

Appendix C Communication Report

Date: December 7, 2000
 To: Medical Director
 Administrator
 Facility Name
 From: Jeannette A. Cain, B.S.R.N., Quality Improvement Director
 RE: Hemodialysis Adequacy Quality Improvement Project (HAQIP)

More than 80% of the HAQIP facilities attended the first quality improvement workshop on November 14, 2000. Program evaluations were very favorable. The next workshop will be held on March 12, 2001 at the Westin Hotel O'Hare, Chicago, Illinois (telephone 847-698-6000). Plan to attend.

In the meantime, you will need to develop and submit a facility specific quality improvement project addressing hemodialysis adequacy with the percentage of patients with URR \geq 65% as one indicator. Your project should achieve a facility URR \geq 65% rate of 80% in 6 months and reach 85% in the 4th quarter 2001. This is an aggressive target and one that can be accomplished. Your project plan will need to be submitted by January 15, 2001 to the Network office.

The following is a comparison of your facility rates to the top 20 percentile facilities' rates for July 2000. The data comparison can be used as a needs assessment in order to target the adequacy process for improvement.

	Facility Name	Average Top 20 Facility Rates
Average Treatment Time (hours)	3.62 hours	3.74 hours
% Patients \leq 3.0 hours	18.3 %	12.4 %
% Patients $>$ 3.0 \leq 3.5 hours	31.0 %	28.4 %
% Patients $>$ 3.5 \leq 4.0 hours	40.8 %	41.8 %
% Patients $>$ 4.0 hours	9.9 %	17.0 %
Average Blood Flow @ 1 hour	364.0 cc/min	403 cc/min
% Patients \leq 250 ml/min	8.5 %	6.0 %
% Patients $>$ 250 \leq 300 ml/min	32.4 %	9.0 %
% Patients $>$ 300 \leq 350 ml/min	4.2 %	15.0 %
% Patients $>$ 350 \leq 400 ml/min	33.8 %	32.0 %
% Patients $>$ 400 \leq 450 ml/min	14.1 %	18.0 %
% Patients $>$ 450 ml/min	7.0 %	20.0 %
% Patients on Hi-Flux Dialyzers (Kuf \geq 20)	25.4 %	49.8%
% Diabetic Patients	27.8 %	40.6%
Average Patient Age in Years	55.5 years	62.4 years

To assist you in developing and writing your project plan, I have included 3 resources. These resources can be used or adapted as you start your project.

1. Performance Improvement Models
2. A checklist for analyzing patients with low URR
3. Strategies for, "What To Do When The URR IS Under 65," a model.

If you have questions or comments, contact me at the Network office or by email at jcain@nw10.esrd.net.