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# Press Release

## ***5-Diamond Patient Safety Program: 2016 Program Year Now Open!***

**RICHMOND, VA, January 5, 2016** – The ESRD Networks are pleased to invite dialysis providers to participate in the 2016 *5-Diamond Patient Safety Program*. The program, developed in 2008 by the Mid-Atlantic Renal Coalition and the ESRD Network of New England, is designed to assist dialysis facilities in improving both staff and patient awareness of specific patient safety areas, using 14 web-based educational modules addressing all aspects of patient safety. All modules include objectives, required activities, tools and resources, and optional activities. For each module successfully completed, the facility is awarded a “Diamond” culminating in special recognition for 5-Diamond facilities.

The program is open to all facilities nationally. Last year, more than 1,500 dialysis facilities participated (24% nationally), with 64% of participants earning Diamond status and 41% achieving 5-Diamond status. Rewards for all participants include

- Recognition on the national *5-Diamond Patient Safety Program* website
- Online print-ready certificates recognizing the facility’s Diamond status

Facilities achieving 5-Diamond status will also receive the following rewards:

- Special recognition at the Network’s annual Council meeting
- A recognition letter from the Network Board of Directors President

Visit the *5-Diamond Patient Safety Program* website today at [www.5diamondpatientsafety.org](http://www.5diamondpatientsafety.org). Register as either a “viewer” or “participant” to access the site. “Viewers” may access modules, tools, and resources only; “participants” may access the site in its entirety. Participation is free and voluntary.

This program is endorsed by the American Nephrology Nurses’ Association (ANNA), the National Renal Administrators Association (NRAA), Renal Physicians Association (RPA), the American Association of Kidney Patients (AAKP), Dialysis Clinics Inc. (DCI, Inc.), and Fresenius Medical Care (FMC). Additionally, the National Nephrology Certification Commission (NNCC) will credit completed *5-Diamond Patient Safety Program* modules towards CCHT re-certification requirements. Full program guidelines are available at [www.5diamondpatientsafety.org/About/Guidelines.aspx](http://www.5diamondpatientsafety.org/About/Guidelines.aspx)

We hope that you will consider participating in the 2016 program. Please contact Heather Cecil, Administrative Assistant, at [hcecil@nw5.esrd.net](mailto:hcecil@nw5.esrd.net) or 804.320.0004 with any questions.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**