



Midwest Kidney Network



November 2024 E-Newsletter from Network 11

ESRD Health Equity Webinar: Addressing Rural Transportation Challenges – Tues Nov, 19th



This informative FREE Health Equity webinar event will explore resources to address transportation challenges in rural areas, discuss case studies, and identify best practices to meet patients' transportation needs in rural areas. **Event Speaker Robin Phillips** is the executive director at the National Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) and is dedicated to improving transportation in rural communities. 1-2pm CT / 2-3 pm ET. Registration link here: <https://hsagonline.webex.com/weblink/register/r488ef8d78707102fd5c07f772a1c6716>

Care Compare Available in EQRS!

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) **November Dialysis Facilities Care Compare (DFCC)** preview begins Friday November 1, 2024, and ends on Friday, November 15, 2024. Your facility or organizations DFCC patient lists and preview reports will be available for download in a new care compare module within the ESRD Quality Reporting System (EQRS). These reports will be available for download until the beginning of January 2025 DFCC preview period.



New Season of MKN Cohorts



We have established **new cohorts for our Quality Improvement Projects!!** If you haven't yet, please reach out to your **Project Lead** and let them know you're aware of the engagement ask:

- **Hospitalization & Vaccination:** [Claire Taylor-Schiller](#)
- **Patient and Family Engagement:** [Renae Nelson](#) & [LizaLaudenbach](#)
- **Home Dialysis & Kidney Transplantation:** [Candy Kohls](#)
- **Data Quality Management:** [Aletha Duncan](#) & [Alli Bailey](#)
- **Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services:** [D.J. Johnson](#)

PY 2025 ESRD QIP Final Reports Available Soon in EQRS

The Payment Year (PY) 2025 Final Performance Score Reports (PSRs) and Performance Score Certificates (PSCs) for the ESRD Quality Incentive Program (QIP) will be available to download in the QIP section of EQRS on **November 6th**. Facilities are required to print the English and Spanish versions of their PSC and post both in a prominent location in the facility by **November 27, 2024**. The PSR does not need to be posted, but it provides more details for facilities about the scores in the PSC. For instructions on how to access the PRS and PSC in EQRS, please see the [PY 2025 ESRD QIP UI Quick Start Guide](#).





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Partnering to improve kidney care

Nephrology Social Worker's Symposium – 5 CEUs and Virtual Option Available



The Michigan Council of Nephrology Social Workers 30th Symposium is going to be held Friday, November 15th. Michigan Medicine's Transplant Center is sponsoring 5 CEUs for this CEU event. They are offering 3 CEUs in Implicant Bias and 2 CEUs in Human Trafficking. Register here:

<https://nkfm.org/mcnsw-symposium/>

For any questions, please contact **Matthew Butler**, Clinical Social Worker (CSW) Pediatric Nephrology, C.S. Mott Children's Hospital:

mbutler@med.umich.edu.

Network 11 Consumer Committee

What do a software engineer, celebrity chef, medical researcher, social worker, mechanical engineer, pharmacy technician, registered nurse, motivational speaker, and kidney patient advocate have in common? They are all members of the Midwest [Network 11 Consumer Committee](#). Each month this committee of volunteers, representing the states of Wisconsin, Michigan, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Minnesota, participate in a group call to work towards better kidney health. Usually, they alternate each month between a "meet and greet call" and a "work call". During the "meet and greet call" the members support each other, discuss current kidney political or medical updates, and any other concerns. The "work calls" are focused on improving healthcare outcomes for end stage kidney disease, dialysis, kidney transplant recipients and donors, and care givers/partners. The group has completed projects covering a wide range of topics from a [booklet discussing individuals' choice in treatments](#) to a [brochure about managing fluid and electrolytes](#). This year the committee looks forward to developing a newspaper written by kidney patients for kidney patients. Many thanks to the Consumer Committee volunteers and the support of the Midwest Kidney Network working to improve the outcomes of kidney patients and their care givers.



1 FREE CEU - Nov 7th FREE LAN Hospitalization Call



Daniel Landry, DO, FASN

The End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) National Coordinating Center (NCC) invites you to join us for a webinar titled: **"Creating Successful Transitions: for Reducing Hospitalization, Readmissions, and ER visits"**. Dr Landry will discuss ways to implement successful transition of care for patients post hospitalization. One CEU will be provided to RNs, SWs, and RDs who attend this meeting. Registration link here:

<https://hsagonline.webex.com/weblink/register/rf6fb21e16e6fa236284a739d7fc453b9>

Midwest Kidney Network Thanksgiving Week Holiday Hours

Midwest Kidney Network will be open normal hours Monday through Wednesday, November 25-27, but we will closed consecutive days/the last two business days of the month: **Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th** in recognition of the Thanksgiving Holiday. We know that many of you will be working both these days as the work of 'life sustaining care' rarely takes a holiday. Know that we are **extremely thankful** for your hard work, sacrifice, and dedication to providing patients the highest level of quality care especially on these holiday days.



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