



# Network Agreement Packet

**Forms to return:**

- Network Agreement
- Acknowledgment of Receipt
- Acknowledgment of receipt from handbook

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## Welcome from the ESRD Network 14

The ESRD Network 14 (or the Network) welcomes your facility as a new provider of services in the End Stage Renal Disease Program. We look forward to working closely with you in Network activities that collect information and improve care for ESRD patients. Please complete the attached forms and return them to the Network office at least six weeks before the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) survey. The attached forms include:

- The “Network Membership Agreement”: this form states that your unit agrees to participate in the activities of the Network Council in attaining the goals and objectives of the End Stage Renal Disease Program. When all forms have been received by the Network office and determined to be complete, you will receive back a copy of the Network Membership Agreement signed by the Executive Director. The Surveyor from DSHS will ask to review this agreement when your initial survey is conducted.
- The “ESRD Network 14 Information Acknowledgment”: this form acknowledges that your unit has received and reviewed all information contained in this packet. Print two copies of this form and return one signed copy to the Network office and retain one for your files.

Once the Network receives your completed forms, we will send your unit copies of the grievance posters titled "Speak Up" in English and Spanish to be hung in your facility in a location that is visible to patients and caregivers. A New Facility Packet and a Facility Handbook with materials and requirements as an ESRD service provider can be located on our website at <https://quality.allianthealth.org/nw14-new-facility-requirements/>. Should you have any questions after reviewing this material, or if the Network can be of service in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## Get to Know the Network Staff

The Network staff is here to help you get started as a new provider of ESRD services, as well as ensure a seamless transition from a temporary facility to a certified one. For any questions you may have regarding the contents of this packet or your role as a care provider, please visit our staff page on the Network website and download the staff listing. The list provides the names, contact information, and areas of work for our Network staff: <https://quality.allianthealth.org/network-14-staff/>

Visit us online!



Follow us on Twitter!



# ESRD Network

## 14

### Mission

#### Statement:

*We support equitable patient- and family-centered quality dialysis and kidney transplant health care through patient services, education, quality improvement, and information management.*

#### Definition of Quality:

*Quality of care is the degree to which health services to individuals and populations increase the likelihood of desired health outcomes and are consistent with current professional knowledge.*

***Institute of Medicine***

### We will:

The management, staff, and boards of ESRD Network of Texas, Inc. will work to assure the health care security and be a trustworthy partner for continual improvement of health and health care for ESRD patients in Texas. This includes access to equitable, appropriate, and quality patient/family-centered health care that achieves desired outcomes, protection of rights and dignity and consumer satisfaction, and dissemination of clear and useful information to assist with healthcare decisions.

#### Vision:

We will foster engaged patients and families that receive high quality and safe patient/family-centered care in welcoming environments for patients and family.

#### Values:

We strive to understand and act upon the needs of customers, employees, boards, and partners.

Our success is dependent on collaboration with providers, patients, and the volunteer Network Boards and committees.

We act with integrity in all we do.

## Strategic Goals of the ESRD Networks

In keeping with the legislative mandate for the End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Network program, the goals of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for ESRD Networks are to promote positive change relative to Priorities and Goals outlined in the CMS Statement of Work.

CMS priorities and goals for the Network are:

**Priority 1: Improve Behavioral Health Outcomes**

**Priority 2: Improve Patient Safety and Reduce Harm**

**Priority 3: Improve Care in High Cost/Complex Chronic Conditions**

**Priority 4: Reduce Hospital Readmissions and**

**Priority 5: Improve Nursing Home Care in Low-Performing providers and provide Targeted Quality Improvement (QI) Response.**

**CMS goals are interpreted for purposes of the SOW as:**

**Goal 1:** Empowering patients to make decisions about their health care

**Goal 2:** Increasing state flexibility

**Goal 3:** Developing innovative approaches to improving quality, accessibility & affordability

**Goal 4:** Improving the customer experience

CMS envisions the role of the Network as patient care navigators that lead transformation by:

- Serving as conveners, organizers, motivators, and change agents
- Leveraging technology to provide outreach and education
- Serving as partners in quality improvement with beneficiaries, practitioners, health care providers, other health care organizations, and other stakeholders
- Securing commitments to create collaborative relationships with other stakeholders and partners
- Achieving and measuring changes at the patient level through data collection, analysis, and monitoring for improvement
- Disseminating and spreading best practices including those relating to clinical care, quality improvement techniques, and data collection through information exchange
- Participating in the development of a CMS national framework for providing emergency preparedness services.
- Targeting technical assistance to providers and communities in need based on data driven analysis.

Network relationship with Medicare beneficiaries:

- Ensure representation of ESRD patients in shared decision making related to ESRD care in order to promote *person-centeredness and family engagement*
- Protect ESRD patients' *access to quality dialysis care*, especially among vulnerable populations

Network relationship with ESRD facilities

- Identify opportunities for *quality improvement* at the individual facility level and provide technical assistance
- Promote all modalities of care, including home modalities and transplantation, as appropriate, to *promote patient independence and improve clinical outcomes*
- Facilitate processes to *promote care coordination* between different care settings
- Ensure accurate, complete, consistent, and timely data collection, analysis, and reporting by facilities in accordance with *national standards* and the ESRD Quality Incentive Program (QIP). This also includes the submission of Master Account Holder information for all new facilities in to the ESRD Network.

## ESRD Network 14 Goals and Objectives

### Coordination and sharing across 18 Networks

- Using standardized procedures to collect data and address grievances to promote consistency across Networks
- Collaborating to share information, such as data on patient migration, across Networks to promote care coordination
- Coordinating with regional Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organizations (QIN-QIO) and Hospital Improvement Innovation Networks (HIIN), as well as other recognized subject matter experts in the quality improvement field.
- Sharing information to promote care coordination for ESRD patients
- Sharing best practices to improve quality of care for ESRD patients, including Network involvement in Learning and Action Networks (LANs)

### Network acting on behalf of CMS

- Conveying information from CMS to facilities on HHS and CMS goals, strategies, policies, procedures, and initiatives, including the ESRD QIP
- Maintaining integrity of information and tone of messaging consistent with CMS expectations for entities acting on behalf of the agency
- Interpreting and conveying to CMS or its designee information relevant to the ESRD healthcare system to assist with monitoring and evaluation of policy and program impacts, including the effects of the ESRD QIP.

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

### To achieve the above stated Goals each facility must:

Continuously strive to deliver care to each patient that is patient- and family-centered, individualized, consistent with current professional knowledge, and that achieves desired outcomes, which includes less than 10% of patients with a catheter >90 days vascular access and achieves CMS thresholds for the QIP measures.

Assess and refer in a timely manner medically-suitable patients to treatment modalities that increase habilitation and independence, including in-center self-care, home self-care, and transplantation.

Establish and maintain a dynamic quality assessment and performance improvement program that evaluates the care provided and identifies opportunities for and continuously works to improve care delivered.

Determine cause for patient hospitalization admission and readmission rates, develop a plan of action, and reduce rates.

Clearly delineate and respect the rights and responsibilities of **BOTH** the patient, family, significant others **AND** the facility while promoting patient- and family-centered care and engagement.

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Submit data timely and accurately in EQRS, as is required by law and regulation. Facilities are expected to complete the following (including but not limited to) for ALL patients:

1. CMS forms, Vascular Access data, immunization status, and QIP required fields via EQRS. When available, aggregate data may be shared with corporate owners and administration.
2. Register for access to required CMS reporting systems (including but not limited to EQRS, NHSN,) timely.

Submit data and/or reports timely and accurately for ALL ESRD Network 14 QIA projects and/or CMS directives.

Update facility key personal changes in EQRS within 5 business days of said changes.

Register in NHSN, enroll in the ESRD Network 14 group and submit dialysis event data and information timely and accurately on a monthly basis and:

- 1) Report DE Data for all twelve months in Dialysis component (QIP measure)
- 2) Take the DE Surveillance Competency training annually

Successfully complete annual NHSN training after January 1 of each calendar year.

Utilize EMResource by completing the required provider information, updating by the 8<sup>th</sup> of each month and daily or more frequently when needed during emergency situations that disrupts dialysis delivery. Designate two disaster representatives for the facility and provide off-facility contact information. Participate annually in at least one Community Disaster drill.

Appoint and support at least one Facility Patient Representative (FPR). Representative role, recruiting tips, and training tools are located on our website.

Establish policy and procedures to collect patient complaints and grievances and strive to reduce IVD and IVT at the facility level. Provide patients with ESRD Network 14 and State Agency contact information when requested. Post ESRD Network 14 grievance poster in English and Spanish where readily available to patients, family members, and/or caregivers. Utilize the National Decreasing Dialysis Patient-Provider Conflict Tools to educate staff.

Make available to patients Network-provided information on its Quality Improvement Projects, the national QIP, the Annual Report, Regional and National profiles of care, the importance of immunization, information on how to access and use Medicare's Dialysis Facility Report, Information on the EQRS system developed by CMS, and other information as directed by project.

Cooperate in meeting the ESRD Network 14 Goals and Objectives delineated above, as required by law and regulation.

## List of Network Services (*available upon request*)

- Identification of available providers and/or facilities for patients seeking ESRD services, including transient and displaced disaster patients
- Technical assistance, guidance, and/or appropriate referrals regarding ESRD regulations and recommended practices
  - Links to ESRD federal and state regulations, Centers for Disease Control and OSHA Recommendations, and Practice Guideline Information are available on the website.
- Technical assistance, guidance, and/or appropriate referrals regarding the provision of services to ESRD patients
- Facility/provider support in the resolution of patient issues or concerns before they become grievances
  - The Intensive Intervention Booklet revised in 2012 is available on our website. Decreasing Dialysis Patient-Provider Conflict Toolkit mailed to all units in 2005. DPC is available on our website.
- Technical assistance in development of local disaster plans that include such emergencies as floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, pandemics, etc.
  - Numerous Disaster Planning Resources for professionals and patients are available on our website. Additional resources can be located on the Texas ESRD Emergency Coalition website at <https://quality.allianthealth.org/nw14-teec/>.
- Assistance in the development of patient and family meetings and/or peer mentors (e.g., patient council, support groups, vocational rehabilitation groups, new patient adjustment groups, advocacy groups)
  - Guides and Tips are posted on our website.
- Resources and assistance in utilizing ICH CAHPS, NHSN, and QIP (including the Performance Score Report) data for improving patient experience of care and outcomes (*available on our website*)
- Assistance in establishing, defining, and promoting facility-specific:
  - Patient/Family-centered Care and Engagement (information available on our website)
  - Goals and procedures to assess patients for placement in treatment modalities that improve independence, quality of life, and rehabilitation
  - Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement Programs and Quality Improvement Projects and Plans
  - Patient education regarding kidney transplantation and self-care modalities (a New Patient Orientation Packet is sent to each new ESRD patient upon receipt of the Medical Evidence Report and is available upon request)
  - Advanced Care Planning and End of Life Programs
  - Vaccination Programs, including patient education
- Mentor facility partnerships for quality improvement projects

Other available information found on the Network website (<https://quality.allianthealth.org/topic/esrd-nw14/>) or by phone request include: Annual Reports, Project Reports, Quality Improvement Tools, and links to renal-related organizations and information.

## Dialysis Facility Compare

**What is it?** Dialysis Facility Compare is a Medicare website with information about:

- **Dialysis Facility Characteristics**
  - Address and telephone number of the facility
  - Facility's initial date of Medicare certification
  - Availability of shifts after 5PM (if patients need treatments in the evening)
  - Number of treatment stations
  - Types of dialysis offered (in-center hemo, peritoneal dialysis, and home hemodialysis training)
  - Facility ownership type (profit or non-profit)
  - Chain name (if applicable)
- **Quality Measures**
  - Anemia—how many patients at a facility had an average hemoglobin level greater than 12g/dL
  - Hemodialysis Adequacy—how many adult patients at a facility had enough waste removed from their blood during dialysis treatments (Urea Reduction Ratio (URR) of 65 or greater) and Kt/V of 1.2 or higher and how many pediatric patients had enough waste removed from their blood during dialysis treatments and Kt/V greater than or equal to 1.2
  - Peritoneal Dialysis—how many patients at a facility had enough waste removed from their blood during dialysis treatments and Kt/V of 1.7 or higher
  - Standard Mortality Rate/Patient Survival—if the patients treated at a facility generally live longer than expected, as long as expected, or not as long as expected
  - Standard Hospitalization Rate—if the patients treated at a facility are generally hospitalized less than expected, as expected, or more than expected
  - Vascular Access Type

**How do you get to it?** You can access the Dialysis Facility Compare website at <https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare/?providerType=DialysisFacility&redirect=true>.

From this website, you can search for facilities by name, proximity (city or zip code), and geography (county). The data is updated quarterly. Facilities/providers may submit corrections about the address or demographic information to the ESRD Network by sending a letter. The clinical data is handled directly by the CMS central office in Baltimore, MD. Each year this clinical data is available for preview, comment, and correction at the facility level through the Dialysis Facility Report before it is posted to the Dialysis Facility Compare website.

## ESRD Network of Texas, Inc. Facility Compliance Policy

The Network has always enjoyed a high degree of compliance and cooperation from facilities within the Network. Mutually beneficial relationships have been developed through the years, and there is every expectation that this type of relationship will continue in the future. To maintain and foster the cooperative ongoing relationship that currently exists, the Network will keep the facilities well informed of Network activities, criteria and standards, policies and procedures, as well as having competent, knowledgeable staff available to answer questions and provide guidance and assistance as required for all phases of Network operations.

Depending on the area of activity involved with compliance, different approaches will be used. Facilities will know exactly what is expected of them in the areas where compliance could be a problem—data, quality improvement, and patient services.

Facilities are responsible for data and CMS form submission in EQRS. The Network staff is here to support facilities in meeting data submission requirements. Each area of data has its own submission requirements. The Network periodically generates a facility specific summary of each facility's data noting any missing data elements. The facility is then given a specific response time to provide the missing information. The frequency of these notices may increase as important deadlines approach and is changing as CMS directs increased goals for facilities to submit data.

To achieve quality improvement compliance, the Network will work directly with the facility director and medical director and provide educational opportunities to enhance understanding of quality activities.

It is a statutory requirement for all Medicare certified ESRD facilities to participate in Network activities and pursue Network goals as a condition for Medicare coverage. The Network will make every effort to achieve and expects to have voluntary compliance



## ESRD Network 14 Facility Compliance Policy (cont.)

from the facilities in ESRD Network 14's geographical area, but if recalcitrant facilities are found, they will be reported to CMS.

Facilities that are non-compliant with project deliverables will be reported to the CMS Regional Office, the Medical Review Board, and the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) as an alert for any future surveys. CMS monitors reports of non-compliance and requires routine surveillance to determine if other Conditions for Coverage are being met.

If the Network identifies a facility that is not cooperating with the Network in meeting the goals and objectives and is considering reporting non-compliance to the CMS Regional Office, the proposal will first be discussed with the Network's CMS Project Officer. The CMS Regional Office has the responsibility for the actual implementation of an alternative sanction. The Regional Office will make the determination whether to sanction the facility.

The Network will only report a recalcitrant facility if it fully documents that the facility:

- Consistently fails to cooperate with Network plans or goals as specified in the Network's contract with CMS
- Consistently fails to follow recommendations of the Medical Review Board, which have been approved by CMS
- Fails to permit the Network Medical Review Board, without just cause, to conduct an onsite review
- Fails to submit data as required to prepare the Network annual report.

The following general guidelines will be followed and documentation compiled when the Network determines that an ESRD facility should be reported for failing to cooperate with the Network goals and objectives:

- Documentation that the facility was notified of the Network's goals and objectives.
- The Network will document that it has informed the facility of the Network's goals and objectives; specifically, the goal, objective, or plan that the facility has failed to meet. This will be in the form of written correspondence between the facility and the Network.
- Documentation that the facility failed to meet Network goals, objectives, or plans.
- The Network will document the actions it took to inform the facility that a) it was not complying with the Network's goals, objectives, or plans, and b) what actions the Network would take if the facility refuses to cooperate. This will be in the form of written correspondence, sent by certified return receipt mail.
- Documentation that the facility was provided the opportunity to make corrections.
- The Network will document the actions it took to assist the facility in resolving the problem. Documentation of all follow-up actions taken by the Network to resolve the problem (e.g., documentation of phone calls to the facility asking for specific information), will demonstrate the Network's attempt to work with the facility to resolve the problem. Documentation that the facility failed to submit a Corrective Action Plan or submitted an unacceptable Corrective Action will be maintained.

When the Network Medical Review Board determines that a facility is recalcitrant in cooperating with and meeting the Network goals and objectives, a cover letter will be sent to the appropriate CMS Regional Office Associate Regional Administrator for Health Standards and Quality. The letter will include the name, address, and Medicare provider number of the facility, the Network goal or objective that the facility failed to comply with, and a brief summary of the basis for the report of recalcitrance. An outline of what documentation/action the facility must submit/follow in order to be in compliance, the individual in the Network whom the Regional Office can contact for further information/assistance, and the name and phone number of the Network's CMS Project Officer will be included with the letter.

Copies of all documentation listed above and any Network policies/procedures that are applicable will be enclosed in the correspondence. The Regional Office will determine if it has sufficient information to process a sanctioning action and the type of sanction to impose. The Regional Office will contact the Network if additional information and/or assistance is needed to process the case. The Regional Office will notify the facility of the sanction imposed, the facility's appeal rights and the procedure for the removal of the sanction. The effective date of the sanction is at least thirty days after the date of the notice to the facility.

An alternative sanction remains in effect until the facility is in substantial compliance with the requirements to participate in the Network's activities and pursue the Network's goals, or the facility is terminated from the Medicare program for lack of compliance by CMS Regional Office. The Regional Office will remove the sanction when the facility demonstrates and documents that the reason for the sanction is eliminated. The Regional Office may ask for the Network's assistance in verifying the facility's compliance with the requirements.



## ESRD Network 14 Guide to Timely Assessments and Appropriate Referrals of ESRD Patients for Kidney Transplant

The following guidelines have been developed in addition to the Network Criteria and Standards to encourage timely and appropriate assessment for referral of patients for consideration for kidney transplantation. The goal of the Network is to promote access to transplantation for every individual who may be eligible for such a procedure.

### Assessment for Transplantation

- All patients should be thoroughly assessed for transplant referral during completion of the initial and three month follow-up comprehensive assessment and plan of care in the ESRD facility and when a change in status occurs that would impact their suitability for transplantation.<sup>1</sup>
- Transplant center guidelines for selection of appropriate candidates vary. Patients that are unsuitable for referral may include: patient refusal, positive (+) HIV status, pediatric patients with small size or malnutrition, cancer, active TB, and against justifiable medical judgment.<sup>2</sup> If the patient is not suitable for transplant, the basis for non-referral must be documented in the patient's medical record.
- After referral, follow-up of transplant evaluation and waiting list status should occur as part of the comprehensive assessment and plan of care process. Any barriers to the patient's transplant eligibility should be addressed with the patient by the team.
- Transplant status and staff efforts in this area should be documented on each care plan.

### Access to Care

- Individuals considered candidates for transplantation may be referred by their primary care nephrologist, dialysis unit, or by self-referral.
- All transplant centers require financial clearance prior to the patient being evaluated. A patient's insurance coverage and a transplant center's selection criteria may dictate which transplant center(s) the patient can access.
- If a patient is denied transplant by one center, the patient has the right to be referred to another center for evaluation or second opinion. Being denied by one center does not necessarily mean that the patient will be denied by another center.
- Patients may be multi-listed, that is, listed at more than one transplant center at the same time, as long as the second center is served by a different OPO (organ procurement agency).

### Continuity of Care

- Active and ongoing communication is required between the transplant team, the nephrologist, and dialysis facility staff to maintain continuity of care throughout the transplant process, from initial referral to long-term care of the transplanted kidney.
- When the patient requests to be referred for transplant evaluation, the patient should sign appropriate authorization for release of dialysis records. The dialysis facility should respond promptly to all requests by the transplant center for medical records or other referral information to avoid any delay in the evaluation or duplication of tests.
- Transplant evaluation may result in the discovery of a condition that requires corrective action prior to elective transplant procedure. The transplant center should consult with the patient and the primary physician responsible for that patient's care to manage these conditions.
- Dialysis facilities should assist kidney transplant candidates with factors that might affect their eligibility for transplant. These factors might include addressing severe obesity, reinforcing adherence to prescribed medication or therapy, and addressing social/emotional/financial factors related to ability to function post transplant as part of the patient plan of care and assessment.
- The dialysis facility should notify the transplant center immediately if the patient has an adverse event that would prevent him from receiving a kidney should he/she be called.
- Dialysis facilities and transplant centers should encourage patients to consider living donor kidney transplant and seek to identify a suitable living donor when possible, as well as educate patients about paired donation programs.
- New developments that may facilitate obtaining a transplant, such as living donor assistance programs, paired live donor exchange, and new national kidney allocation policies, should prompt reassessment of all eligible patients.

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<sup>1</sup>ESRD Network 14 Medical Review Board 2006 Physician Standards for Care of ESRD Patients in the Outpatient Setting

<sup>2</sup>ESRD Network 14 Medical Review Board 2006 Physician Standards for Care for the Appropriateness of Modality of ESRD Patients in the Outpatient Setting

## Facility Patient Representative (FPR)

Every dialysis clinic in Texas should have a Facility Patient Representative (FPR) who will act as a link between the other patients and the center's managers and staff. To improve patient- and family-centered care in the state of Texas, every dialysis center is asked to pick at least one patient to serve as a Facility Patient Representative (FPR).

The Network's Patient Advisory Committee (PAC) developed the FPR responsibilities listed below. These responsibilities are only minimal guidelines. Each clinic is free to expand this list by adding other duties to improve communication between patients and staff and to expand the facility's patient and staff education opportunities.

The FPR can assume the following responsibilities where they do not already exist:

- Be a role model to other patients by:
  - Learning about the latest dialysis and transplantation information from his/her facility, the Network, and other sources
  - Following his/her treatment plan
- Receive and distribute ESRD Network 14 patient mail-outs addressed to the FPR.
- Be available to assist the staff with the patient bulletin board.

Optional responsibilities to be carried out when agreed upon by the FPR and appropriate clinic staff:

- Be available to facilitate communication between patients and facility staff when needed or requested.
- Be familiar with information provided by the facility and the Network and be available to answer patient questions about this information.
- Be available to assist with the orientation and support of new patients to the facility and introduce them to other patients.
- Be available to assist the facility social worker with patient support groups.
- Be available to assist with the coordination of patient activities, such as educational meetings and social events.
- Be available to help organize phone calls or visits (where appropriate) to patients who are in the hospital or who would benefit from a call or visit.
- Be available to write and distribute a patient newsletter for the facility with the aid of clinic staff.

### Suggestions to Assist the Facility Staff and FPR Relationship

- It is best to have a staff member serve as a co-worker. The staff member can then assume responsibility for informing the Network if the FPR leaves the clinic or decides to step down from the position.
- If your clinic runs six days a week rather than three, there should be more than one FPR. The primary FPR can appoint an assistant FPR for each shift to ensure that all shifts/days are covered.
- If your clinic does not already have one or more subscriptions to the popular renal patient magazines or newspapers (e.g., AAKP Renal Life, NKF Family Focus, Nephrology News and Issue—For Patients Only), please contact these organizations for information on how to get these subscriptions for your clinic.
- Patients who are already serving in other capacities (e.g., Network Patient Advisory Committee member, NKF Patient Services Committee, AAKP officer) are eligible to be FPRs.
- Inform candidates that they do not have to be responsible for all activities listed above. Start with one simple task to have the candidate(s) in charge of for a few weeks/months, and then revisit any of the above activities to see if the patient(s) would like to take on more.

ESRD Network 14 has created a Facility Patient Representative (FPR) Toolkit in both English and Spanish for use in training the patients who you approach and who agree to be the FPR. Visit the Network's website at <https://quality.allianthealth.org/esrd-nw-14-patients-families/> learn more.



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## ESRD NETWORK 14 INFORMATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**Facility Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Facility Administrator:** \_\_\_\_\_

Your signature below acknowledges that this facility has received and reviewed the following information:

- ◆ ESRD Network 14 Goals and Objectives
- ◆ ESRD Network 14 Compliance Policy
- ◆ ESRD Network 14 Transplant Assessment and Referral Guide
- ◆ Facility Patient Representative description
- ◆ New Facility Details form
- ◆ Primary Contacts form
- ◆ ESRD Network 14 Membership Agreement

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



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## Membership Agreement

### Between

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Facility (**PRINT** or **TYPE** above this line)

\_\_\_\_\_, Texas  
(City **PRINT** or **TYPE** above this line)

And the  
ESRD Network 14

The undersigned, on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of Facility), \_\_\_\_\_ (City), Texas, hereby joins in membership with the ESRD Network 14 and agrees to participate in the activities of the Network Council in attaining the goals and objectives of the End Stage Renal Disease Program.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Facility Administrator or Clinical Manager  
Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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**DO NOT** complete this section: for Network use only.

The undersigned acknowledges this document as an agreement between \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, Texas and  
the ESRD Network 14 to become effective \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Network Executive Director  
Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_