

**The Renal Network, Inc.**  
**2006 Annual Report – ESRD Network 9/10**

**3. Goal 2 - A. Special Study: Dialysis Treatment Delivered in the Nursing Home Setting.**

Based on intense interest in the delivery of hemodialysis treatment within the nursing home setting, CMS commissioned a special project to examine current practices and make recommendations on a model for this form of treatment. A technical expert panel was assembled by year-end 2005; the work of the TEP took place during 2006, during one in-person meeting and several conference calls.

TEP members included:

Susan Cronin, RN, Dialysis Consultant, ANNA, Elkhorn, Wisconsin  
Marlene Demers, Nurse Consultant, CMS Region 1, Boston, Massachusetts  
Marilyn Duncan, RN, Fresenius Medical Care, Westchester, Illinois  
Kathy Hybarger, RN, QIO, Health Care Excel, Terre Haute, Indiana  
Stephen Korbet, MD, Circle Medical Management, Chicago, Illinois  
Veronica Marotta, Illinois Department of Public Health, Bellwood, Illinois  
Cecilia Meehan, DaVita, Rocky Hill, Connecticut  
Maureen Michael, NRAA, Orlando, Florida  
Gail Palmeri, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts  
Lana Price, Chronic Care Policy Group, CMS, Baltimore, Maryland  
Joan Rogers, Nursing Home Administrator, Independent Dialysis, Baltimore, Maryland  
Anita Rowan, RN, Hemodialysis Patient, Zion, Illinois

The TEP first conducted an in-depth review of the current practices employed to deliver dialysis treatment within the long-term care setting. It then focused on the optimum methodologies to ensure high quality dialysis care is provided in this venue.

The TEP issued a final report which contained the synopsis of the current practice and recommendations on a comprehensive set of care criteria, including staffing, access to nephrologists, infection control, medications, water quality, physical environment, reimbursement and financial considerations, and dialysis back-up. A final report was submitted to CMS by mid-year, and posted to the Network Web site at [www.therenalnetwork.org](http://www.therenalnetwork.org). The Renal Network submitted a request for funding to continue the work of the TEP to develop a model for dialysis treatment in the long-term care setting; at year-end a response had not been received.