



Forum Matters

Highlights & Updates

Fourth Quarter 2022

What is the Forum?



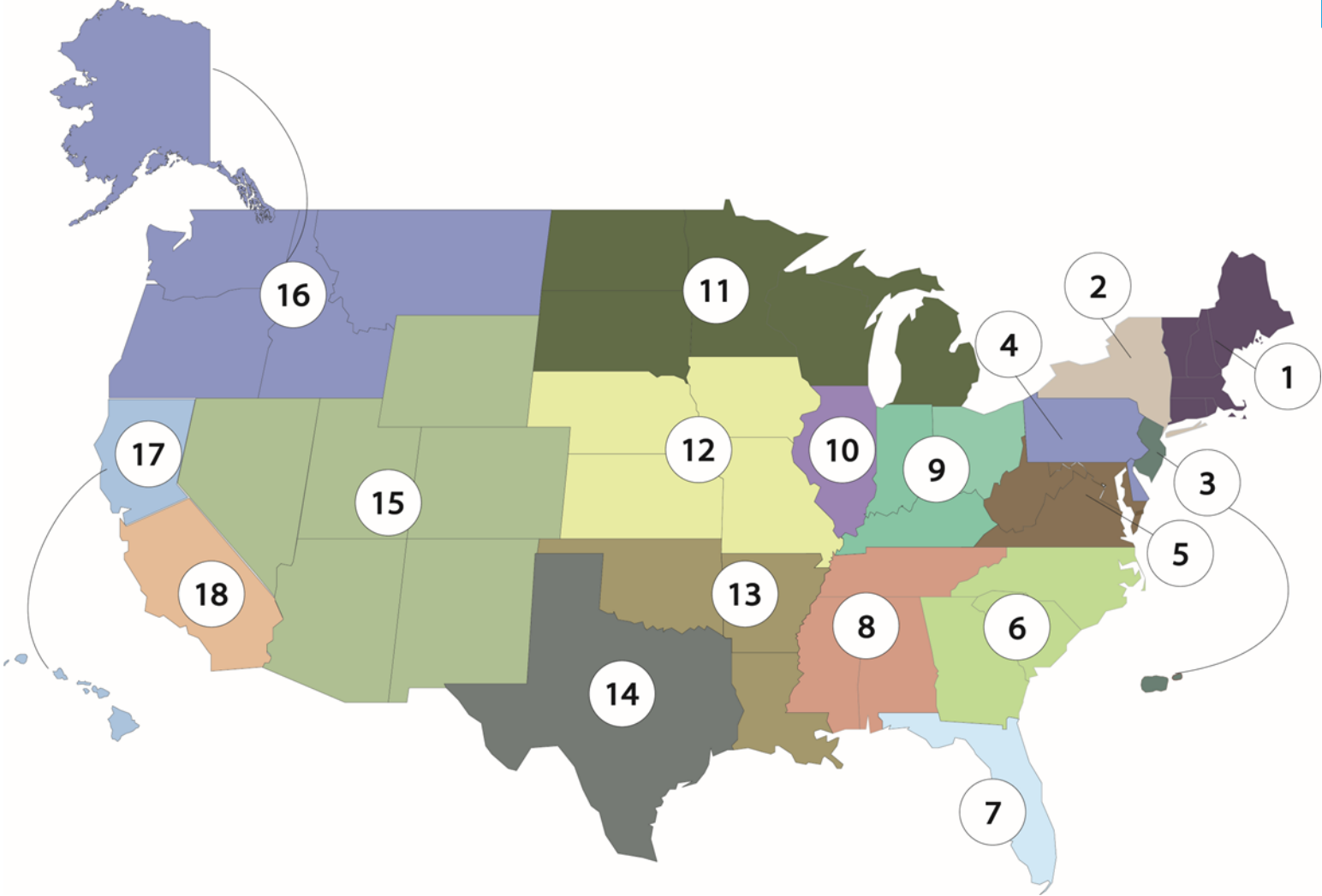
All ESRD Networks are members of the Forum of ESRD Networks, which is a not-for-profit organization that advocates on behalf of its membership and coordinates projects and activities of mutual interest to ESRD Networks. The Forum facilitates the flow of information and advances a national quality agenda 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

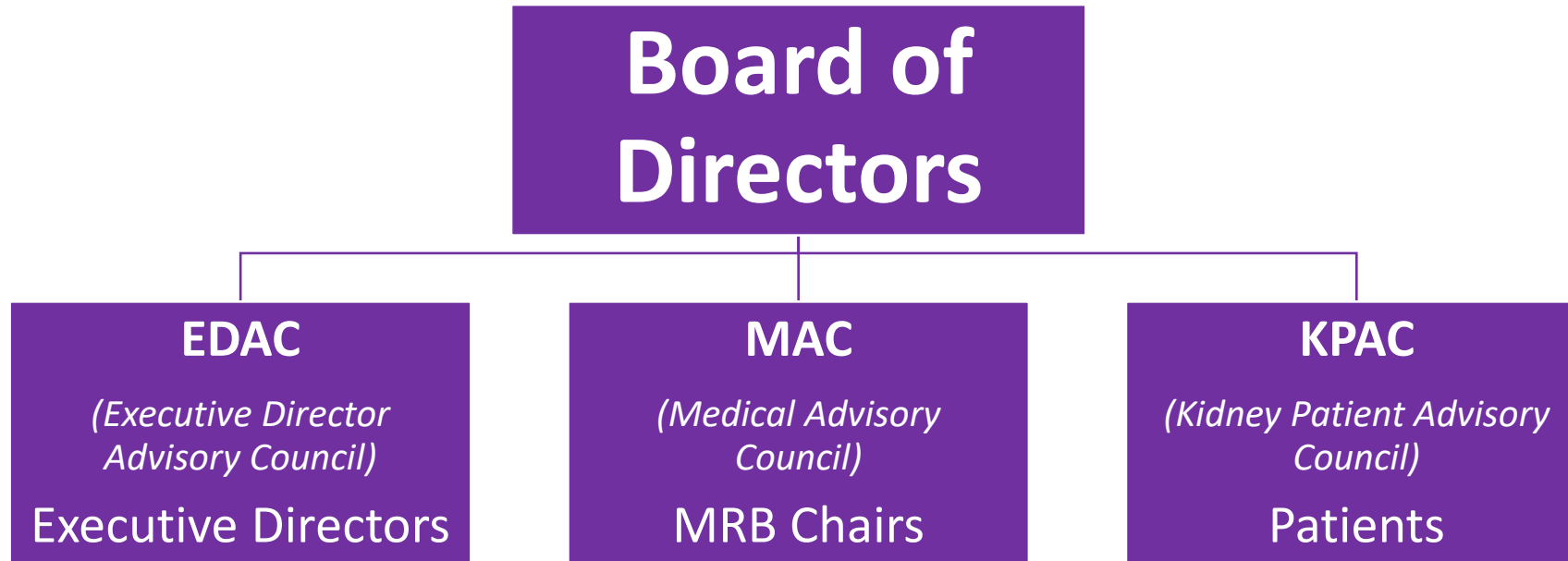
ESRD Networks



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)

Forum Presidents



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

(1992-1994)

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

(2015-2017)

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)

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

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 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)

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 Leadership Calls & Meetings



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/>

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!*

MAC Toolkit	Updates
Home Dialysis Toolkit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New sections to address AAKH and Conditions for Coverage updates • Emergency management of home dialysis patients • Impact of ESCOs, ETC Model, Voluntary Models on home therapies • Enhanced modality education: transitional care and hands-on experience care options • Emerging technology and the impact and benefits to home therapies • Addressing disparities and access to care • Home therapy options in the LTC/nursing home setting • KPAC Section: Empowering patients and care partners to be successful at home
Outpatient Medical Director Toolkit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency preparedness (Henner) • COVID (Kalantar) • Leadership (Molony)
Transitions of Care Toolkit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursing home communication tool • COVID • Medication reconciliation • Add flu and COVID vaccine information to the transfer summary forms in the toolkit
Vaccination Toolkit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID Vaccination • Vaccination tracking tool now includes COVID vaccine and pneumococcal booster + age so facilities can track patients >64 YO for PPSV-23 booster

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

CMS Organizational Chart

Chiquita Brooks-LaSure,
Administrator, CMS

Liz Fowler
Director, Center for
Medicare and Medicaid
Innovation

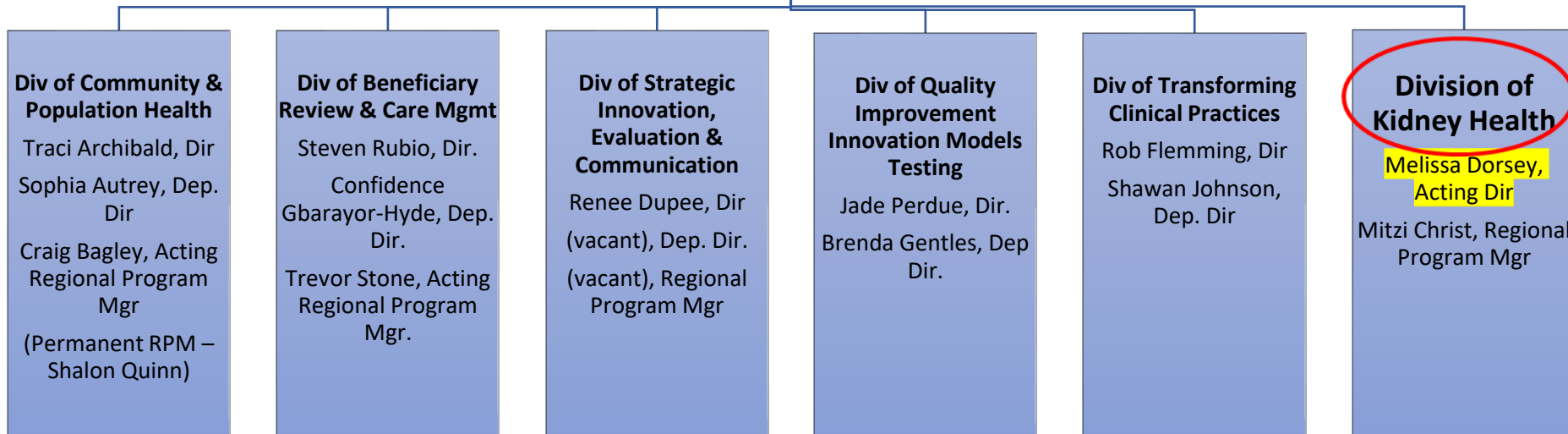
iQuality Improvement & Innovation Group

Anita Monteiro, Director

Shane Illies, Act. Dep. Dir.

Shalon Quinn, PhD, Special Advisor-Data Initiatives

Vacant, CMS Chief Medical Officer for Quality
Improvement



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>

What Else Has the Forum Been Doing?



- 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/> 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/>
- 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_Spanish.pdf
- National ESRD Census Data - updated quarterly
<https://esrdnetworks.org/resources-news/national-esrd-census-data/>

Forum Members in the Community

4th Quarter 2022



- D. Henner, S. Hutchinson, D. Forfang. Partnership in Quality and Patient Safety – The ESRD Networks and the Forum of ESRD Networks. Renal Healthcare Association Annual Meeting. Indianapolis, IN. (October 2022)
- M. Baliker. Patient Perspective on Xenotransplantation. *Kidney 360*. 2022;3(11):1953-1954. (October 2022)
- 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)
- K. Kalantar-Zadeh. A Look in the Crystal Ball: COVID-19 and the Future of Outpatient Dialysis – ESRD Network Roles: Patient Resources and Regulatory. ASN Kidney Week, Orlando, FL. (November 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)
- D. Edwards, K. Kalantar-Zadeh, K. Norris, D. Molony, et al. Practicing health equity in involuntary discharges to overcome disparities in dialysis and kidney patient care. *Current Opinion in Nephrology and Hypertension*. 2022;31(). (December 2022)

- 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

<https://esrdnetworks.org/education/sharing-best-practices-in-the-kidney-community>

Donate Online!

The screenshot shows the homepage of the National Forum of ESRD Networks. The browser address bar displays 'https://esrdnetworks.org'. The website header includes the logo and the tagline: 'Advocating for the organizations that monitor the quality of chronic kidney disease, dialysis and kidney transplant care in the USA.' A navigation menu lists: Home, About Us, Membership, Toolkits, Resources & News, Education, and Contact. A search bar is located in the top right. The main content area features a map of the United States with 18 numbered regions. A 'Donate' button is circled in red. Below the map, the text reads 'Welcome to the Forum of ESRD Networks website'. On the right side, there is a 'Donate' section with the following text: 'The National Forum of ESRD Networks, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization #13-3246354. Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. No goods or services will be provided by the Forum in return or consideration for this contribution. Donations can also be mailed to the Forum Office at PO Box 203, Birchwood, WI 54817.' Below this text is a 'Donate now' button. Further down, there is a 'What's new on the Forum website?' section with a link to 'Learn about the new Transplant Toolkit for Patients' and a video overview.



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



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.linkedin.com/company/national-forum-of-esrd-networks-inc>



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9Vp4Hfu7VmSTbSwG7-6e2g>

Sharing something about the KPAC? Use #KPACPatientVoice

Questions / Comments:
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