



# Midwest Kidney Network

**July 2025 E-Newsletter from Network 11**



## Quality Improvement Cohort Participation



We are officially 2 months into our year at the Network, and our Quality Improvement cohorts have been determined, assigned, and discussions have begun. Reminder that if you are in a cohort your cooperation and engagement is required! If you want to find out if your clinic is in a cohort and/or which one, please reach out to [dj.johnson@midwestkidneynetwork.org](mailto:dj.johnson@midwestkidneynetwork.org). Here are the Project Leads and their areas of expertise:

- Hospitalization - [claire.taylor-schiller@midwestkidneynetwork.org](mailto:claire.taylor-schiller@midwestkidneynetwork.org)
- Vaccination - [Patrick.Shannon@midwestkidneynetwork.org](mailto:Patrick.Shannon@midwestkidneynetwork.org)
- Home Dialysis and Transplant - [candace.kohls@midwestkidneynetwork.org](mailto:candace.kohls@midwestkidneynetwork.org)
- CMS 2728 & 2746 Forms -
  - [alli.bailey@midwestkidneynetwork.org](mailto:alli.bailey@midwestkidneynetwork.org)
  - [aletha.duncan@midwestkidneynetwork.org](mailto:aletha.duncan@midwestkidneynetwork.org)

## NEW Vaccine Resource

MKN is pleased to announce a NEW vaccination resource! As our frontline nurses and techs are often the trusted source of information for patients, we created a [Vaccination Talking Points Tip Sheet](#). Please share with your staff and help equip them with a few easy talking points when facing patient vaccine myths and misinformation. Also, summer is a great time to work on getting patients up to date for pneumococcal pneumonia vaccination before we head into seasonal influenza season. As of the end of May 2025, the CDC updated the Vaccination Information Sheets (VIS) for both PCV and PPSV pneumococcal vaccines. Please discard any old VIS and utilize the new ones from the CDC immediately. They can be accessed on the [CDC Current VIS webpage](#). Reminder, MKN has a [Managing Pneumococcal Vaccination Job Aid](#) to help guide you through the pneumonia vaccination process.



## Getting Care During an Emergency



Being prepared for a natural disaster is crucial to protecting your safety and well-being. Visit [Medicare.gov/emergency](https://www.medicare.gov/emergency) to learn how to get the care you may need if an emergency is declared and you have to evacuate to a safe area. The website has tips on:

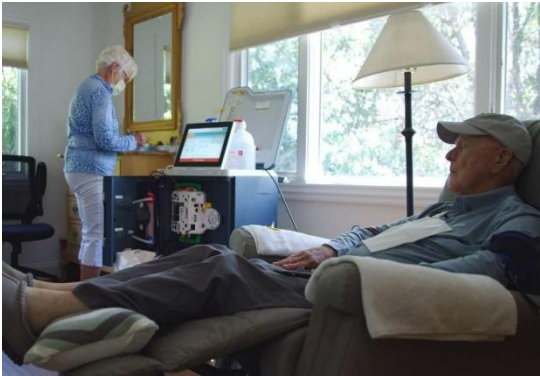
- Getting your prescription drugs during a disaster or emergency
- Seeing a doctor during a disaster or emergency
- Learn more about accessing critical care repairing or replacing equipment

## Home Dialysis Project ECHO – 1.0 CEU/CE/CME credit

On behalf of the [National Kidney Foundation](#), we are excited to share that Home Dialysis Project ECHO will begin a new series in July. This Project ECHO is designed for all healthcare professionals involved in the care of home dialysis patients and/or the education of patients on dialysis modality selection. Each participant must complete their own registration through the iECHO platform, a very simple process that can be done by following the link: <https://iecho.org/public/program/PRGM1744203505175ASYUXCZDTG>. Once registered, attendees will receive notification emails about upcoming sessions one week prior to the date, as well as the morning of. We are excited to offer 1.0 CE/CME credit to all who attend each live session.



## New! Skilled Nursing Facility Dialysis LAN



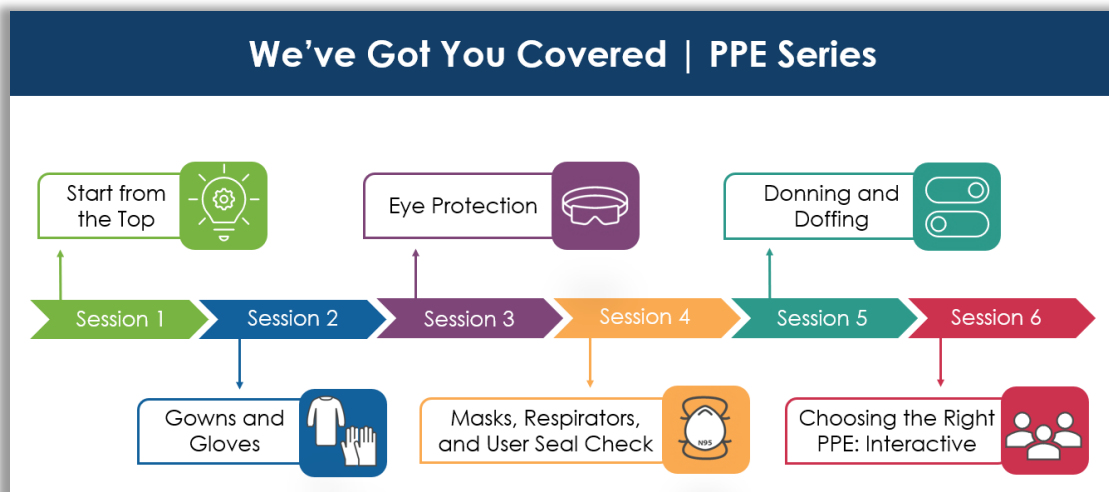
Please join Midwest Kidney Network for our first ever Skilled Nursing Facility Dialysis LAN (Learning and Action Network) meeting series beginning this July!

- **What:** Join us to learn from and share with each other regarding barriers pertaining to SNF dialysis facilities. Every other month we will host a new topic pertinent to SNF dialysis; **July's meeting topic will be CMS (2728 & 2746) Forms Timeliness in the SNF Setting.**
- **Who:** **All dialysis staff who provide dialysis in Skilled Nursing Facilities/dens in Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin**
- **Where:** [Register here](#)
- **When:** **Tuesday, July 15, 2025, 9:00 AM CST/10:00 AM EST**  
We look forward to having you join us!

## MDH Project Firstline – Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

### Now Available: We've Got You Covered | Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Six-Part Series

Personal protective equipment (PPE) helps keep health care workers safe and prevents germs from spreading in the health care environment. Does your team know when PPE is needed? Learn more about how to select the appropriate PPE for the task at hand! Access the recorded training series: [Project Firstline Training and Resources](http://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/patientsafety/infectioncontrol/pfl/training/index.html) ([www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/patientsafety/infectioncontrol/pfl/training/index.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/patientsafety/infectioncontrol/pfl/training/index.html))



## Infection Prevention in Dialysis Live Webinar for Patients – July 22<sup>nd</sup>

[The Forum](#)'s Kidney Patient Advisory Council (KPAC) is hosting a summer webinar series. Here is the link via our website Events page to the [promotional flyer](#) for the first webinar on infection prevention. **The target audience for these webinars is dialysis patients.** Please share this flyer with your staff to share with patients and post in a public place!

There will also be a webinar from The Forum in August (home dialysis) and September (transplant); more information to come on those.

