

# Home Dialysis Update

A triannual newsletter published by The HOME Network  
Edition 15 — JULY 2022



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## The HOME Network

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

By Josephine Chow, Chairperson

Welcome to our July 2022 Edition of The HOME Network (THN) Newsletter. Believe it or not, we are now saying goodbye to July 2022. *“How did it get so late so soon? My goodness how the time has flown” Dr Seuss.*

In this edition you will continue to meet our members via the Member Profile. Please join me in meeting Valerie Nancarrow, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Renal Hospital Liaison Officer (HLO). After reading Valerie’s profile, I am sure you will agree with me that THN has a very diverse membership and this is so important to have the voices and experiences from all of us.

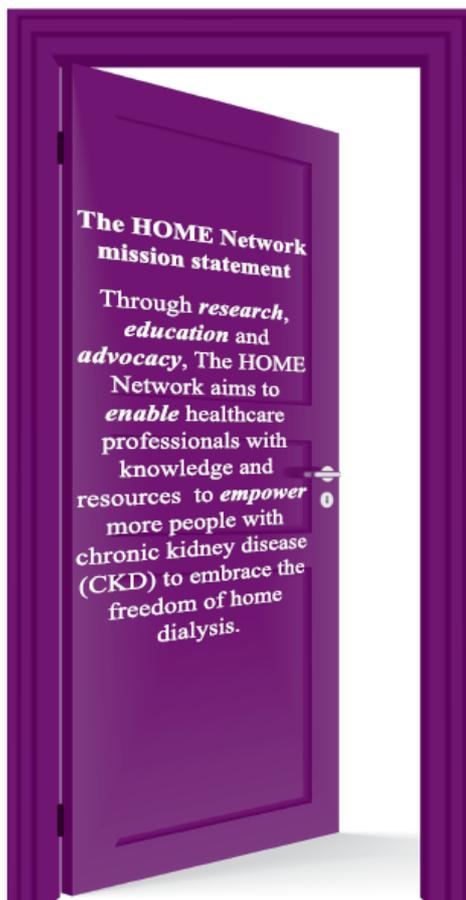
We are also launching the **Expressions of Interest** to invite Renal Allied Health Workers to join THN. *Check it out!*

With the borders re-opened and lifted restrictions in most countries, we are now seeing the return of the travelers from around the world via road, train, flight and of course the cruise ship. They are spending time catching up in the belated family reunion, attending conferences and of course taking a bit of a real holiday. With the Omicron BA.4 and B.A5 sub-variants circulating widely in our community, please be vigilant and help protect yourself and loved ones. Take care and see you in one of the many upcoming conferences, *in person!*

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## The HOME Network: who are we?

By Josephine Chow, Chairperson



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

Since its establishment in 2009, THN 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.

The vision and mission of THN is to identify solutions and strategies to promote and enhance home dialysis. Members are committed to driving outcomes aligned with the group’s 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 as well as their carers.

Working in these three focus areas is part of our continuing campaign to drive increased uptake of home dialysis across ANZ as we work together to keep pushing for world class home dialysis care for our patients.

## MEMBER PROFILE



**Name:** Valerie Nancarrow

**Role:** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Renal Hospital Liaison Officer (HLO).



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### What is your current role and where are you from?

I am the Renal HLO based at Cairns Hospital. My role is to provide culturally appropriate support and advice to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and their families. Originally from Ayr, Queensland, I left home when I was 15 years of age on a Scholarship to the Australian Institute of Sport for two years, but then went to Brisbane and played basketball as a career with the Brisbane Bullets. Whilst in Brisbane I managed to enrol in a pharmacy assistant course, and have now worked within Queensland Health for twenty-one years and have been living in Cairns for the last eighteen years.

As a *Renal HLO*, I assist with:

- Bedside visits to explain the hospital system and renal education with the Renal Nurse Educator;
- Language barriers;
- Liaise between patients and clinical staff regarding treatment;
- Organise family meetings;
- Assist and support patients with Sorry Business;
- Personal and family support;
- Coordination of care from hospital to home;
- Inter-hospital transfer assistance;
- Attend Renal procedures (e.g. Permacath insertions, kidney biopsies) for patient support.

### How long have you been with The HOME Network?

This is my first year with The HOME Network. I would like to have more involvement in the processes, but, like many others in the health sector am finding it difficult with the current COVID situation affecting staffing levels and workload.

### What prompted you to join The HOME Network?

As the Renal Hospital Liaison Officer, I have made this role specialised in this particular environment, and would like to improve my knowledge by working and liaising with The HOME Network Group.

### What projects have you been involved with?

I am currently involved in a project called SCATMAN – for patients who have had melioidosis and then onto trial an antibiotic. At this stage my role is to assist in contacting these patients, checking if they are aware of the trial and antibiotic, and then advise the patient that the treating doctor will follow up with a phone call.

### Future plans with The HOME Network?

At this stage my plan would be to have more involvement and better understanding of The HOME Network Group, and I believe that my unique role as Renal Hospital Liaison Officer at Cairns Hospital (for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients) will bring a new dimension to The HOME Network Group.

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](mailto: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 touch to learn more.

*And... stay tuned for more news about how we plan to support the sharing of ideas in the future!*



## Home Dialysis In The News

<https://homedialysis.org/news-and-research/news/home-dialysis-in-the-news>



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### 1. HONG KONG HAS 80% ON HOME DIALYSIS—CAN THE U.S. DO THE SAME?

*Read the full article:* Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Home Dialysis Use in the United States: Barriers and Solutions  
<https://jasn.asnjournals.org/content/jnephrol/early/2022/04/19/ASN.2022030288.full.pdf>

### 2. NEPHROLOGISTS NEED TO LEARN ABOUT HOME DIALYSIS, TOO

*Read the full article:* Speaker: Virtual home dialysis physician mentorship is feasible, needed  
<https://www.healio.com/news/nephrology/20220316/speaker-virtual-home-dialysis-physician-mentorship-is-feasible-needed>

### 3. SATELLITE PILOTS STAFF-ASSISTED PD

*Read the full article:* Opinion: Patients can benefit from staff-assisted peritoneal dialysis  
<https://www.healio.com/news/nephrology/20220221/opinion-patients-can-benefit-from-staffassisted-peritoneal-dialysis>

### 4. YET AGAIN—URGENT START PD HAS FAVORABLE OUTCOMES

*Read the full article:* Urgent start peritoneal dialysis shows high survival rate in integrated health care system  
<https://www.healio.com/news/nephrology/20220204/urgent-start-peritoneal-dialysis-shows-high-survival-rate-in-integrated-health-care-system>

## Acknowledgements

The HOME Network would like to thank the following people for their time and input into the development of this edition of the *Home Dialysis Update* Newsletter: Dana Windebank, Jerome Pong, Josephine Chow, Vanessa Jellic, Valerie Nancarrow and Kathy Hills.

We would also like to acknowledge our ongoing partnership with Kidney Health Australia, the Renal Society of Australasia, the Australasian Kidney Trials Network and My Chit Chat Time.



## About the Journal

The Renal Society of Australasia Journal (RSAJ) is the official publication of the Renal Society of Australasia and is the peak Australasian scholarly journal for nephrology nurses and allied health professionals to share their ideas and their research to promote evidence-based, high quality care for persons living with renal disease. It is a vehicle for on-going education and articles are subject to blind review by international experts in the field of the submitted work.

### Have you considered submitting a manuscript based on your research or QA project to the RSAJ?

Writing for publication for the first time can be a daunting experience but it is vital that we share our work with our colleagues and the RSAJ is a friendly safe space in which to do this. All articles submitted to the RSAJ are firstly considered by the Editor – is the paper of interest to the readership of the RSAJ? Clinical practice advances, research projects, case studies, educational papers and literature reviews that relate to Renal will all be considered.

So, if you have a project idea, talk to your colleagues, researching and publishing together makes the whole process easier, and less stressful! And if you are still unsure, read through the RSAJ back issues on the RSA website to see what sorts of things have been published previously – good luck!

Please contact **Dr Kathy Hill, Editor in Chief**, Renal Society of Australasia for further information via [rsaj@renalsociety.org](mailto:rsaj@renalsociety.org)

## Introducing HOME Ed!

A standardised presentation and meeting resource series to support educational meetings. HOME Ed aims to enable healthcare professionals with knowledge and resources to promote, educate, and support other healthcare professionals who care for Australians who are diagnosed with CKD and choose the home dialysis option.

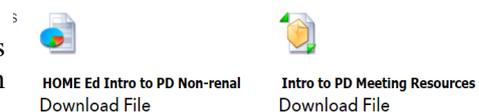


### ***What is included?***

- Core slide sets on key topics, including speaker notes
- Editable PDF templates to help prepare and run educational meetings: Invitation; Promotional poster; Meeting evaluation form; and, a Certificate of Attendance that can be personalised for all participants
- Facilitator/Presenter's guide to running a successful educational meeting using the HOME Ed meeting package.

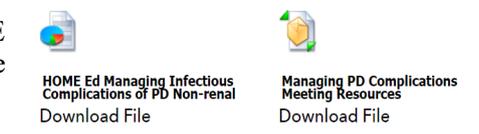
### ***How can I access the HOME Ed?***

The HOME Ed meeting packages is now available through the Resources Section of our website, [www.homenetwork.net.au](http://www.homenetwork.net.au)! More education packages will be added soon and announced via THN newsletter.



### ***How can I contribute to HOME Ed?***

If you have given a presentation that you would like to share via HOME Ed, please contact us at [admin@homenetwork.net.au](mailto:admin@homenetwork.net.au) to discuss how we can help.



*Rest assured; you will be acknowledged as the presentation author.*



## Calling for Expression of Interest to become The HOME Network Member

### **Are you a Renal Allied Health Worker?**

The HOME Network (THN) is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from motivated renal allied health workers within Australia and New Zealand to join THN as a member.

### **Minimum requirements:**

Previous experience working with patients from renal services with kidney disease undergoing Renal Dialysis, Peritoneal and Home Haemodialysis.

### **How to Apply?**

Interested applicants must complete and email the EOI form and provide a copy of their Curriculum Vitae (including two professional referees) by COB, 15 September 2022. Please email [josephine.chow@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:josephine.chow@health.nsw.gov.au) for a copy of the EOI form.

## My Chit Chat Time

THN Have collaborated with My Chit Chat Time in sharing how easy, simple and enjoyable it can be to prepare and make healthy meals.

Watch any one of the videos for an easy-to-cook recipe for someone with kidney disease, as long as you eat the serving size recommended in the Kidney Health Australia's Cookbook menu.

<https://youtu.be/yb12Vu98HfU>



## Targeted Education ApproaCH to Improve Peritoneal Dialysis Outcomes—Cluster Randomised Controlled Trial (TEACH-PD CRCT)

**Co-Principal Investigator:** Professor Josephine Chow & Professor Neil Boudville  
**Lead, THN Healthcare Professional Education Group:** Melinda Tomlins

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

Patients Recruited	Patients to Meet Final Target
1084	416

### Acknowledgements



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.

## Join The HOME Network as an associate member!

*We hope that you enjoyed reading this edition of The HOME Network newsletter; it certainly is an exciting time for The HOME Network and home dialysis!*

If you are not already an associate member, now is your chance to join us. New associate membership continues to grow as a result of our newsletter's accessibility. Feedback has been very positive and has greatly influenced as to how the newsletters are produced. *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.* 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 venue where you will learn about the commencement of any new projects, and is also *your* chance to get involved in a project that you feel passionate about.

*To join as an associate member, please use this link to enter your details:*

<https://thehomenetwork.weebly.com/contact-us.html>

*Please share this link with any healthcare professional who you think may also be interested to join us.*

The HOME Network's website at [www.homenetwork.net.au](http://www.homenetwork.net.au) is where you will need to go to find out about our past and current projects in this exciting area, not to mention that we have also added some great new resources and publications to this website. You can also email Josephine Chow (The HOME Network Chairperson) for more information regarding The HOME Network and the group's activities by clicking onto the "CONTACT US" tab.

If you have any news to share relevant to home dialysis, please email the editor at: [news@homenetwork.net.au](mailto:news@homenetwork.net.au)