



Patient ReMARC

A Mid-Atlantic Renal Coalition Newsletter



INSIDE

Upcoming Events to Do & Share 2

Active Patients Just Like You! 3

Grievance Information 3

Tell Us Your Story! 3

Resources to the Rescue! 4

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Is Your Dialysis Clinic in a Network Project?

There are about 350 dialysis clinics in the Network 5 region. Two hundred of these (57%) are participating in at least one Network quality improvement activity (QIA). Is your clinic in one of these QIAs?

- **Grievance QIA**
- **Patient Experience (ICH CAHPS Survey) QIA**
- **Catheter Reduction QIA**
- **Infection QIA**
- **Vaccination QIA**
- **Transplant Referral**
- **Hypercalcemia**
- **National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Data Quality**

Materials on these projects are available for anyone to use. For more information about these projects visit our website at <http://www.esrdnet5.org> or contact Renée Bova-Collis at 1-866-651-6272 (extension 2705) or rbovacollis@nw5.esrd.net.



- ☞ *Ask your clinic manager if the clinic is in any Network projects (or ask us!)*
- ☞ *Offer your assistance, such as feedback from a patient's perspective.*
- ☞ *Be supportive of efforts the clinic makes to share project rates/scores.*



☺ *Attend these events and share what you learn with others.*

☺ *Share this information with others and attend together.*

☺ *Ask your clinic to host a viewing of the webinars in its conference room so a larger group can attend together and discuss.*

Upcoming Events

AKF Hosts Monthly Webinars for Patients/Caregivers

The American Kidney Fund has launched a monthly series of FREE, live, 1-hour webinars for kidney patients and caregivers. Each month, experts will share practical knowledge and advice on a range of topics. Advance registration is required to participate. Register and watch previous webinars at www.kidneyfund.org/training/webinars.

- Tuesday, July 19, at 1:00 p.m. ET: “Staying Employed with Kidney Disease.” Led by Mary Beth Callahan, ACSW, LCSW, of Dallas Transplant Institute.
- Previously recorded topics available include:
 - ⇒ What Can I Eat? Nutrition for Dialysis Patients
 - ⇒ Living with Chronic Kidney Disease
 - ⇒ I Need a Kidney Transplant. Am I Covered?

AAKP National Patient Meeting

AAKP’s 2016 National Patient Meeting will be held in Nashville, TN, September 23-25, 2016! There is still time to register. Click on the Programs & Events tab on the home page at www.aakp.org or call 1-813-400-2391.

AAKP Offers FREE HealthLine Conference Calls

The American Association of Kidney Patients (AAKP) presents monthly free HealthLine conference calls for patients. Register for upcoming events and watch previous webinars at <https://www.aakp.org/media-files/aakp-healthline.html>.

- Previously recorded topics available include:
 - ⇒ Mastering Social Media as a Patient Advocate
 - ⇒ Innovations in Kidney Transplant
 - ⇒ Behind Closed Doors: Sexuality & Kidney Disease

Active Patients Just Like You!

Meet David White. He began dialysis like many people do- he crashed into it. He went to the hospital sick, found out his kidneys were not working, and started dialysis immediately. He describes himself as a less-than-ideal patient in the beginning. He would cut treatments short and skip some altogether. It wasn't until he participated in a care plan meeting and was told he should plan to have a much shorter life that he realized he needed to make a change.



He now chairs MARC's Patient Advisory Committee and is an active subject matter expert on several project workgroups and an advocate and spokesperson for renal patients everywhere. He regularly participates in Capitol Hill Days to promote important kidney issues to members of congress. He has presented patient issues to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), at Network meetings, and at patient conferences. He has even been interviewed on Lifetime TV's *The Balancing Act*!

Before he could give to others, he had to build himself back up. He shares an incredible story of steps he took to become physically active again and is a champion of exercise. Dave is an amazing person and a testament to others that the path you are on can be changed no matter how far down it you have gone.

Tell Us Your Story!

Other patients want to know what you are doing to be active personally and as a liaison. How are you working with your dialysis facility to share information with fellow patients? Do you have tips for being involved? Have you turned your non-adherent ways around? Share your story with us! Contact Renée Bova-Collis at 1-866-651-6272 (extension 2705) or rbovacollis@nw5.esrd.net.

Social Media



Follow us on Twitter
at @kp_mar



Like us on Facebook
at Kidney Patients of
the Mid-Atlantic
Region



Grievances

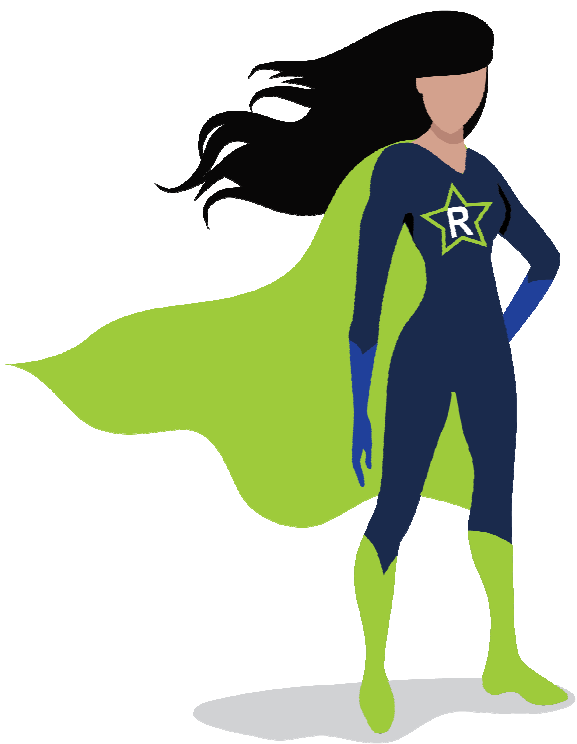
The Network is available to handle patient concerns. Grievances can be reported by

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Resources to the Rescue!

Emergency Preparedness

Hurricane season is June 1—November 30. The greatest potential for storm activity is August and September. As the 2016 Atlantic hurricane season begins, take steps now to get yourself and others prepared.

- 🔗 www.FEMA.gov Federal Emergency Management Agency
- 🔗 www.ready.gov Department of Homeland Security
- 🔗 www.nhc.noaa.gov National Hurricane Center

What If...? Emergency Preparedness Campaign resources and materials include posters, fact sheets, check lists, and the SAFE-T game; contact Renée Bova-Collis at 1-866-651-6272 ext. 2705 or rbovacollis@nw5.esrd.net.

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