

Technical Expert Panel Membership List

Project Title: Dialysis Facility Quality of Patient Care Star Ratings Technical Expert Panel (TEP)

Project Overview:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has contracted with The University of Michigan Kidney Epidemiology and Cost Center (UM-KECC) to act as the quality measure developer and technical content support contractor for Care Compare on Medicare.gov, under the Kidney Disease Quality Measure Development, Maintenance, and Support contract (contract number 75FCMC18D0041, task order number 75FCMC18F0001). As part of this contract, UM-KECC convenes technical expert panels (TEPs) to obtain consumer and provider input for quality measure development and the Medicare.gov Dialysis Facility Quality of Patient Care Star Rating (Star Rating). We seek nominations from individuals with relevant clinical and methodological experience, expertise, and perspectives, including ESRD patients with dialysis experience to serve on this TEP.

A Star Rating TEP was first convened in 2015 to review the original methodology and presentation of the Star Rating on the Medicare.gov website. The TEP provided several recommendations that were implemented in the updated Star Rating methodology, released in October 2016. A second TEP was convened in 2017. TEP members provided recommendations on candidate measures proposed for inclusion in the Star Rating and defined concepts such as rebaselining and resetting. A third TEP was convened in 2019 to provide recommendations on options for resetting the Star Rating and reweighting one of the quality domains in the calculation of the Star Rating. See the respective 2015, 2017, and 2019 Star Rating TEP reports for a summary of the deliberations and TEP recommendations, available at:

<https://dialysisdata.org/content/esrd-measures>

As part of CMS' broader initiative for Care Compare on Medicare.gov, CMS developed the Star Rating to make quality information more accessible to patients, caregivers, providers and policymakers and to help consumers (including patients and caregivers) understand CMS quality measures and more easily identify differences in overall quality when selecting dialysis facilities. The Medicare.gov website displays two star ratings: (1) the Quality of Patient Care Star Rating (Star Rating) and (2) the Survey of Patients' Experiences Star Rating. Eleven of the quality measures currently reported on the Medicare.gov website are used to calculate the Quality of Patient Care Star Rating (Star Rating). The Survey of Patients' Experiences Star Ratings will not be covered as a discussion topic during this TEP. Broadly, this TEP will be expected to review and provide input on options and considerations for updating and public reporting of the Star Ratings. These considerations fall under three categories:

- (1) Adding two quality measures currently reported on the Medicare.gov site related to transplant waitlisting to Star Rating (PPPW and SWR)
- (2) Choice of a calendar year to use for establishment of a new baseline against which to score facility performance
- (3) Potential of public reporting of the continuous score underlying Star Rating on Medicare.gov in addition to the Star Rating, which places facilities into one of five discrete categories.

The TEP will be expected to represent a diversity of perspectives and backgrounds. Members will be selected based on their personal experience as patients, caregivers and providers, or based on methodological expertise. Our intent is to ensure the TEP will have ample representation from patients and patient advocates to allow fair representation of their perspectives.

TEP Membership:

We have selected these individuals and they have agreed to serve as the TEP for this project:

<i>Name, Credentials, Professional Role*</i>	<i>Organizational Affiliation, City, State*</i>	<i>Consumer, Patient, Family (Caregiver) Perspective</i>	<i>Nephrologist, Nephrology Trained Social Worker, Dialysis Facility Trained Nursing Staff</i>	<i>Performance Measurement Experts</i>	<i>Quality Improvement Expert</i>	<i>Purchaser Perspective</i>	<i>Healthcare Disparities Experts</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Conflict of Interest Disclosure*</i>
Andrew Conkling Patient Advocate	Washington, DC	Yes							None Reported
Paul Conway BA Patient Advocate Chair, Policy and Global Affairs Immediate Past President of AAKP	American Association of Kidney Patients Tampa, FL	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Expertise in National Policy Implementation and Stakeholder expectations	None Reported
Mary Dittrich MD. FASN Nephrologist Chief Medical Officer	US Renal Care Boise, ID		Yes	Yes					Shareholder and CMO of US Renal Care and owns share in multiple dialysis units
Stephanie Dixon Patient Advocate	National Forum of ESRD Networks Brooklyn, NY	Yes						Facility Representative, Patient subject matter expert	None Reported
Nupar Gupta MD Nephrologist Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine	Indiana University School of Medicine Indianapolis, IN		Yes	Yes	Yes				None Reported

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Emel Hamilton MD. MSN/INF, CNN Vice President of Clinical Support and clinical informatics/ non practicing physician, RN License	Fresenius Medical Care Waltham, MA		Yes	Yes	Yes			Clinical informatics expertise, international medical graduate, physician and RN	Employee of Fresenius Kidney Care
Syed Ali Husain MD, MPH, MA, FASN Nephrologist	Columbia University Medical Center New York, NY		Yes				Yes		None Reported
Richard Knight MBA President	American Association of Kidney Patients Tampa, FL	Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes		None Reported
Mahesh Krishnan MD, MPH, MBA, FASN Group Vice President of Research and Development	DaVita Washington, DC		Yes		Yes		Yes		Employed at DaVita and owns stock

Diane Morris MS, RN, CNN Director of Nursing and Clinical Services	The Rogosin Institute New York, NY		Yes	Yes	Yes				None Reported
Nicole Stankus MD, MSc Nephrologist	University of Chicago Chicago, IL		Yes	Yes	Yes				None Reported
Curtis Warfield MS	National Kidney Foundation Home Dialyzors United Indianapolis, IN	Yes					Yes		None Reported
Eric Weinhandl PhD, MS Epidemiology Senior Director, Data Analytics and Home Therapies	Satellite Healthcare Victoria, MN			Yes				Epidemiologist	Employee of a Dialysis provider