

Home Dialysis Update

A triannual newsletter published by the HOME Network
Edition 7—November 2019



Welcome to the seventh edition of *Home Dialysis Update*, our newsletter from The HOME Network

With every edition, we hope to keep you updated on our latest activities and provide you with vital “Home dialysis” tips. Enjoy this special edition newsletter, which highlights opportunities for promoting and celebrating the 10th Anniversary of The HOME Network through memberships, innovations, research development and partnerships. Planning for THN’s 10 Year Anniversary celebration is underway. The celebration will be held in the Hotel Realm, Canberra in February 2020, prior to the official opening of the Home Dialysis Conference. THN has accomplished a lot during this time, so it will be an opportunity to reflect on, and celebrate these achievements as a group, and with our members and colleagues.



Can Economic Incentives Increase the Use of Home Dialysis?

NDT 2019; 34:731-41 “Can economic incentives increase the use of home dialysis”

There are advantages to home dialysis for patients, and kidney care programs, but use remains low in most countries. Health-care policy-makers have many levers to increase use of home dialysis, one of them being economic incentives. These include how health-care funding is provided to kidney care programs and dialysis facilities; how physicians are remunerated for care of home dialysis patients; and financial incentives—or removal of disincentives—for home dialysis patients. This report is based on a comprehensive literature review summarizing the impact of economic incentives for home dialysis and a workshop that brought together an international group of policy-makers, health economists and home dialysis experts to discuss how economic incentives (or removal of economic disincentives) might be used to increase the use of home dialysis. The results of the literature review and the consensus of workshop participants were that financial incentives to dialysis facilities for home dialysis (for instance, through activity-based funding), particularly in for-profit systems, could lead to a small increase in use of home dialysis. The evidence was less clear on the impact of economic incentives for nephrologists, and participants felt this was less important than a nephrologist workforce in support of home dialysis. Workshop participants felt that patient-borne costs experienced by home dialysis patients were unjust and inequitable, though participants noted that there was no evidence that decreasing patient-borne costs would increase use of home dialysis, even among low-income patients. The use of financial incentives for home dialysis—whether directed at dialysis facilities, nephrologists or patients—is only one part of a high-performing system that seeks to increase use of home dialysis.

Check out the above article on the link: <https://academic.oup.com/ndt/article/34/5/731/5053968?searchresult=1>

Chairperson's Message

By Josephine Chow

As we come to the end of this year, it is with great pride that we should look back at the many achievements of yourself and your team. I am sure we all have worked so hard and with every changing demand made on us by a new and challenging world. The many values that have been on display throughout the year have particularly come to the fore as we end the year – resilience when tackling a particularly tricky problem whether it is at work or a problem between friends or family; courage in coping with changes; love and honesty towards one another; appreciation and happiness for each other.

I would like to thank all our friends and family for their support this year. A great deal of what The HOME Network does cannot be achieved without you and your co-operation and backing. Many thanks and we look forward to working more closely with you in 2020.

We hope you can join us to celebrate 2019 and send us into 2020 with a dose of inspiration and motivation! Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year and I look forward to seeing you all again in 2020! And finally...remember to be kind to yourself!

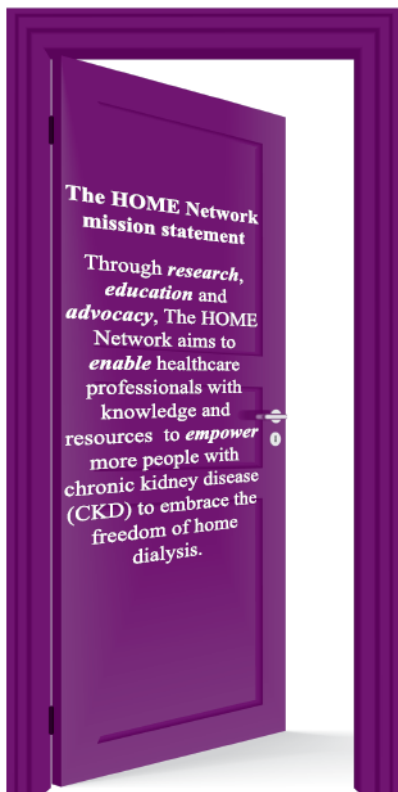
For more information, visit our user-friendly website www.homenetwork.net.au/

The HOME Network: who are we?

By Josephine Chow, Chairperson

The HOME Network is a national initiative that brings together a solution-focused group of home dialysis healthcare professionals from across Australia. The group draws upon all levels of evidence to provide insights and practical options for colleagues throughout Australia to facilitate a positive change towards increased use of home dialysis.

Since its establishment in 2009, the HOME Network has had considerable successes in developing resources for patients and healthcare professionals in line with its objectives and making optimal use of members' time available to commit to projects.



Through a directed process of reflection and analysis of strengths, weaknesses and opportunities, the HOME Network has refined its vision and mission to identify solutions and strategies to promote and enhance home dialysis.

Today, members are committed to driving outcomes aligned with the group's renewed strategy and working towards achieving our overall mission statement "Through research, education and advocacy, the HOME Network aims to enable healthcare professionals with knowledge and resources to empower more people with chronic kidney disease to embrace the freedom of home dialysis".

The HOME Network has been working within three focus areas:

- **Healthcare Professional Education:** Improved awareness, knowledge and training about home dialysis for healthcare professionals.
- **Patient Factors:** Targeted action that enables healthcare professionals to address factors impacting on the ability of Australians with CKD to embrace the freedom of home dialysis.
- **Technology and new initiatives:** Support for new initiatives and technologies that strengthen home dialysis utilisation as part of establishing flexible and innovative models of care that strengthen support for people on home dialysis including their carers.

Working in these three focus areas is part of our continuing campaign to drive increased uptake of home dialysis across Australia. Please join us! :)

The HOME Network Member Profile



The
HOME
Network™

Educate, Enable, Empower

Established 2009



Name: Rosie Simmonds, VIC

Role: Long-standing member

What is your role and where are you from?

I am a Nephrology Nurse Practitioner and my current role is as the Nurse Unit Manager of the Home Dialysis Unit in the Renal Service at the University Hospital Geelong, Barwon Health.

How long have you been a member of The HOME Network: I am lucky enough to have been part of THN since the first workshop in 2009.

What prompted you to join The HOME Network: Home dialysis is a wonderful treatment and can provide people with CKD5 with a much improved quality of life and long term health outcome. Having the opportunity to meet with like-minded health professionals and consumers to develop programs and initiatives that aim to promote and improve the access, the equity and ultimately the care for people who choose home dialysis is incredibly motivating.

What projects have you been involved in: I have been lucky enough to be involved in the development of the Myth Busting Fact Sheets and Financial Fact Sheets; The multi-centre research project "Identifying patient-related factors associated with uptake of home dialysis and patient outcomes" which was completed in 2017 and a number of presentations at conferences and workshops.

TEACH-PD Update - A Targeted Education Approach to improve Peritoneal Dialysis outcomes (TEACH-PD)

By Josephine Chow

A Nurse-led Research Initiative

Co-Principal Investigator: Professor Josephine Chow & Professor Neil Boudville

Lead, THN Healthcare Professional Education Group: Melinda Tomlins

The TEACH-PD training curriculum and material have been developed by a core group of renal nurses from the HOME Network (THN) in conjunction with senior medical clinicians from the Australasian Kidney Trials Network (AKTN), eLearning curriculum developers, consumer representatives, and education experts, in line with the ISPD guidelines, utilising modern adult learning principles and best practice eLearning techniques.

A pragmatic phase 4, multi-centre, multinational, cluster-randomised controlled trial (CRCT), randomising PD units to implement TEACH-PD training modules targeted at PD trainers and incident PD patients versus standard existing practices.

Current status of progress

The Trial Steering Committee has secured 38 PD Units across Australia & New Zealand to participate in the CRCT. 9 sites have governance approved and randomised, 25 patients registered (35 sites to go; 1,475 patients to go).



ClinicalTrials.gov Registry: NCT03816111

Acknowledgements



Home Dialysis Conference

Canberra will be hosting the next Home Dialysis Conference from 26-28 February 2020. The theme for the conference is Home Dialysis... Overcoming Barriers.

Summer in Canberra is a lovely time to visit our nations' capital city, with lots of famous landmarks to visit and great scenery to enjoy.

The program boasts a variety of expert presenters and broad ranging topics so will be sure to capture everyone's interest. Our own Home Network members will be presenting on several topics so come along to meet them and show your support for the network and for home dialysis promotion.

If you haven't attended a Home Dialysis Conference before, it is a wonderful opportunity to meet your colleagues from around the country and our neighbour, New Zealand, and develop networks which benefit not only us as health professionals, but our patients too. Patients are most definitely encouraged to attend as well, and you will notice that many patients and carers are among the presenters. Early Bird registrations close on 27 November 2019 so don't

dilly dally, book your place now, and we look forward to seeing you there!



News & Resources

By Anna Lee

What do you tell your peritoneal dialysis patients that want to swim?

Swimming with a PD catheter in place is a bit of a contentious issue. With limited research to guide us, information given to patients is mostly based on nurse or physician experience or preferences.

It may be surprising that most PD units in Australia report that they have some pts on PD who do swim. Covering the PD catheter and exit site with a colostomy bag or clear waterproof dressing is recommended. Routine exit site care is recommended after swimming.

If you are interested in reading what practices and recommendations are provided by Australian PD units then have a look at Peritoneal Dialysis International in press- "Swimming on Peritoneal Dialysis: recommendations from Australian PD units."



There will also be a number of Renal Conferences taking place during 2020. Below are some of the dates, locations, and links to these conferences. Looking forward to seeing you there!

The Biennial Australian & New Zealand Home Dialysis Conference - 26-28 February, 2020 Hotel Realm Canberra
<https://www.homedialysisconference.com.au>

16th World Nephrology Conference – April 27-28, 2020 Singapore
<https://worldnephrology.conferenceseries.com/events-list/renal-dialysis>

ISPD-EuroPD Joint Congress
2 – 5 May, 2020 Glasgow
<https://ispd.org/event/ispd-europd-joint-congress-glasgow-2020/>

Renal Society of Australasia Annual Conference
25-27 June, 2020 Melbourne
<https://www.renalsociety.org/education/2020-annual-conference/>

55th Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology (ANZSN) Annual Scientific Meeting 29 August 2019

The HOME Network is celebrating our 10 Year Anniversary!



Planning is in progress for the above event to be held in February 2020 at the Hotel Realm Canberra during the Home Dialysis Conference.

It's really 10 long years of passion, partnerships, hard work and huge successes for the HOME Network and our partners. We would love our associate members to be part of this important event. We're also extending the invitation to include other members of the nephrology community to join the celebrations, as well as some of the patients who can share their experiences on home dialysis. This is all part of our goal to become more active in the HOME revolution to advocate for home dialysis, as well as having a well-earned opportunity to celebrate 10 years since the HOME Network first formed!

Watch the space!!

New associate members continue to come in as a result of our newsletters being sent out. Feedback about the newsletters has been very positive and has influenced how we continue to put together our newsletters. If you know of any colleagues who may be interested in reading our newsletter, please forward a copy and let them know how they too can join as an associate member (see below for more information).

The HOME Network's website at www.homenetwork.net.au is a great place to go and find out about our past and current projects underway in this exciting area. We have recently added some new resources and publications to the website. You can also email Josephine Chow (the HOME Network Chairperson) at contact@homenetwork.net.au for more information about the HOME Network and the group's activities.

Finally, if you have any **news relevant to home dialysis to share**, please email the editor at news@homenetwork.net.au.

Share your big idea!



At the HOME Network, we aim to increase HCP networking and to share some of the novel ways in which we as healthcare professionals are making a difference for our CKD patients. Often, there are fantastic projects underway locally that we believe deserve a national platform for sharing.

Help us by sharing your ideas and ways in which you are supporting your CKD patients to choose the home dialysis option! Please email the editor at news@homenetwork.net.au to share your big idea. We will publish a selection of great ideas in each newsletter. Please include your contact details so that colleagues may get in contact to learn more.

Join the HOME Network as an associate member!

We hope you enjoyed reading this edition of the HOME Network newsletter, *Home Dialysis Update*. It's an exciting time for the HOME Network and home dialysis. If you're not already an Associate Member, now is your chance to join us!

As an associate member, you will receive our newsletters containing articles, information and advances in the field of home dialysis as well as information about upcoming events. This is also the first place you will hear about our new projects starting – your chance to get involved in a project that you feel passionate about.

To join as an associate member, use this link to enter your details: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/35DWRRV>

Acknowledgements

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