



U.S. Department of Health
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KICC News

A quarterly newsletter by the National Kidney Disease Education Program | Issue #1 | Winter 2007

This Issue: New Initiative from CDC | Exceeding Fistula First Goals | 2006 USRDS Report Available | SRM 967 Released | Multifaceted Federal Response

A Message from the NKDEP's Director

The National Kidney Disease Education Program (NKDEP) has been exploring the idea of building and supporting an informal network of people and agencies who are involved in the Federal response to chronic kidney disease (CKD). With CKD gaining more attention, this is a great time to look for opportunities to coordinate our multi-faceted response.

The Kidney Federal Agency Network, or KFAN, is the result of this exploration. And *KICC News*, a quarterly newsletter, will be one way for KFAN participants to highlight their activities and share knowledge and tools with each other. In this issue, please note the draft Federal CKD Response diagram. This has been developed to demonstrate the breadth of CKD activities occurring in the Federal government and overlapping responsibilities or areas. The diagram highlights the importance of interagency communication.

NKDEP is pleased to share with you the first issue of *KICC News*. We hope that you will find it useful, and we encourage you to submit information for future issues. We look forward to learning more about your activities and ways that we can work together.

Andrew Narva, MD

Director, National Kidney Disease Education Program

CDC Is Developing a Public Health CKD Initiative

To expand public health strategies to address CKD, CDC is building capacity and infrastructure for kidney disease surveillance, epidemiology, health outcomes, and health economics. Per legislation, CDC is also developing comprehensive public health strategies for CKD prevention and control. The first steps are to conduct a literature review and convene a nine-person expert panel meeting, which is scheduled for March 2007.

In December 2006, representatives from CDC and NIDDK met to provide updates on their CKD plans and activities and to look for opportunities to collaborate. The group discussed generating a series of reports in the *MMWR* throughout March 2007 to highlight National Kidney Month and World Kidney Day, and including a kidney session at the 2007 CDC Diabetes Conference in April/May in Atlanta. *For more information, contact Desmond Williams at desmond.williams@cdc.hhs.gov.*

CMS' Fistula First Prevalence Goals Are Exceeded

In 2005, CMS launched the Fistula First Breakthrough Initiative (FFBI) to educate patients receiving dialysis, healthcare practitioners, and stakeholders about arteriovenous fistulas (AVF) as the best choice, when appropriate, for hemodialysis. AVF last longer, need less rework or repairs, and are associated with lower rates of infection, hospitalization, and death.

The gold standard for the FFBI is based on the National Kidney Foundation/Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality

Initiative national practice guidelines, originally 40% and as of July 2006, equivalent to the CMS goal of >65% AVF rate for prevalent hemodialysis patients, with a target date of June 2009.

The FFBI Coalition, whose members include renal stakeholders and Federal agencies, has achieved a prevalence rate of 44.8% as of December 31, 2006. With the help of the Coalition, CMS is generating significant national progress around this issue. *For more information, contact Judy Goldfarb at judy.goldfarb@cms.hhs.gov*

NIDDK Releases 2006 Annual Data Report

The United States Renal Data System's (USRDS) eighteenth annual data report is now available. Funded by NIDDK, USRDS is the most comprehensive report of kidney failure-related data. New to this edition are data on CKD with hypertension; acute myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure, and cardiac arrest in incident and prevalent patients; and compliance with prescription drug therapy. Some highlights include:

- Rates of diabetic ESRD among whites younger than 40 have dropped during the past decade. At the same time, diabetic ESRD rates among blacks in the same age group have increased.
- Patients ages 75 and older now constitute 16 percent of the prevalent population, up from 4.8 percent in 1980.
- Prevalent mortality rates in the first year on dialysis—relatively flat over the last 6-7 years—have fallen.

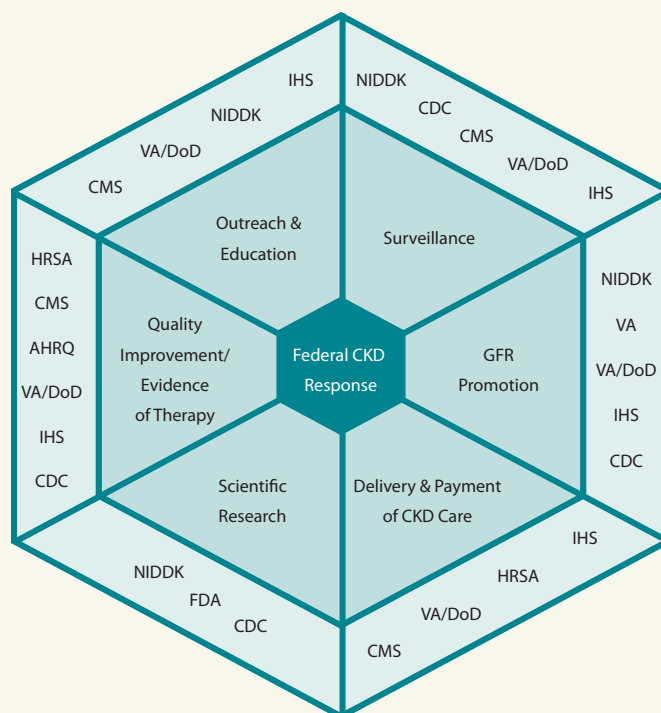
For ordering information, visit www.usrds.org. Print copies come with a new pocket-sized, concise edition. *For more information on USRDS data, contact Paul Eggers at paul.eggers@nih.hhs.gov*

Key Reference Material Is Available

NIST's SRM 967 is now available. This reference material is a key milestone in the Creatinine Standardization Program. *For more information on the Program, go to nkdep.nih.gov/labprofessionals*

The Federal CKD Response

Many Federal agencies lead an aspect of the multi-faceted and interconnected response to CKD. The diagram below presents a bird's eye view of the different categories of response and the agencies that play a role in each. Please note that this represents NKDEP's understanding and may not be completely accurate or comprehensive.



Stay Tuned

The next issue of *KICC News* will report on the outcomes of a March 2007 meeting about global standardization for urine albumin/creatinine measurement and reporting. The meeting is being co-hosted by NKDEP and the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine.

Please send your story ideas for future issues of *KICC News* to [Elisa Gladstone at GladstoneE@extra.nidk.nih.gov](mailto:Elisa.Gladstone@extra.nidk.nih.gov)