Vascular Access
Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement (QAPI)

§ 494.110 CONDITION

SUSIE STARK
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
THE RENAL NETWORK, INC.
% Prevalent Patients Using a Fistula by State & Network

Network Goal – 58%

IN  KY  OH  NW9  IL

% Prevalent Patients Using a Fistula by HSA
Indiana

DEC2004
DEC2005
DEC2006
DEC2007
DEC2008
% Prevalent Patients Using a Catheter by State & Network

- IN
- KY
- OH
- NW9
- IL

DEC2004
DEC2005
DEC2006
DEC2007
DEC2008
% Prevalent Patients Using a Catheter by HSA
Illinois
Facilities must develop, implement, maintain and evaluate an effective, data-driven, quality assessment and performance improvement program.

All professional members of the interdisciplinary team must participate.

Program must reflect the complexity of the facility’s organization & services (including services provided under arrangement).
Termination of Medicare Coverage
§488.604

- (a) ... failure of a supplier of ESRD service to meet one or more conditions for coverage set forth in part 494 will result in the termination of Medicare coverage

- (b) ... [can be] based solely on supplier’s failure to participate in network activities and pursue network goals as required at §494.180(i) of this chapter
The facility must:

• Must have a written plan describing QAPI scope, objectives, organization, responsibilities, participants & procedures
• Continuously monitor its performance
• Take actions that result in performance improvement
• Track to assure improvements are sustained over time

The facility Medical Director is ultimately responsible for the program!
Operational Responsibility for QAPI

- Review Quality Indicators
- Education of facility medical staff in QAPI objectives
- Review method of prioritizing QI projects
- Inclusion of all staff in QAPI
- Communication with governing body
- Participation in evaluation of effectiveness of QAPI
Medical Director Responsibilities

- The Medical Director is assigned operational responsibility for the QAPI program.
- The Medical Director must continuously communicate with the governing body about the status of QAPI activities, particularly when resources are required to address program improvements.
- Materials documenting the QAPI program should include evidence of active participation and oversight by the Medical Director.
QAPI: Facility-Based Assessment and Improvement of Care

- **Compliance determined by**
  - Review of clinical outcomes
  - Data & records of QAPI activities
  - Interviews of responsible staff including MD

- **Failure**
  - Absence of an effective QAPI program
  - Failure to recognize & prioritize major problems
  - Failure to take action to address identified problems
# QAPI Requirements

Facility must measure, analyze and track quality indicators that reflect process of care & facility operations – including (but not limited to)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Indicator(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(V629) Adequacy</td>
<td>Kt/V, URR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(V630) Nutrition</td>
<td>Albumin, body weight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(V631) Bone disease</td>
<td>PTH, Ca+, Phos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(V632) Anemia</td>
<td>Hgb, Ferritin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(V633) Vascular access</td>
<td>↑Fistula, ↓catheter rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(V634) Medical errors</td>
<td>↓Frequency of specific errors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(V635) Reuse</td>
<td>↓Adverse outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(V636) Pt satisfaction</td>
<td>↑Survey scores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(V637) Infection control</td>
<td>↓Infections, ↑vaccination status</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Network QI Staff Are Available

- Assist in problem solving
- Data analysis
- QAPI design and implementation
  - Templates
  - Statistical consultation
- Resources for resolving patient-provider conflict
  - assist in grievance resolution
  - Involuntary discharge
- Patient Education Literature
- Staff Education and Training
QAPI Templates

Developed by The Renal Network, Inc. to assist dialysis facilities in meeting § 494.110

- It is **not** mandatory for facilities to use these QAPI templates (unless participating in a Network project)

- Facilities may use these templates or adapt them to better fit their specific needs.

- Templates will be posted on The Renal Network website [www.therenalnetwork.org](http://www.therenalnetwork.org) as they are completed.
QAPI Template Objectives

- To help facility staff understand and meet the requirements of §494.110 condition.

- Provide tools necessary for an evidence-based quality improvement program.

- Provide tools to assist facilities in sustaining improvements.

- Provide an appropriate format for a facility to demonstrate evidence of its quality assessment and performance improvement program.
Vascular Access Template

Components Of VA Template Include:

- CQI Action Plans
- Barriers Questionnaire
- Data Collection Tool which includes facility, Nephrologist and Surgeon reports.
- Needs Assessment Tool
Welcome!

New and Noteworthy:

- New [ESRD Program Interpretive Guidelines](http://www.therenalnetwork.org/)
- [State Survey Training Manual](http://www.therenalnetwork.org/)
- [NANT Offers Study Package for Dialysis Technician](http://www.therenalnetwork.org/)
- Patient nominations now being accepted for the [Robert Felter Memorial Awards](http://www.therenalnetwork.org/)
- Click on link to view an online WebEx recording of [QAPI Meeting Condition 5494.110 of CMS Conditions for Coverage](http://www.therenalnetwork.org/) (Click on link to view QAPI Templates)
- [Introducing Keeping Kidney Patients Safe Web site](http://www.therenalnetwork.org/)
- [Infection Control Requirements for Dialysis Facilities and Clarification Regarding Guidance on Parenteral Medication Vials](http://www.therenalnetwork.org/) (August 15, 2008)
- [HHS Takes New Steps to Accelerate Adoption of Electronic Prescribing](http://www.therenalnetwork.org/) (July 21, 2008)
- [2007 Annual Statistical Report](http://www.therenalnetwork.org/)

Upcoming Network Meetings:

- **Medical Directors Meeting** - October 21, 2008
- **DPC WebEx Training** - November 12, 2008
- **2008 QI Learning Sessions** - October 30 (Chicago IL), November 18 (Cleveland OH) and November 20 (Indianapolis)
- **2008 Preparing for CROWNWeb** - Informational WebEx session to be offered on September 23, 24; October 7, 8, 16, 21, 22, 29; November 5
- **2009 Network Council Meeting** - March 9, 2009
- **2009 Nephrology Conference** - March 10 & 11, 2009