

What are Quality Insights ESRD Networks?

A CMS-directed program that organizes Medicare-approved kidney care facilities into regional networks to coordinate care, protect patients, and improve treatment outcomes nationwide.

What is an ESRD Network?

Defined in federal regulation (42 CFR Part 405, Subpart U), an ESRD Network is made up of all Medicare-approved end-stage renal disease facilities within a geographic area set by CMS. Organizing facilities this way helps dialysis and transplant providers coordinate referrals and share resources more efficiently.

What is the Network Program?

Created when Congress amended the Medicare ESRD Program in 1978, it added Section 1881 to the Social Security Act to improve cost-effectiveness, ensure quality of care, and encourage transplantation and home dialysis. Today, 18 Network Organizations operate across the U.S. and its territories as administrative governing bodies and liaisons to the federal government.

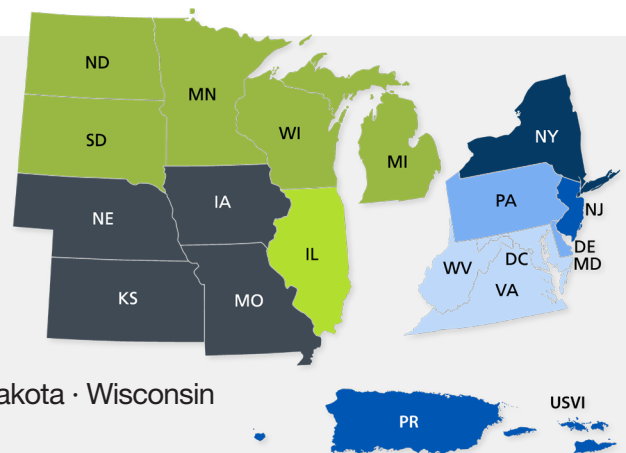
Why does CMS have this program?

CMS depends on Network Organizations to build relationships with dialysis professionals, providers, and patients, and to create a collaborative environment for better care. A core role is helping CMS understand patient needs by involving them in quality-improvement work. Under Section 1881, each Network is responsible for:

- Promoting treatment settings and rehabilitation that support patient recovery and return to work
- Setting quality standards and goals for self-care and transplant preparation
- Evaluating how facilities assess patients for treatment options
- Operating a process to address and resolve patient grievances
- Conducting on-site facility reviews against established care standards
- Collecting, validating, and analyzing data for the patient registry
- Identifying facilities falling short of goals and guiding corrective action

Who We Serve

- **Network 2** | New York
- **Network 3** | New Jersey · Puerto Rico · U.S. Virgin Islands
- **Network 4** | Delaware · Pennsylvania
- **Network 5** | DC · Maryland · Virginia · West Virginia
- **Network 10** | Illinois
- **Network 11** | Michigan · Minnesota · North Dakota · South Dakota · Wisconsin
- **Network 12** | Iowa · Kansas · Missouri · Nebraska



Network Toll-Free: 844.238.1188 | **Patient Toll-Free:** 844.238.1190
Email: ESRDNetworks@qualityinsights.org

This material was prepared by Quality Insights under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for ESRD Networks 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11 and 12. Views expressed in this material do not necessarily reflect the official views or policy of CMS or HHS, and any reference to a specific product or entity herein does not constitute endorsement of that product or entity by CMS or HHS. Publication No. ESRD-0602626-GK