

# Home Dialysis Update

A triannual newsletter published by The HOME Network  
Edition 21 — JULY 2024



## The HOME Network

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

By Josephine Chow, CF, Chairperson

Welcome to the JULY 2024 edition of The HOME Network (THN) Newsletter.

This Edition is full of energy and missions to achieve our goal towards offering our patients the freedom to home dialysis. Let us look at the upcoming ISPD Dubai Congress in September 2024. There is a lot of preparation, and if you don't believe it, just speak to me. Needless to say, I am looking forward to meeting up with you and your colleagues in Dubai.

Check out the progress of our 2023-24 projects and research studies.

To ensure that our message reaches maximum exposure, please forward/email this Newsletter to the PD professionals, and your patients, in your region!

Enjoy reading this edition of *The HOME Network* newsletter.



**WELCOME TO THE  
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY  
FOR PERITONEAL DIALYSIS  
(ISPD) 2024 CONGRESS**

### *Message from Josephine Chow, Chair of the ISPD Nursing Committee*

After many months of planning the **ISPD Congress in Dubai (26-29 September, 2024)**, this event is now just two months away! It is a great opportunity for the global PD community to get together to share ideas, learn and, importantly, have fun together. Do come along and be part of us in achieving its aims of: *“Peritoneal Dialysis – Achieving Equity through Universal Access”*.

Check out the program, <https://maarefah.eventsair.com/ispd-2024/program>

The pre-course sessions on **Inaugural Nursing Didactic and Hands-On Course, Catheter Insertion Training Course** may be of special interest to medical and nursing colleagues. Speakers in symposia are some of your long-standing experts, and there has been a special effort to include new and emerging experts in PD-related topics.

The **Public Policy Forum** on the Saturday afternoon focuses on enabling access to PD in different regions, including Europe and the Middle East, as well as addressing the challenges of delivering PD in difficult political and environmental situations. **Don't miss out!**

### **Grants for Inaugural Nursing Didactic and Hands-On Course Open to applicants from any LIC/LMIC**

A limited number of *Travel Grants* are available for nurses attending the Inaugural Nursing Didactic and Hands-On Course on 26 September, 2024. The pre-course registration fee will be waived. No additional support will be provided. For more information please access, <https://maarefah.eventsair.com/ispd-2024/travel-grants->

ISPD Associate Nurse/Allied Health Professional is a modality for engaging in ISPD activities and obtaining the most relevant membership benefits for these profiles: Participation on ISPD Committees, access to information and education resources, travel grants, fellowships, and, discounts for events and congresses.

### **One year membership US\$15**

Join today as a member, <https://ispd.org/join-ispd-nurse-ahp/>

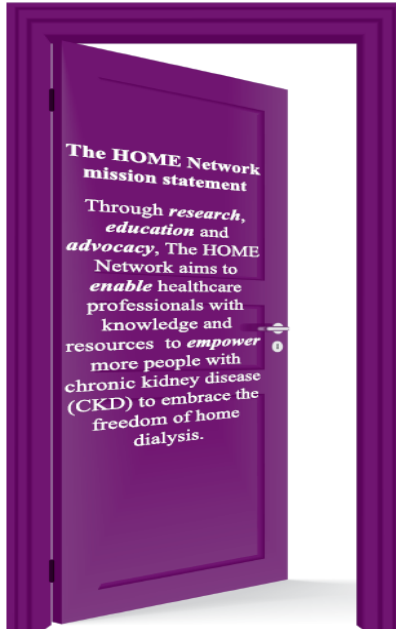
# The HOME Network: Who are we?

By Josephine Chow, CF, 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.



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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. Our members are committed to driving outcomes aligned with the group's strategy and working towards achieving our overall mission statement, which is: "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, as follows:

- 1) Improved awareness, knowledge and training about home dialysis for healthcare professionals;
- 2) Early and ongoing education for patients about home dialysis as part of a standard model of care; and,
- 3) Support for new initiatives and technologies that strengthen home dialysis utilisation.

As we strive to achieve world-class home dialysis care for our patients, we continually work on these three focus areas as part of our comprehensive campaign to drive increased uptake of home dialysis.

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## THN PROJECT PROGRESS 2024

THN has developed a strong track record of success and sustain initiatives for promoting the uptake of home dialysis. The growing positive reputation has added another booster for our work. Check out the progress of some of our initiatives (please note, we are all a busy volunteer group who have full time jobs and many other responsibilities outside of THN).

### 1. Allied Health Engagement Champion

Allied Health Services are often under-represented in renal units. With the success of allied health members recruitment in late 2022, we aim to enhance access and awareness of allied health resources for our CKD patients by, firstly, developing a video-based patient education package and, secondly, a pilot program to integrate it into standard care with a formal evaluation of its impact. *Target completion and roll out in late 2024.*

### 2. Our Community Engagement

Partnering with My Chit Chat Time, we continue to work on more recipes promoting kidney health. All recipes are being developed in consultation with THN renal dietitians. Please check with either your renal dietitian or doctor to ensure that it is appropriately incorporated into your diet plan.

### 3. Our Research Projects

#### 3.1 TEACH-PD (refer to Page 3 for progress to date)

#### 3.2. Dialysis Adherence Study

Following our preliminary qualitative investigation to understand how renal nurse practitioners construct adherence for patients undergoing home dialysis, we are now waiting for the Human Research Ethics Committee's further approval for the next Phase of the study.

Watch the space, and check out our publication:

\* Chow JSF, Collingridge L, Ramirez J, Byrne J, Calvin A, Rayment G, Simmonds R, Tinsley N.  
- *Constructing Adherence: Nursing Perspectives on Home Dialysis. Clinical Case Reports and Clinical Study*, 2024, 11(1); DOI: 10.61148/2766-8614/JCCRCS/173

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

Clinical Trials.gov Registry: NCT03816111



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

## Acknowledgements



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.

## Status – 98% Target Achieved!

Upcoming TEACH-PD baseline data lock in mid-July 2024. We would like to *THANK* all sites for accomplishing the immense task of scanning and sending the essential documents, and any open queries, REDcap.

Check out the publications related to TEACH-PD. What a great effort by so many of us!

- \* Multi-centre, pragmatic, cluster-randomised, controlled trial of standardised peritoneal dialysis (PD) training versus usual care on PD-related infections: trial protocol. *Trials*, 2023;24,730.
- \* Targeted Education ApproaCH to improve Peritoneal Dialysis Outcomes (TEACH-PD): A feasibility study. *Peritoneal Dialysis International*, 2020;40(2) 153–163.
- \* An intervention design: Supporting skills development for peritoneal dialysis trainers. *Peritoneal Dialysis International*, 2019;39(2):134-141.
- \* Teaching peritoneal dialysis in Australia: An opportunity for improvement. *Nephrology*. 2018;23(3):259-263.

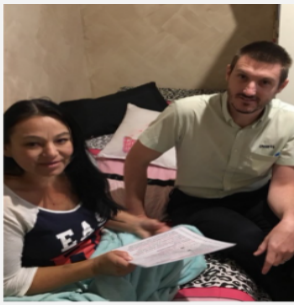
## AN INTRODUCTION TO PERITONEAL DIALYSIS FOR NON-RENAL HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

By Paula Woodward

I am pleased to announce that The HOME Network’s *Introduction PD: For Non-Renal Staff and Those New to Renal Care* is now live on the EMPOWERED online medical education platform at <https://www.empoweredonline.com.au/>

Sincere thanks to Melinda Tomlins for her collaboration with this project!

We now have our processes running a lot more smoothly, and so any new (future) modules with The HOME Network will be a lot easier and faster to launch... *Watch this space!*



**NEPHROLOGY** ATSI/indigenous health, Geriatrics, Primary care & prevention

**AN INTRODUCTION TO PERITONEAL DIALYSIS FOR NON-RENAL HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS (THE HOME NETWORK)**

**COMPONENTS**

- Introduction
- The function of the kidneys
- Treatment options for end-stage kidney disease
- The peritoneal membrane
- How peritoneal dialysis (PD) works
- Types of PD
- Infectious complications: peritonitis
- Infectious complications: exit site infection
- Other complications of PD
- Assessment
- Summary

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**




- State the basic functions of the kidney
- Describe the structure of the peritoneal membrane
- Understand the concepts of diffusion, osmosis and ultrafiltration as they relate to PD
- Identify and manage complications of PD, including peritonitis and exit site infection

**TARGET AUDIENCES**

Healthcare professionals who work in areas other than renal care, including Specialists, General practitioners, Nurses/midwives, Nurse/midwife practitioners, pharmacists

**MODULE DURATION**  
~ 30 min

**LEARNING FEATURES**

Review

It is time again to plan your professional development, networking and, of course, travel to near and far destinations.

Please refer to the renal/nephrology conferences scheduled for 2024/2025



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**59<sup>th</sup> Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology (ANZSN) Annual Scientific Meeting**  
**31 August–4 September 2024**  
**Adelaide, S.A., Australia**  
Website: <https://anzsnasm.com/>

**International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis 2024 Congress**  
**26–29 September 2024**  
**Dubai World Trade Center, Dubai, UAE**  
Website: [www.ispd.org/dubai2024](http://www.ispd.org/dubai2024)

**World Congress of Nephrology (WCN) 2025**  
**6–9 February 2025**  
**New Delhi, India**  
Website: <https://www.theisn.org/wcn/>

**62<sup>nd</sup> European Renal Association Congress**  
**4–7 June 2025**  
**Vienna, Austria**  
Website: <https://www.era-online.org/events/vienna-2025/>

**Renal Society of Australasia Conference**  
**11–13 June 2025**  
**Melbourne, VIC, Australia**  
Website: <https://rsa-conference.org>

**11<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Chapter Meeting of the International Society of Peritoneal Dialysis in conjunction with the 39<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Society of Nephrology Congress**  
**3–7 September 2025**  
**Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**  
Website: <https://www.ispdkl2025.com>

**2025 Asian Pacific Congress of Nephrology (APCN) Meeting**  
**5–7 December 2025**  
**Taipei, Taiwan**  
Website: <https://apcn2025.org>



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!*

## MEMBER PROFILE



**Name:** Hanh TRAN

**Role:** Renal Pharmacist  
(Team Leader).



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

I am a senior renal pharmacist for CNARTs (Central Northern Adelaide Renal & Transplantation Service) since 2014. I lead a pharmacy team providing clinical pharmacy services to Specialty Medicines Program including Renal, Rheumatology and Endocrine.

I am a member of SHPA (The Society of Hospital Pharmacy of Australia) Nephrology Leadership Committee, and I am also a lecturer at the UniSA – Clinical and Health Science Pharmacy Program. I am based at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, SA.

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

I have been a member of The HOME Network since 2022.

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

I have a special interest in service equality to home patients and those with barriers to access supporting renal services such as Allied Health; an area which, in my opinion, requires ongoing effort involving appropriate stakeholders and patient engagement. I advocate for a multidisciplinary approach in renal care and believe that pharmacy component in this group of patients can be further explored to address gaps for an optimised outcome.

### What projects have you been involved with?

I have had an affiliation with the CNARTs Home Network since its establishment and, over the last 3-4 years, have become more involved in clinical supporting/mentoring PD nurses and nurse practitioner candidates in their prescribing journey by providing PBS-related guidance and medication safety aspects of prescribing activities; I have been an active member of the new PD Start MDT Program since its inception, and provide outreach pharmacy input to new PD patients who can (or cannot) attend their hospital to receive the specialist pharmacy service; Participation in the Medication Safety Survey in Haemodialysis Patient Cohort generated the “New Start Dialysis Patient Education Tool”;

Pharmacy Reviewer of multiple renal procedures — Governance Member of Renal eMR (Electronic Medical Record) implementation panel at RAH, and the roll out of eMR to satellite dialysis units throughout the state;

Audit of dosing and TDM of immunosuppressant therapy resulted in the improvement in the rate of early acute rejection in kidney transplant patients: *Yew, Shiong Shiong; Carroll, Robert; Tran, Hanh; Coates, Patrick T*

The management of steroid-induced hyperglycemia in transplant patients generated a protocol: *Management of Diabetes Mellitus and Corticosteroid Induced Hyperglycaemia Pre & Post Kidney Transplantation (OWI)*. Protocol was published in 2020 (poster at SHPA MM 2018);

A survey of pharmacists’ knowledge of acute kidney injury in SA Health hospitals;

QI project: Digital solution for medication safety in CKD and dialysis population – 2021 intern project in collaboration with CNARTs dialysis units;

Education strategy for transplant recipients: “Do we have it right?”

### Future plans with The HOME Network?

Increase collaboration between the local networks to reduce medication mishaps, to support follow up during patients’ journey from post hospital discharge back to community or rural remote areas, and, optimise access relevant/available community-based services cost efficiency.

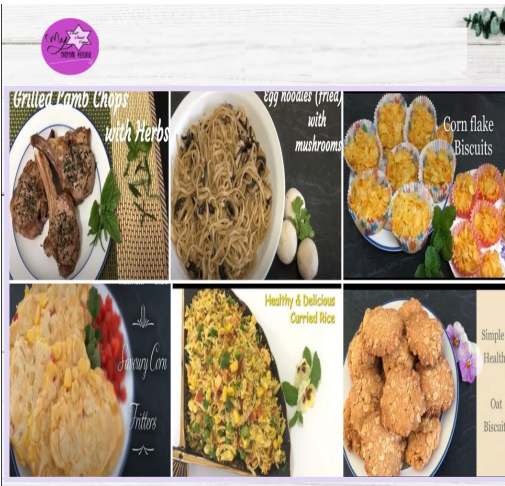


### YOUR KIDNEY CONNECTION

Get the latest kidney news, tips to live your best life with kidney disease and more! The Kidney Connection e-newsletter is packed with kidney health information, inspirational stories and the latest from KHA and the kidney community. With information on topics such as diet & nutrition, kidney-friendly recipes, the latest in research (including clinical trials), service & support information, plus so much more!

<https://kidney.org.au/contact-us/your-kidney-connection>

## My Chit Chat Time



### New recipe

Watch the new recipe on our website  
[www.thehomenetwork.net.au](http://www.thehomenetwork.net.au)

**Watch now**



# The HOME Network™

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The HOME Network is thrilled with our ongoing and exciting partnership with **My Chit Chat Time**, which has opened possibilities for sharing nutritious recipes for individuals with kidney disease.

We continue to work together on a new project that explores even more recipes promoting kidney health. All recipes are being developed in consultation with THN renal dietitians. Check with either your renal dietitian or doctor to ensure that it is appropriately incorporated into your diet plan.

Meanwhile, stay tuned for updates in the **My Chit Chat Time** YouTube page, as well as our newsletter and website — <https://thehomenetwork.weebly.com/recipes.html>

## ☆ 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)

## Acknowledgements

The HOME Network sincerely thanks the following people for their time and input into the development of this edition of the *Home Dialysis Update* Newsletter: Dana Windebank, Josephine Chow, Paula Woodward, Hanh Tran, Vanessa Jelic and all members of THN.

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.