



The Provider Insider is a monthly electronic newsletter for Renal Care Professionals that provides general information, upcoming events, and educational resources that are beneficial to both patients and providers within the ESRD community we serve.

## In this Issue

- Hurricane Preparedness
- Reducing Bloodstream Infections
- Vascular Access Planning
- Treatment Options
- Mental Health
- ESRD Quality Reporting System (EQRS)

## Network Spotlight

A big shout out and thank you for your commitment and efforts on the creation of education stations, bulletin boards, and hosting lobby days to educate our patients, caregivers, and staff in the areas of reducing BSI's, LTC reduction, Home Dialysis utilization, and Transplant waitlisting. The Network received hundreds of pictures from those who participated in the **Patient Education Contest** that ended on May 30th. Look for contest picture submission winners in next month's issue of Provider Insider!

## Quote of the Month

**"Unity is strength...when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved."** - Mattie Stepanek

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## Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricane season has just begun and the 2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season is off to a quick start with three named storms (Arthur, Bertha, and Cristobal). Forecasters predict that oceanic and atmospheric conditions in the Atlantic will be favorable for a more active than usual hurricane season in the months ahead.

### At a Glance Facts

- Bertha made landfall an hour after it formed.
- Cristobal was the earliest “C” storm on record and its remnants tracked to Wisconsin.
- All three storms brought impacts on the U.S.

### Be Prepared! Plan Ahead.

Get prepared now and know what you’re going to do in the event of a hurricane. Planning ahead gives you more options and better control over situations that could become chaotic at the last moment if you’re not ready. To learn more about how to prepare for a hurricane visit [ready.gov/hurricanes](https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes). Find out about preparedness drills or exercises in your area at [ready.gov/prepare](https://www.ready.gov/prepare).

### Tips for Planning Ahead

- Watch and share the **National Weather Service’s video** on the [2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook](#)
- **Know your zone.** Evacuations are more common than people realize.
  - Know your zone [NC](#)
  - Know your zone [SC](#)
  - Evacuation routes [GA](#)
- Create an [Emergency Communication Plan](#)
- Put together an [Emergency Kit](#) of supplies
- Understand the meaning of [Hurricane and Tropical Storm Watches and Warnings](#)
- **Sign up for local alerts** on your phone, so you can stay aware if the weather gets worse. Download the [FEMA App](#)
- Make sure your **insurance policies** are up to date

- Download and print the [FEMA - How to Prepare for a Hurricane Guide & Checklist](#)
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## Reducing Bloodstream Infections

### Hand Hygiene



It is in these challenging times that we are reminded why hand hygiene is imperative in the prevention of disease transmission. As a result, Network 6 is launching a “Back to Basics” campaign. We have sent you these resources to share with your staff and patients. Suggestions for opportunities to share these materials would be in your team huddles or staff meetings, posting the poster in prominent areas in the facility-waiting room, and at scales and handwashing stations. If your facility or organization has similar materials that contrast the concepts, please feel free to use them.

The World Health Organization (WHO) How to Handrub (use hand sanitizer) and How to Handwash resources provide an easy to follow step-by-step pictorial on how to use hand sanitizer and wash hands properly with soap and water.

The NCC Test Your Hand Hygiene Knowledge Video provides an interactive method to review with your patients and test your patients hand hygiene knowledge. The video encourages and empowers patients to ask and remind their care provider to wash their hands.

- How to Handrub & How to Handwash Poster: [Resource](#)
  - NCC Test Your Hand Hygiene Knowledge Video: [Resource](#)
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## Vascular Access Planning

### Maintaining a Healthy Access

A healthy dialysis access is critical for patients to get the best results with their dialysis treatments. A healthy access can reduce infections and improve dialysis adequacy which improves dialysis outcomes. Look, Listen and Feel is an easy method for patients and staff to maintain a functioning access. The Kidney Chronicles article below contains helpful tips that empower ESRD patients in taking an active role in their healthcare. The Look, Listen and Feel resource explains each step of the vascular access evaluation process and is easy to follow. Dialysis teams can review the Look, Listen and Feel steps with their patients and encourage patients to make an access check part of their daily routine.

- Kidney Chronicles: How to Have a Healthy Vascular Access: [Resource](#)
- Look, Listen and Feel Teaching Access Check: [Resource](#)

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## Treatment Options

### Treatment Options Myths and Realities Video

Watch and share with ESRD patients the Treatment Options Myths and Realities Video ([PDF Slides](#)[Recording](#)) that helps mitigate common myths regarding home dialysis modalities and kidney transplant. This short video is appropriate for both healthcare professionals and patients. You may want to consider displaying at your facility on the treatment floor or lobby TV for patients to watch!

**Download, print and distribute** to patients at your facility the following supporting educational resources on **Treatment Options: Myths vs. Reality:**

- Uncovering Myths About Home Dialysis [Resource](#)
- Home Hemodialysis (HHD) Myth vs. Reality [Handout](#)
- Peritoneal Dialysis (PD) Myth vs. Reality [Handout](#)
- Turn Negative into Positives - Why Transplant is a Good Idea for Me? [Handout](#)





## Mental Health - Support Group Tips

The impacts of social distancing have left patients without the ability to attend regular in-person support groups at your clinic or in the community. It's important that while remembering that we must practice being physically distant that does not mean we have to end all socialization platforms. This new resource was developed to help dialysis staff and patients create online- and telephone-based support groups.

**Download, print and distribute** to patients at your facility: [Support Group Tips](#)

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## ESRD Quality Reporting System (EQRS)

On June 1, 2020, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) began the next chapter of its ESRD Quality Reporting System (EQRS) modernization efforts by implementing the first phase of a two-part ESRD Quality Incentive Program (ESRD QIP) User Interface (UI) rollout, in support of the ESRD QIP Payment Year (PY) 2021 Preview Period.

Click [here](#) to read the announcement. For more information please go to [IPRO Customer Support Portal](#)

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Please visit our ESRD Network Program [Knowledge Base](#) to find timely guidance to common facility questions and situations. For additional questions or comments, please submit a Customer Support Ticket at: <http://help.esrd.ipro.org/support/tickets/new> or by emailing [NW6QI@iproesrdnetwork.freshdesk.com](mailto:NW6QI@iproesrdnetwork.freshdesk.com)

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