

## D-Notes from Network #15

### Important July Dates:

- 10<sup>th</sup> – PAR Due
- Last week of July – 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr Rosters will be in the mail

### Don't Include Acutes

Network #15 has seen an alarming increase in the number of patients who “recover function” shortly after a nephrologist has signed a CMS-2728 Form declaring the patient to be chronic. In fact, we often see a physician signature date that is AFTER the recover function date. Please note that the *Instruction Manual for Renal Providers* states:

**“The [CMS-2728] Form SHOULD NOT be completed for those patients who are in acute renal failure. Acute renal failure is a condition in which kidney function can be expected to recover after a short period of dialysis, i.e., several weeks or months.”**

Likewise, patients that are not definitively diagnosed as chronic should never be reported on the PAR. Those facilities that are licensed to treat patients in acute renal failure need to ensure that their local computer system (REGGIE, SNAPPY, PROTON, etc.) does not include acute patients, or clearly identifies patients that are acute so that they will not be erroneously reported to the Network and CMS.

### Tip of the Month: Double Check Your Cause of Death

When writing the cause of death on a 2746 form, always use the appropriate numeric code from the “List of Causes” on the 2746. Using “98” or “other” may be convenient, but most of the time there is a more accurate code that should be selected. Also, “ESRD”, “Respiratory Failure”, or “Natural Causes” are not acceptable causes of death and will be rejected by the Network.

### Network #15 Data Dept

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