



Midwest Kidney Network



June 2025 Data E-Newsletter from Network 11

CMS 2728 Form Signatures Guide



Please review our new [CMS 2728 Form Signatures Guide](#). Yes, you can fax CMS forms back and forth to physicians! We continue to receive questions about blue ink signatures: **blue ink** physician and patient signatures are no longer required on CMS 2728 forms (however, you must still obtain physician and patient signatures **BEFORE** you submit the form in EQRS). If you or a physician have concerns about this policy change, please reach out to us at the Network.

Missing Cause of Death on CMS 2746 Forms

A patient's cause of death must be added to their Patient page in EQRS first for it to generate on the CMS 2746 form (otherwise the field will be grayed out on the form). Please follow these steps to add the cause of death:

1. Search for the patient in EQRS or navigate to the patient's record using your dashboard.
2. While in **Patient** section, click on **Edit** and scroll down to **Medical Information**.
3. Add the **Death code description** or **Death code** and click on **Submit**.
 - a. Make sure the **Effective Date** matches the **Death Date**, or you will get an error.
4. Navigate back to the CMS 2746 and complete the form as normal.

AKI (Acute) Patient Reminders

AKI or Acute patients should not be admitted in EQRS until (or if) they become diagnosed as ESRD and have their first ESRD dialysis treatment. If you have an AKI patient who was accidentally admitted in EQRS, please contact us at the Network to correctly remove the patient from EQRS, so the AKI admission does not cause errors down the road. **For batch facilities, if you have an AKI patient who becomes ESRD, and their ESRD admission is NOT batching into EQRS, please contact your batch submitting organization's helpdesk as soon as possible to assist!**



Using the *Current Patient Roster* in EQRS



We are excited to announce a new way to see all patients currently admitted to your facility in one convenient spot: it's called the **Current Patient Roster**. You will find this roster under the **Patients** tab in EQRS. **TIP:** Make sure you select "**View active patients only**". It is critical to note that if a patient is missing while you are viewing all active patients, this means that patient is not currently admitted to your facility in EQRS, and action must be taken to admit them to your facility. Ideally, facilities should be checking their EQRS current patient roster every month at a minimum for missing patients or errors.

NEW! EQRS Clinical Compliance Dashboard

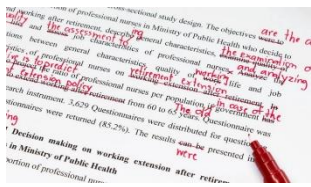
There is a new way to ensure complete and timely clinical data submissions in EQRS. A clinical compliance tab was added to the hemodialysis (HD) and peritoneal dialysis (PD) Clinical Reports/Dashboards. To access this information:

1. Log in to the Patient Registry portion of EQRS.
2. From the Reports tab, select "Reports Dashboard" and then select either the **HD** or **PD Clinical Dashboard**.
3. Select the desired clinical period from the dropdown on the first tab.
4. Select the **HD** or **PD Clinical Compliance** tab.
5. Scroll down to see your overall facility summary. This summary will show the percent of patients with clinical data submitted and the percent of patients with saved data. Remember, ***saved data will count as missing*** until it is submitted.
6. Scroll down further to see patient-specific information that indicates if the patient's clinical data is in a "Missing" or "Saved" status. You can use the filters to show patients with missing/saved clinical data.

Any of the tables/figures in the HD or PD Clinical Dashboard can be downloaded by clicking on the three dots in the upper right-hand corner and selecting **Export to CSV** or **Export to Excel**.

If you do not have access to EQRS, please use this [HARP and EQRS Quick Start Guide](#) for more information about requesting access.

Correcting CMS Forms Policy



It is important to connect with us at the Network as soon as possible if you need to correct a submitted CMS 2728 or 2746 form in EQRS. We have very strict [CMS-approved policies](#) we must follow when correcting CMS forms in EQRS.

CMS Form Due Dates

Friendly reminder from our Data Managers:

- CMS 2728 forms are due for submission in EQRS **within 45 days** of the patient's start date at your facility.
- CMS 2746 forms are due for submission in EQRS **within 14 days** of the patient's date of death.



EQRS Training & Support



We are your first line of support for EQRS and CMS forms, and we welcome your questions or concerns! We also offer 1:1 EQRS training/onboarding for new staff, if you need a refresher, or if you are a manager and need an EQRS program overview. You can always reach us at Midwest Kidney Network:

- **Alli Bailey, Data Manager, (651) 644-2911**
- **Aletha Duncan, Health Information Specialist, (651) 644-5839**