalization for severe sepsis. Learn the signs and symptoms of this life-threatening condition.

AAKP is dedicated to improving the quality of life for kidney patients through education, advocacy, patient engagement, and the fostering of patient communities.

Health Literacy and Transplant

On Oct 23rd, NKF hosted a webinar on “Health Literacy as a Tool to Engage Patients in the Transplant Journey”. View recording, slides and complete CE evaluation [HERE](#). Access full list of resources [HERE](#). All sessions' Q&A is [HERE](#). The Navigating Transplant program is a monthly virtual series providing dialysis professionals with the information, resources, and strategies needed to provide comprehensive support to patients and care partners so they consider transplant as a treatment option. By engaging dialysis professionals in learning with peers, this program ensures patients and care partners receive essential education, emotional support, and advocacy throughout the transplant journey.



Register for MDH Project Firstline Trainings



We've Got You Covered | Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Six-Part Series
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) helps keep health care workers safe and prevents germs from spreading in the health care environment. Learn more about how to select the appropriate PPE for the task at hand. Register for the training series here: [Project Firstline Training and Resources](#)

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Screening

Screening for the social drivers of health was included in the QIP measures as reporting measures starting in calendar year 2025 – you can find the technical specifications for these measures at this [link](#). There are no specifications for who completes the screening or which tool is used, the measure is just looking at how many patients 18 years of age and older are screened for five health related social needs: food insecurity, housing instability, transportation needs, utility difficulties, and interpersonal safety. Please see pages 36 – 39 of the document in the link above.





Midwest Kidney Network

Partnering to improve kidney care

EQRS



There are several reports and dashboards available in EQRS to support your quality improvement efforts and confirm complete and accurate data. Click on the **Reports** drop down menu on the navigation bar in EQRS and select **Reports Dashboard** to find dashboards related to vascular access, vaccinations (influenza and pneumococcal), clinical depression screenings, and hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis clinical measures. There is also a transplant waitlist report available from the **Dashboard** tab on the navigation bar in EQRS that includes information about the waitlist status of your dialysis patients. This [tip sheet](#) has more information about the various dashboards available.

MKN Monthly Calls

Friendly reminder that we host monthly calls for each state:

- Minnesota and Wisconsin – 2nd Tuesday of every month
- North and South Dakota – 2nd Wednesday of every month
- Michigan – 2nd Thursday of every month



Let us know if we need to re-send the invite!

December EQRS Stakeholder Meeting



Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 2pm ET/1pm CT will be the EQRS Stakeholder meeting. What to expect:

- Facility Commitment to Health Equity Attestation
- Social Drivers of Health (SDOH) Patient Screening
- Important Dates and Deadlines
- Upcoming QIP and EQRS Events

[Registration link here](#)

Midwest Kidney Network Updates

We are closed for the following holidays:

- December 24th - Christmas Eve
- December 25th - Christmas Day
- January 1st - New Year's Day

We are moving offices!! New address:

1360 Energy Park Drive, Suite 320

St Paul, MN 55108



Checkout out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MidwestKidneyNetwork>