



Upper Midwest Fistula First Coalition

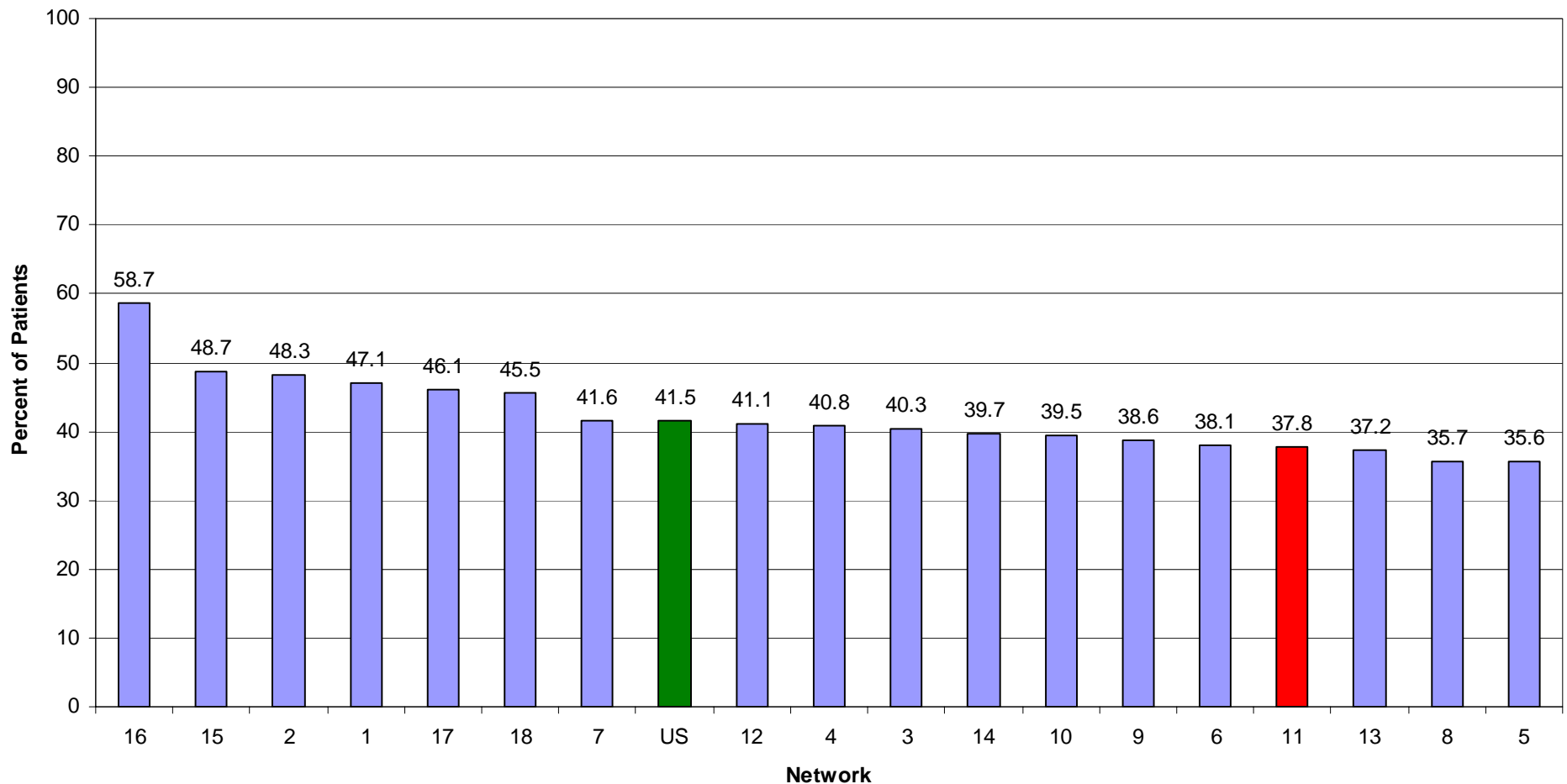
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State of Wisconsin**

**Diane Carlson
Executive Director
Network 11**

**Forum of ESRD Networks/CMS Annual Meeting
April 5, 2006**

Why Form a Coalition?

Percent of Patients Dialyzing with an AVF
Network Comparison - January 2006
Fistula First Dashboard



Why Focus on Fistula First?

AV Fistulas offer:

- Improved quality of life
- Better dialysis
- Fewer hospitalizations which cost Medicare \$1 billion annually
- Lower chance of death
- Less infection



FISTULAFIRST
National Vascular Access
Improvement Initiative



Coalition Members Initial Partners

- Independent Facilities
- Large Dialysis Organizations
- Network 11 Staff and Committee Members
- State Survey Agencies
- Quality Improvement Organizations



Upper Midwest Fistula First Coalition

CKD Early Referral

Brad Wick
Mayo Clinic

ESRD

David Shepard
Greenfield Health
Systems

CKD Management

Wendy Turner, RN
Davita



Benefits of the Coalition

- Collaboration among dialysis providers, Network 11, Quality Improvement Organizations, and State Survey Agencies
- Network 11 is learning more about State Survey operations and resources
- Surveyors are learning more about Network operations and resources



ESRD Workgroup Actions

Goal:

To develop strategies to increase the
use of fistulas in facilities in the
Network 11 area



ESRD Workgroup Actions

Strategy # 1

To inform providers and surveyors of the goal and focus on increasing the use of fistulas

Strategy # 2

To develop guides to integrate the focus of fistulas into all aspects of the survey process



Outcome of Strategies

The group was able to:

1. Draft letters to surveyors and providers explaining the upcoming focus on AVF
2. Incorporate fistula concerns into the survey process



Strategy # 3

As a result of the work we accomplished we identified a more basic need – to assist the providers and surveyors in understanding how the goal to increase the use of fistulas will effect the survey process



Goals for Strategy # 3

1. Develop a document that explains the Fistula First program and how it will effect the survey process including:
 - a. How to prepare for the survey
 - b. How to take a self inventory and determine what needs to be to increase performance in this area



Goals for Strategy # 3

2. Identify the training needs of provider staff who have longevity with the facility vs. those who are new to the field/facility.
3. Develop an educational method of presentation on the survey process, new issues and how to prepare for it



Summary

In spite of :

1. Busy schedules
2. Changes in Work Group members
3. All committee work being done by phone
4. Members having only met one another once in August 2005

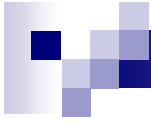


We remained :

- Goal directed
- Enthusiastic

And maintained

- A sense of humor



Thank you for being such good
listeners

