



Midwest Kidney Network



March 2025 E-Newsletter from Network 11

CMS Medication Bundle



We have heard many questions surrounding the CMS Medication Bundle. The National Forum of ESRD Networks has developed a reference table of dialysis-related medications and their status with the CMS medication bundle. Here is the link:

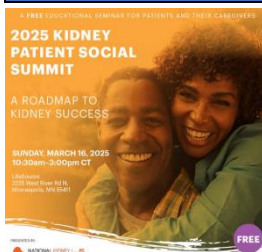
https://media.esrdnetworks.org/documents/BundledMedications_V6b.pdf

CMS 2744 Annual Facility Survey is due March 31st!!

Every dialysis and kidney transplant facility in the country is required to submit annual patient census data, treatment, and staffing totals via the CMS 2744 in EQRS. Please note, **some** dialysis organizations are submitting CMS 2744 forms at the corporate level, and you may not need to complete the CMS 2744 at the facility level. **If you are unsure about your organization's CMS 2744 submission plan or if you have questions, please reach Aletha at (651) 644-5839 for Michigan facilities or Alli at (651) 644-2911 for MN, ND, SD, WI facilities.**

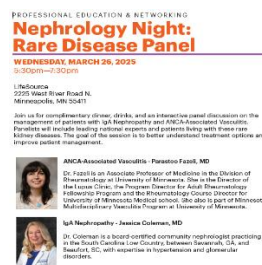


Big Events from National Kidney Foundation (NKF) in March!



Sunday, March 16th – Are you a kidney patient, or do you know someone who is? The Kidney Patient Social Summit is an opportunity to bring together anyone affected by kidney disease (pre-dialysis, dialysis, ESRD, transplant, living donors, care givers and family members) to learn about kidney health and how it impacts the entire family. Please join NKF Minnesota and [LifeSource](https://lifesource.org) for this FREE, informative event! Register here:

<https://events.blackthorn.io/5f4bLi97/4a3VUz2hSH>



Wednesday, March 26th – Join NKF Minnesota and [LifeSource](https://lifesource.org) for complimentary dinner, drinks, and interactive panel discussion on the management of patients with IgA Nephropathy and ANCA-Associated Vasculitis. Panelists will include leading national experts and patients living with these rare kidney diseases. The goal of the session is to better understand treatment options and improve patient management. Register here:

<https://events.blackthorn.io/5f4bLi97/4a3VUz2gUb>

5 Data Quality Manager Tips

Tip #1

- If you expect to see a CMS 2728 for a new patient on your EQRS Dashboard but the CMS 2728 is missing, please search for the patient in EQRS to ensure they are admitted to your facility.
- If the patient is not admitted to your facility in EQRS, please reach out to us at the Network for your next steps
 - If you work for a batch submitting organization (such as DaVita, Fresenius, Sanford, etc.) and a patient or a CMS 2728 is missing in EQRS for more than one week following their start date at your facility – **please connect with us ASAP.**
 - Batch should be occurring at least weekly and should bring over the patient from your EMR to EQRS automatically.

Tip #2

- If you are getting pink error messages when trying to complete a CMS 2728, please do not hesitate to reach out to us as soon as you're able.
- If you are getting yellow warning messages when trying to complete a CMS 2728, you simply need to verify that the data is correct on the 2728 and click the small checkbox above the CMS 2728 to move forward.

Tip #3

- **Blue ink nephrologist and patient signatures are no longer needed on 2728 forms.**
- For all 2728 forms, you can and should be faxing 2728s to the patient's nephrologist as soon as possible – you do **not** need to wait until the nephrologist's rounding day once a month.
 1. Fax the 2728 to the nephrologist for their review and signature.
 2. Receive the 2728 back via fax from the nephrologist.
 3. Submit the signature date on the 2728 in EQRS.
 4. Send a copy of the signed 2728 to Social Security Administration/Medicare, if applicable.

Tip #4

- Please ensure you are using the correct differentiation for lab dates on 2728 forms: **Prior lab values** and **Admission lab values.**
 - **Prior lab values:** use when labs are within 15-45 days prior to the ESRD start date
 - **Admission lab values:** use when labs are within 15 days prior to the ESRD start date and including the actual start date

Tip #5

- If you have a question about a CMS form or EQRS – please call us; Alli at 651-644-2911 or Aletha at 651-644-5839. **The sooner you call us, the sooner we can fix it!**



Midwest Kidney Network

Partnering to improve kidney care

MDH Project Firstline Training Opportunities

Health care workers! Start 2025 with a focus on infection prevention and control! MDH Project Firstline offers interactive trainings to help health care workers master infection prevention and control essentials. Explore our recorded training sessions and access interactive scenarios in English and Spanish on our website, at [MDH Project Firstline \(health.mn.gov/projectfirstline\)](https://health.mn.gov/projectfirstline).



Diarrhea Dilemma Training (<https://survey.vovici.com/se/56206EE3558AD8D4>)

- [CDC Diarrhea Dilemma Interactive Resource](#) | [El dilema de la diarrea \(Spanish\)](#)

Fidgeting Felix Training (<https://survey.vovici.com/se/56206EE3697CAF4A>)

- [CDC Fidgeting Felix gets an IV Interactive Resource](#) | [A Beto el inquieto le ponen una vía intravenosa \(Spanish\)](#)

Where Germs Live in Health Care Training (<https://survey.vovici.com/se/56206EE34A256B44>)

What's Wrong with this Picture? Long-Term Care Activity Room (<https://survey.vovici.com/se/56206EE32951F6AC>)

What's Wrong with this Picture? Emergency Room Training (<https://survey.vovici.com/se/56206EE333F57A8D>)

- [CDC Project Firstline Interactive Resource: What's Wrong with This Picture? Emergency Room](#) | [¿Qué está mal con esta imagen? Sala de emergencias \(Spanish\)](#)

What's Wrong with this Picture? Nurses Station Training (<https://survey.vovici.com/se/56206EE36F9503BF>)

- [CDC Project Firstline Interactive Resource: What's Wrong with This Picture? Nurses Station](#) | [¿Qué está mal con esta imagen? Estación de enfermería \(Spanish\)](#)

What's Wrong with this Picture? Outpatient Exam Room Training (<https://survey.vovici.com/se/56206EE32FDDD99A>)

- [CDC Project Firstline Interactive Resource: What's Wrong with This Picture? Outpatient Exam Room](#) | [¿Qué está mal con esta imagen? Sala ambulatoria \(Spanish\)](#)