



Midwest Kidney Network

April 2026 E-Newsletter from ESRD Network 11

Annual Master Account Holder Update

The annual Dialysis Facility Reports (DFRs) and the Quarterly Updates of the Dialysis Facility Report (QDFRs) for State Surveyors Reports can be accessed from the www.DialysisData.org website with a user account created by the facility's master account holder (MAH). On **April 8, 2026**, all master account holder (MAH) passwords will be reset, and all user accounts will be disabled for security purposes. If you are the MAH for a facility, you will receive your updated login information by April 8th. The MAH role is responsible for creating user accounts and granting access to the various reports, but it cannot access the reports. Only user accounts have the ability to access reports. **Please note** that DaVita and Fresenius Kidney Care facilities have a centralized MAH. Facility users will need to contact their corporate MAH to request a user account.

DialysisData

DIALYSISDATA.ORG

Free Resources...Developed By Patients ~ For Patients

The Kidney Patient Advisory Council (KPAC) of the National Forum of ESRD Networks developed 5 patient flyers during March to celebrate National Kidney Month. They're available for download from the Forum website here:

<https://esrdnetworks.org/kidney-month-2026/>

- ❖ Don't Miss a Minute: Treatment Adherence
- ❖ Tips for Managing Your To-Do List
- ❖ Eating Well with Kidney Disease
- ❖ Physical Activity and Kidney Disease
- ❖ Mental Wellness



NHSN Dialysis Office Hours Topic

This month's topic in the Dialysis Office Hours Series is "Benefits of Accurate Reporting on the Outpatient Dialysis Survey" and features a convenient on-demand training. **Please use this link to access the training: "[Benefits of Accurate Reporting on the Outpatient Dialysis Survey](#)" training.**

This training provides an overview of the Outpatient Dialysis Practices Survey and highlights how reported data are used to inform infection prevention, public health action, and research, including:

- About the Outpatient Dialysis Survey
- Why accurate reporting on the Outpatient Dialysis Survey is important
- How survey data are used to support infection prevention activities
- How survey data are used in BSI SIR calculation and rebaselining
- How survey data are used for outreach
- How survey data support research and analytic efforts
- How reported data contribute to publications and real-world public health impact



If you have any questions, please submit a ticket using the [NHSN ServiceNow Portal](#), using the subject line "February Office Hours." Users without SAMS access can still email the NHSN Help Desk at nhsn@cdc.gov.



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Annual North Dakota Infection Control Conference



Come see our very own Claire Taylor-Schiller present!! It's not too late to register for the 2026 North Dakota Infection Prevention Conference! Taking place on April 22nd and 23rd in Bismarck, ND, this comprehensive conference features a variety of infection prevention topics, including dialysis-specific breakout sessions. Learn more about the agenda and

register here https://und.edu/conferences/nd-infection-prevention/participant_registration.html

Vocational Rehabilitation Toolkit

You might remember the Vocational Rehabilitation Toolkit that the Midwest Kidney Network has previously emailed you. We wanted to be sure you had the information for your patients who are currently thinking about returning to work or school. It includes multiple resources and patient success stories. At your convenience, please take a look: <https://www.midwestkidneynetwork.org/patient-family-engagement/employment-vocational-rehabilitation>



Join us at our upcoming EQRS Open Office Hours



Please join Midwest Kidney Network's upcoming EQRS Open Office Hours! **New EQRS users are especially encouraged to join.** We will take your EQRS questions and feedback during this 45-minute event. We will have two live events in April:

- Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 1:00pm CT/2:00pm ET – [register here](#)
- Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 10:00am CT/11:00am ET – [register here](#)

We look forward to seeing you there!

Dialysis ICAR Support Across Network 11: A Minnesota Spotlight

Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) programs are available throughout Network 11 as **free, non-regulatory** resources designed to support dialysis facilities in strengthening infection prevention practices. ICAR visits are **collaborative** and **educational**, focusing on identifying strong practices already in place while offering practical, facility-specific opportunities for improvement. In Minnesota, the Department of Health's ICAR program has dedicated capacity to provide onsite dialysis ICAR visits. These visits include an in-person assessment conducted by a dialysis infection prevention subject matter expert. Each visit allows for:

- Real time observation
- Discussion with staff
- Tailored feedback that reflects the unique workflows and challenges of each facility
- This hands-on approach offers a depth of engagement that is difficult to achieve through webinars or other remote education alone.



ICAR programs are administered by individual state health departments, and availability and visit formats may vary by state. Dialysis facilities located outside of Minnesota that are interested in an ICAR visit are encouraged to contact [Claire](#) at the Network for assistance. **Minnesota dialysis facilities interested in scheduling an onsite ICAR visit or learning more about dialysis-specific infection prevention support are encouraged to request an MDH ICAR Visit.**



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Dialysis ICAR Support Across Network 11: A Minnesota Spotlight



*Infection Control Assessment
and Response Program*

ICAR

MDH ICAR is here to help!

Strengthen infection prevention and
control capacity

Answer questions via phone or email

Onsite visits:
preventative, containment,
outbreak, MDRO prevention

Visit our website!



MDH Infection Control Assessment and Response
(ICAR) Program (health.mn.gov/icar)

About ICAR



About MDH ICAR's
background, process,
staff, and partners

Request an ICAR Visit



How Minnesota health
care facilities can
request and prepare
for a visit

ICAR Communication Resources



Sign up for alerts and
communication
networks

Infection Prevention Audit Tools



Materials for facilities
to conduct, record,
and analyze audits

ICAR Resources



Resources for acute
care, long-term care,
and outpatient
dialysis settings

Ask MDH ICAR



health.icar@state.mn.us
ICAR Call Queue:
651-201-5903