The End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Network Program began in 1978 as a modification of the Medicare ESRD Program. Its 18 Networks cover the entirety of the United States and its territories. The goals of the program are to improve cost-effectiveness, ensure quality of care, encourage kidney transplantation and home dialysis, and assist patients to return to work.\(^1\)

### ESRD Trends

- **2.5% increase in prevalent dialysis population**
- **6.2% increase in kidneys transplanted\(^2\)**
- **6.6% increase in home dialysis**

### Providers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transplant centers</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICHD only</td>
<td>3,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home dialysis only</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICHD and home-dialysis facilities</td>
<td>3,308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total dialysis facilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,442</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Patients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dialysis patients</td>
<td>517,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICHD patients</td>
<td>453,252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home patients</td>
<td>64,418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevalent transplant recipients</td>
<td>221,511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total patients</strong></td>
<td><strong>739,278</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*2018 was the first year home dialysis and transplant tasks were included in Network Quality Improvement Activities (QIAs)*

1. Beneficiary grievances were processed

2. Non-grievance cases were processed

3. Involuntary discharges were avoided, saving approximately $30 million
**QIA Impact**

- **Home Dialysis Utilization**
  - 7,131 patients trained
  - 5,525 dialyzing at home*
  - **$59 million** in cost savings
  - *As of December 31, 2018

- **BSI Prevention**
  - 3,418 fewer BSIs than expected
  - **$54 million** in cost savings

- **Transplant Success**
  - 4,691 patients added to the waitlist
  - 1,478 of those expected to receive a transplant **within 3 years**
  - 676 received a transplant
  - **$23 million** in cost savings
  - +$50 million in future savings

- **Long-Term Catheter Use**
  - 3,410 catheter removals
  - **$62 million** in cost savings

- **5,580** of all 7,473 dialysis facilities
- **432,762** patients impacted
- **12,933** positive patient outcomes

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This material was prepared by the End Stage Renal Disease National Coordinating Center (ESRD NCC) contractor under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents do not necessarily reflect CMS policy not imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.


All items not cited were derived from the 2018 Network Program Summary Annual Report, available at https://esrdncc.org/summary-annual-reports.