

2008 ANNUAL REPORT – TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	PREFACE	
	1. MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR	
	2. TABLE OF CONTENTS	
II.	INTRODUCTION	1
	A. NETWORK DESCRIPTION	2
	B. NETWORK STRUCTURE	11
	1. NETWORK STAFF	11
	2. COMMITTEE FUNCTION & ACTIVITY	13
	➤ Network Council: Facility Constituents	13
	➤ Board of Directors	13
	➤ Medical Review Board	14
	➤ Finance Committee	15
	➤ Grievance Committee	15
	➤ Network Advisory Committee	16
	➤ Nominating Committee	16
	➤ Ad Hoc Committees	16
	➤ Ad Hoc: 2008 Annual Meeting Committee	16
	➤ Ad Hoc: Vascular Access Steering Committee	16
	➤ Patient Advisory Committee (PAC)	17
III.	CMS NATIONAL GOALS AND NETWORK ACTIVITIES	18
	A. IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND SAFETY OF DIALYSIS RELATED SERVICES PROVIDED FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH ESRD	18
	➤ Quality Improvement Work Plan	18
	➤ National Fistula First Vascular Access Improvement Initiative	18
	➤ National CMS Clinical Performance Measures Project	25
	➤ Network Specific Improvement Project: Annual Lab Data Collection	28
	➤ Network #1 Indicator Measures	29
	<i>Other Quality Improvement Activities in 2008</i>	36
	➤ ESRD Regulations	36
	➤ Infection Control Issues	37
	➤ Clinical Technical Assistance	37
	➤ Acute Dialysis Programs	38
	➤ Assisting Facilities with Continuous Quality Improvement Activities	38
	➤ Achieving Network #1 Goals in Quality of Care & Safety	39

B. IMPROVE THE INDEPENDENCE, QUALITY OF LIFE, AND REHABILITATION (TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE) OF INDIVIDUALS WITH ESRD THROUGH TRANSPLANTATION, USE OF SELF-CARE MODALITIES (E.G., PERITONEAL DIALYSIS, HOME HEMODIALYSIS), IN-CENTER SELF-CARE, AS MEDICALLY APPROPRIATE, THROUGH THE END OF LIFE	40
➤ Withdrawal from Dialysis Trends	40
➤ Withdrawal Special Project	42
➤ Profile Analysis of ESRD Incidence Population	43
➤ Prevalence Population and Employment Status	45
➤ Incidence Population and Employment Status	45
➤ Vocational Rehabilitation	47
➤ Network #1 Staff Provide Community Education	48
➤ Achieving Network #1 Goals in Quality of Life for ESRD Patients	49
C. IMPROVE PATIENT PERCEPTION OF CARE AND EXPERIENCE OF CARE, AND RESOLVE PATIENT’S COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES	50
➤ Complaints, Grievances and Contact Report	50
➤ Internal Monitoring of Contact Trends	51
➤ Addressing the Needs of the Challenging Patient - Tool Utilization	52
➤ Decreasing Patient Provider Conflict Toolkit	52
➤ CMS Dialysis Facility Compare	53
➤ Achieving Network #1 Goals to Address Patient Grievances and Experience of Care	53
D. IMPROVE COLLABORATION WITH PROVIDERS TO ENSURE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE GOALS THROUGH THE MOST EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE MEANS POSSIBLE, WITH RECOGNITION OF THE DIFFERENCES AMONG PROVIDERS (E.G., INDEPENDENT, HOSPITAL-BASED, MEMBER OF A GROUP, AFFILIATE OF AN ORGANIZATION, ETC.) AND THE ASSOCIATED POSSIBILITIES/CAPABILITIES	54
➤ 20 th Annual Network of New England Educational Meeting	54
➤ New Conditions for Coverage Meeting	55
➤ Dialysis Technician Educational Meeting	55
➤ Network Notes Published in 2008	55
➤ Emergency Preparedness	56
➤ Donate Life Connecticut	57
➤ Donor Designation Collaborative	58
➤ The Patient Advisory Committee “PAC” Matures into a Strong Member of the Network #1 Team	59

➤ 5 Diamond patient Safety Project	59
➤ Forum of ESRD Networks	60
➤ State Survey Agencies	60
➤ Quality Improvement Organizations	60
➤ End of Life Coalition	60
➤ National Kidney Foundation Affiliates	61
➤ Collaboration with Other Network Organizations	61
➤ Network of New England Website	61
➤ Achieving Network #1 Goals in Collaboration with Other Organizations	62

E. IMPROVE THE COLLECTION, RELIABILITY, TIMELINESS, AND USE OF DATA TO MEASURE PROCESSES OF CARE AND OUTCOMES; MAINTAIN PATIENT REGISTRY; AND TO SUPPORT THE ESRD NETWORK PROGRAM

➤ Information Management	63
- System Architecture	63
○ VISION	63
○ SIMS	63
○ Central-SIMS	64
○ REMIS	64
○ QualityNet Exchange	64
○ REMEDY	64
○ National Help Desk for ESRD CROWN System	64
○ Individual Network's IT Infrastructure	64
- Patient Registry	65
- Updating Status of Medicare ESRD Beneficiaries	66
- Verification of Patient Data	66
- Provider and Personnel Database	66
➤ Quality Assurance of Patient Data	67
- VISION and Quality NET Exchange	67
- VISION Generated 2728 Forms Validation	68
➤ Information Management Support for Quality Management Reports	68
- Clinical Performance Measures	68
- Lab Data Collection	69
- Vascular Access	69
➤ Information Management Support for Administrative Reports	69
➤ Information Management Support for Patient Services	70
➤ Information Management Support for Provider Education	70
- Statistical Summary Booklet	70
- Facility Directory	70

-	Information for New Facility / Data Packet	70
-	Information for New Patient Packets	70
-	Technical Assistance	71
-	Data Requests	71
-	Disaster Preparedness and Business Continuity and Contingency Plan (BCCP)	71
-	Development and Testing of ESRD Network Data and Data Systems	71
-	Task Groups and Committees	71
-	CROWNWeb	72
➤	Achieving Network #1 Goals in Data Management	72
IV.	SANCTION RECOMMENDATIONS	73
V.	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL FACILITIES	74
VI.	DATA TABLES	76
	Table 1: ESRD Incidence	77
	Table 2: ESRD Dialysis Prevalence	79
	Table 3: Dialysis Modality by Self-Care Settings - Home	81
	Table 4: Dialysis Modality by In-Center Settings	88
	Table 5: Renal Transplants by State	95
	Table 6: Renal Transplants by Transplant Type, Age, Race, Gender and Primary Diagnosis	96
	Table 7: Dialysis Deaths	98
	Table 8: Vocational Rehabilitation	100