

B. System Description.

The Standardized Information Management System (SIMS) is the center of the Network data processing system. SIMS is a client server application utilizing a Microsoft SQL Server database with a Visual Basic front end. The database contains tables for patient demographics, patient events, CMS forms, facility information and personnel, and contacts with patients, facility personnel, dialysis corporations, etc.

The SIMS application contains functions for data entry and compliance reporting of the following CMS forms:

- CMS 2728 – End Stage Renal Disease Medical Evidence Report
- CMS 2744 – ESRD Facility Survey
- CMS 2746 – ESRD Death Notification

Figure 131

Number of CMS Forms

Processed in 2009

Form Type	Network 9	Network 10
2728	9231	5104
2746	6678	3516
2744	501	228

The forms as well as event data from Patient Activity Reports are entered into the SIMS database each day and replicated to the CMS Central Repository nightly.

VISION is a software application used by approximately 80 facilities in Network 9/10 to submit CMS forms and other patient data electronically. The data is transmitted securely via Quality Net Exchange. The VISION files, submitted by facilities, are downloaded each day and the SIMS application is used to import and process the data. These data are replicated along with the data entered by hand each night.

Validation of CMS forms entry is conducted each quarter by drawing a random three percent sample of forms and comparing them to the data entered. The overall accuracy rate for the year was 99%. Quarterly reports are also sent to each facility to validate their patient census.