

ESRD Network of New England Significant Milestones

Launched the **5 Diamond Patient Safety Program** on the Network of New England's website (2010)

Developed and provided **Vascular Access Passports and Venipuncture Protection Cards for Patients** throughout the Network of New England, and nationally, in the RPA's Advanced CKD Patient Management Toolkit (2000-2010)

Partnered with 4 other Networks in the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's **CAHPS** (Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Provider Systems) Program to administer incenter hemodialysis surveys that assessed patients' experiences and provided quality improvement in patient care (2005-2007)

Collaborated with the Mid-Atlantic Renal Coalition (Network 5) to provide a monthly **Knowledge Management Program** of key published peer reviewed articles for renal physicians and other dialysis personnel (2000-2003)

Partnered with the **Maine Nephrology Society** to provide comparative data on clinical indicators (1997-2000)

Distributed semi-annual **Performance Index Reports** to all providers. These included a background on the Network Clinical Indicator Project, updates on patient and provider census, & flow charts for : Adequacy of Hemodialysis / URR / KT/V, Hemodialysis Vascular Access, Access Type, Adequacy of PD, and Anemia Management (1997-2003)

First Network to provide an educational conference on **Caring for patients with HIV and AIDS in an ESRD Setting** (1986)

Emphasized **Disaster Preparedness** for over 2 decades with Disaster Booklets provided for patients in English & Spanish, and for those with special needs, (Diabetes) (1987-2010)

Annual Dialysis Technician Educational Program (2005-2010)

Partnered with the Connecticut Health Department to form the **Dialysis Technicians' Task Force** to explore employment, education and certification opportunities for dialysis technicians through legislation (2002-2005)

Formed the **Patient Advisory Committee (PAC)** which has made significant contributions to patient education through its many unique projects (1999-2010)

Partnered with Bay State Medical Center and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to study **End of Life and Palliative Care Issues** (1997-2004)

Collaborated with key Agencies to form the Organ and Tissue Donor Coalition, now known as Donate Life Connecticut. **Donate Life Connecticut** has continued partnerships with AAA, Connecticut high schools, & the Dept. of Motor Vehicles to increase organ, eye, and tissue donor awareness (1987-2010)

Published 25 nephrology related articles in D&T, NN&I, ANNA, NKF Newsletters, & other journals (1985-2010)

Since its inception, this Network has provided educational offerings at its **Annual Network Council Meetings** for all dialysis and transplant providers (1977-2010)

Special project on **withdrawal and discontinuation of dialysis**, funded by CMS, resulted in two **publications**;
1) **Utilization of Hospice Services**,
2) **Knowledge of End of Life Decisions**. (2005-2006)

Participating with CMS and ESRD partners in the **development of electronic data systems** (2000-2010)

Patients Speak: Conversation About Vascular Access DVD translated into Spanish and used in 10 different Networks (2010)

Collaborative project with Quality Partners of Rhode Island on **prevention of chronic kidney disease** (2008-2010)

Received 3 separate contracts from CMS related to **Patient Safety** (2000-2008)