

Home Dialysis Update

A triannual newsletter published by The HOME Network
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Established 2009



The HOME Network

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

By Josephine Chow, CF, Chairperson

Welcome to this year's last edition of The HOME Network (THN) Newsletter.

It is December, and disappointing that nobody has asked whether I am ready! As the end of 2024 is fast approaching, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your years of support of The HOME Network. Your loyalty and passion have been a constant source of strength to THN through what has been another "quick and swift" year. In this edition you can find out more about our initiatives, plus plan your trips to the various renal conferences around the world in 2025.

I am delighted to announce that in late October 2024, many THN members attended our much-anticipated workshop that was held in Sydney. You can imagine the excitement of huddling and greeting old friends - the energy was palpable! Stay tuned for more updates about our initiatives, and feel free to reach out to us to be part of the network.

Guess what! A number of sites/clusters of the TEACH-PD Trial have now closed and we can definitely see the end of the tunnel. Congratulations to everyone involved and all the patients who participated in the TEACH-PD Trial.

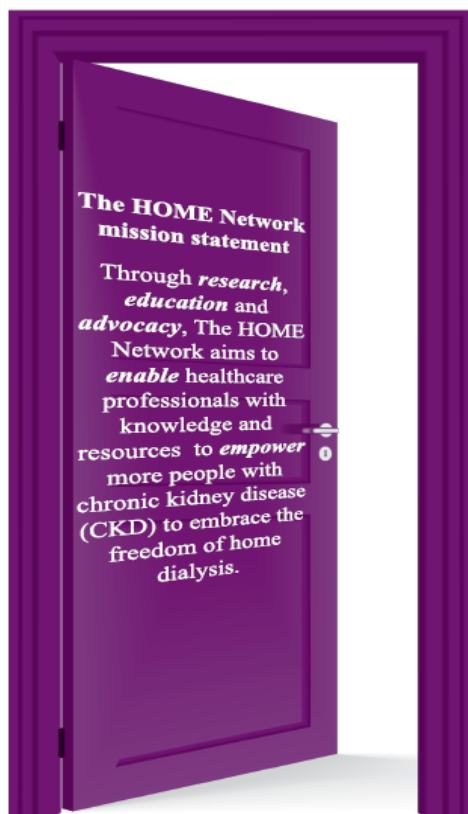
In closing, Christmas is a time for reflection, gratitude and the warmth of shared moments with loved ones. I would like to extend heartfelt wishes of joy, peace and happiness to each and every one of you, and thank you for your years of support and friendship to me and The HOME Network... *Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

Enjoy the reading!



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.

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) **Patient Factors:** Advocacy, education and practical support to address patient factors that inhibit the uptake of home dialysis with chronic kidney disease;
- 2) **Healthcare Professionals:** Improved awareness, knowledge and education about home dialysis for healthcare professionals; and,
- 3) **Allied Health Engagement:** A fresh direction that explores how allied health approaches can 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.



...*Guess what?!*

We finally resumed our face-to-face workshop on 29 October 2024.

Our annual in-person gatherings ceased during the COVID-19 pandemic and were replaced with a virtual version.

While the virtual version was a reasonable option, this face-to-face event has lifted both our spirits and momentum!



Sixteen members of The HOME Network gathered in Sydney for a few intense hours of planning. Beside providing an update of our current initiatives, we have advanced further on new targets. Please see below for some of the highlights:

1. Allied Health Video and the Pilot Program

The HOME Network developed a video that provides general information about allied health services and will be available to all people living with CKD in Australia and New Zealand, as well as being available to renal units to utilise in educating people about the importance of allied health services in home dialysis. We had a soft launch of the video and it is now ready to roll out as a pilot program in three renal units. Once the pilot program is completed, we will make it available to *freely* download from our website.

2. Medication Safety

In the above-mentioned allied health video, reference was made to medication safety, however, we still need to explore other opportunities such as consumers' perspective on medication management, shared decision-making and effective communication between healthcare providers and patients.

3. Health Professional Education

The members had an excellent facilitated brainstorm session identifying challenges in health professional education and solutions to increase the awareness and uptake of home dialysis. There were many good ideas and actions for us to work on in 2025.

4. Consumer and Patient Factors

The afternoon session focused on revisiting our previous and current initiatives to support consumers and patients in both shared decision-making and empowerment such as our video on our home dialysis patients, patient stories and many other ideas to enhance the uptake for home dialysis. We will conduct a two-step poll to prioritise project impact - referencing our previous poll from 2022 - and gather votes for project participation in 2025.



MEMBER PROFILE



Name: Joanna STOCKINGS

Role: Dietitian

What is your current role and where are you from?

I work in Home and Satellite Dialysis in the Hunter (under Hunter New England Health). I also work privately at both the Hunter Kidney Clinic seeing patients with CKD and also at the Fresenius Dialysis unit in Newcastle.

How long have you been with The HOME Network?

I have been with The HOME Network for two years.



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What prompted you to join The HOME Network?

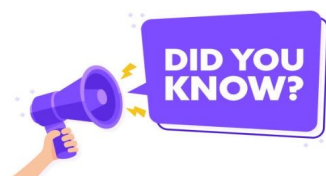
I joined The HOME Network because I saw it as a great opportunity to be involved in the education and support of patients on home haemodialysis, and to promote the role of the allied health team in what they can offer to the patients with CKD.

What projects have you been involved with?

Advocating the role of Allied Health and how they can assist the dialysis patients. I also review all the *My Chit Chat Time* videos to ensure that the recipes are diet-appropriate for our CKD patients.

Future plans with The HOME Network?

I would welcome the opportunity to continue promoting the allied health role in dialysis, particular diet, as this is an exciting, changing field. Nutrition is an important part of the management of patients on dialysis, and nutrition guidelines and evidence in dialysis is changing significantly. As a dietitian I would provide guidance to incorporate basic nutrition information into THN workshops, newsletters and other projects, as well as ensuring that the current practice and recommendations are up to date with the latest evidence and guidelines.



The AKTN PD Working Group is looking for new members!

If you would like to contribute to research directions in the area of PD, as well as collaborate with others passionate about research, **then we want you!**

For further information, please scan the QR Code or send an email to:

workinggroups@uq.edu.au

**Applications close:
20 December 2024**



Do you want to contribute to research directions in the area of PD?

Do you want to collaborate with others passionate about research?

Expressions of interest are sought for membership of the AKTN PD Working Group



Health Care Professionals



Nephrologists



Nurses



Consumers



Health Economists



Dietitians

The Opportunity



Generate research ideas



Review funding applications



Peer review research proposals



Develop trial expertise



Design clinical trials



Drive change



Publication opportunities



Work with experts

Priorities in AKTN trial designs and activities



• Grow the next generation of clinical trialists



• Implementation or de-implementation



• Impact measurement



• Consumer partnership at all stages



• Cheaper, smarter, faster trial methodologies



• Innovative technologies

To learn more about the AKTN visit aktn.org.au



For further information about the opportunity and how to apply, email workinggroups@uq.edu.au
Applications close 20/12/2024



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>

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



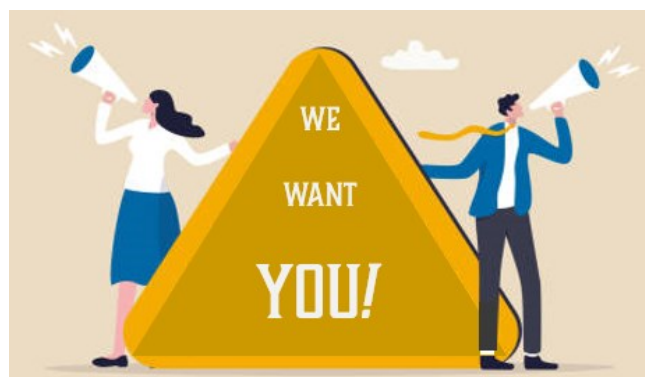
A pragmatic, multi-centre, multinational, registry-based, cluster-randomised trial (CRCT), randomising PD units to implementing TEACH-PD training modules targeted at PD trainers and incident PD patients versus standard existing practices.

Status – 98% Target Achieved!

TEACH-PD baseline data lock took place in July 2024. Site closing visits have also commenced. 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.



CALLS FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The ISPD Standard and Guideline Committee is looking for motivated ISPD members, from any region, to join the following ISPD Guidelines Writing Working Groups as either *lead or member*:

Cardiovascular Guideline (update)

Position Statement on Contributors to Carbon Footprint for PD (new)

If you know of any motivated ISPD members who can contribute to these guidelines with their invaluable expertise, please do not hesitate to encourage them to submit their expression of interest (EOI) for these important writing groups. The deadline for all EOI submissions is **Sunday, 15 December 2024**.

Please contact the ISPD secretariat with any questions via admin@ispd.org

Having a valid ISPD membership (or being an Associate ISPD Nurse/AHP) is a requirement to participate in the writing group. You can easily become an ISPD member now, consider [joining or renew your membership](#). For nurses and AHPs, please [join/renew here](#).



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 2025.



World Congress of Nephrology (WCN) 2025

6–9 February 2025

New Delhi, India

Website: <https://www.theisn.org/wcn/>

62nd 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>

60th Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology (ANZSN) Annual Scientific Meeting

1–3 September 2025

Perth, WA, Australia

Website: https://nephrology.edu.au/ocd.aspx?action=printsippet&snippet=pg_188&code=&menuItem=Future+ASMs

11th Asia Pacific Chapter Meeting of the International Society of Peritoneal Dialysis in conjunction with the 39th 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 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!

My Chit Chat Time



New recipe

Watch the new recipe on our website
www.thehomenetwork.net.au

Watch now



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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 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

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, Joanna Stockings, Paula Woodward, 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.