

# Home Dialysis Update

A triannual newsletter published by The HOME Network  
Edition 16 — NOVEMBER 2022



## The HOME Network

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

By Josephine Chow, Chairperson

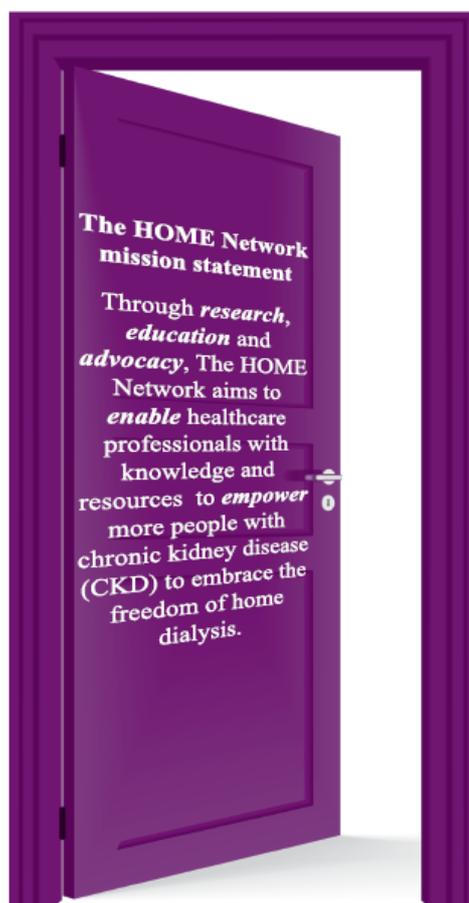
Welcome to our final 2022 Edition of The HOME Network (THN) Newsletter. In response to our recent expression of interest, THN is delighted to welcome five new members comprising of three allied health, one nurse and one pharmacist, all of whom – I am confident – will compliment what we have achieved to date. I am so incredibly proud of the commitment of the wonderful members of THN – past, present and (hopefully) future. The team's innovative thinking, strong sense of collaboration and expertise have inspired and motivated me. You can find out more in this edition plus feel the energy of our virtual workshop 2022... *What a wonderful workshop!*

One of the keys to the success of THN has been deep partnerships formed with our members, associate members, industrial partners, consumers, clinicians and researchers. I would like to extend warm and heartfelt congratulations for the outstanding achievements, particularly when you consider that we are all volunteers who have busy lives already. We trust that what THN has done thus far will benefit our renal communities to facilitate a positive change towards embracing the freedom of home dialysis.

In the meantime, please take care as I end this note with eager anticipation to seeing you in one of the many upcoming events, *in person!*

### 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.

**WELCOME  
new members**



The  
**HOME**  
**Network**<sup>™</sup>  
Educate, Enable, Empower  
Established 2009

The HOME Network is delighted to welcome five new members to our group, each of whom brings their own individuality and expertise in renal nursing, allied health and pharmaceutical support.

**Joanne Beer (WA)** - Renal Dietitian at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital

**Rebecca McMillan (Vic)** - Renal Social Worker at Barwon Health

**Lisa Shelverton (Tas)** - Nurse Practitioner (renal unit) for Tasmanian Health Service—Southern Region

**Joanna Stockings (NSW)** - Renal Dietitian at John Hunter Hospital

**Hanh Tran (SA)** - Senior Renal Pharmacist at CNARTs (Central Northern Adelaide Renal and Transplantation service)

It is in this forum that the sharing and exchanging of ideas and experiences can only enhance what The HOME Network seeks to achieve, and we are confident that our five new members will bring to the group a fresh approach with their combined knowledge and experience in the renal home therapies field.

A more detailed profile on each new member will be published in future HOME Network newsletters but, for now, we extend our *warmest welcome* to **Joanne, Rebecca, Lisa, Joanna and Hanh**, and look forward to their active participation in facilitating a positive change towards the increased use of home dialysis nationwide.

## ACHIEVEMENTS



During 2021-2022, The HOME Network had been working behind the scenes and achieving great success (*refer chart below*).

The HOME Network is determined to continue to focus on its mission, that is:

*To enable healthcare professionals with knowledge and resources to empower more people with chronic kidney disease (CKD) to embrace the freedom of home dialysis.*



COVID-19  
**publication**

**TEACH-PD**  
recruitment and progress  
(there's light at the end of the tunnel!)

**Adherence in dialysis**  
study underway

The new  
**THN website**

Launch of  
**HOME Ed**  
educational meeting  
resources and online  
learning module

Regular **newsletters**  
and a growing readership

Updated  
**telehealth kit** and  
**fact sheets**

**PLUS...**  
*... exploring education for non-CKD nurses, awareness and advocacy for home dialysis, revisiting HHD topics, supporting regional nurses and exploring standardising of practices nationally*

**My Chit Chat time**  
added to our website

And most important of all –  
**new members**, as we  
work together to make a difference  
for Australians living with CKD!

**Successes in  
2021-2022!**

# The HOME Network Workshop

## *The future looks bright!*

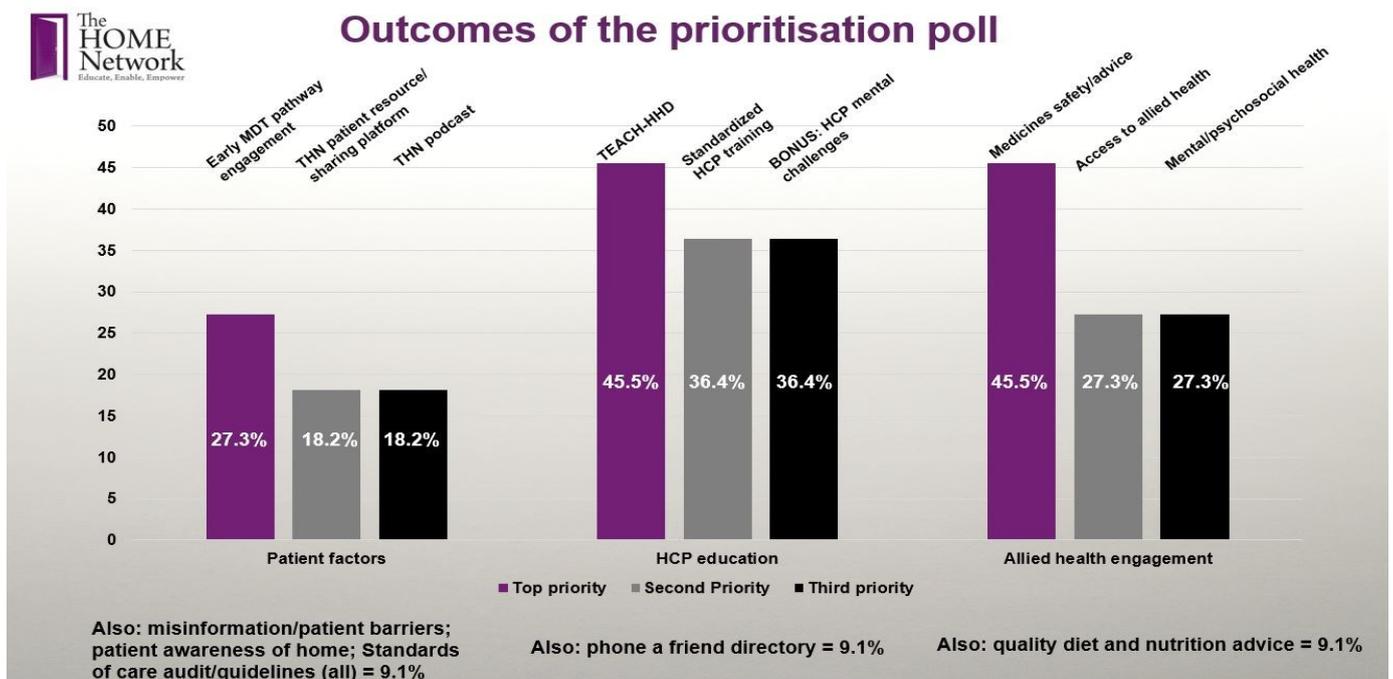


The HOME Network held its Annual Workshop virtually in November 2022. The theme was Black & White, emphasising "If not now, then when?". Paula Woodward, our longstanding Non-Clinical member/host, successfully ran the interactive workshop with over 70% member attendance (inclusive of our 5 new members)!



Utilising technologies, the interactive workshop focused on where we are now, where to go next, how we will get there and what we will do. During this workshop, members collaboratively discussed and shared their ideas in an open discussion format. This was followed by the prioritisation of the key theme focus areas via an electronic voting poll. The graph below shows the results and outcomes of the voting poll and the prioritisation for 2023!

With an emphasis on 'progress, not perfection', focus groups were formed to plan each focus area project as the first steps for 2023! This is truly a 'WATCH THIS SPACE!' Network, and we look forward to working on these priorities in the new year!



Finally, a big *thank you* to all The HOME Network members! Without your knowledge, expertise, valuable time and contribution, The HOME Network would not be where it is today!



The  
**HOME**  
Network™  
Educate, Enable, Empower  
Established 2009

The HOME Network is excited to welcome its newest members to the group representing nurses as well as increased allied health professionals working in CHF care including dietitians, social workers, a pharmacist and an ATSI Liaison Officer.

As such, we have introduced a new focus area to our strategic direction – **Allied Health Engagement**. This is a fresh direction that will explore how allied health approaches can strengthen home dialysis utilisation. During our recent virtual workshop 2022, brainstorming sessions identified a range of unmet needs and opportunities which included mental health, medicines and safety advice, as well as dietary guidelines for patients, plus improved awareness of allied health services and access – the latter being determined as a high priority.

A group of allied health members then convened a focus group session during the workshop to explore this further and define the first allied health engagement project with respect to ensuring that more patients were made aware about the allied health services available to them, and how and when to access these.

Consistent with THN's evidence-based approach, the group intends to develop a video-based patient education tool, and then test the impact of this in a pilot study to determine the efficacy of this intervention in driving improved uptake of allied health services and its potential to impact on utilisation of home dialysis therapies.

It is early days for the Allied Health Engagement group which will meet again in early 2023. The HOME Network welcomes all health professionals who are interested in becoming part of this project group – which represents a new and exciting direction for 2023!

---

## List of Renal/Nephrology Conferences in 2023

It is time to plan your professional development, networking and, of course, travel.

Please find below a list of the renal/nephrology conferences scheduled for 2023. *Enjoy, and travel safe!*

### **World Conference of Nephrology**

30 March–2 April 2023

Bangkok, Thailand

### **43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Korean Society of Nephrology**

27–30 April 2023

South Korea

### **Canadian Society of Nephrology Annual General Meeting**

10–12 May 2023

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

### **RSA 2023 Conference**

29–31 May 2023

Sydney Masonic Centre, Sydney

### **60<sup>th</sup> ERA Congress**

15–18 June 2023

Milan, Italy

### **The Transplantation Society of Australia & New Zealand**

17–20 June 2023

Brisbane, Australia

### **58<sup>th</sup> ANZSN Annual Scientific Meeting**

2–6 September 2023

Christchurch, New Zealand

### **ISPD Asia Pacific Chapter Meeting 2023**

22–24 September 2023

New Delhi, India

## MEMBER PROFILE



**Name:** Angela Folpp

**Role:** Clinical Nurse Specialist

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

I am a clinical nurse specialist in the Home Dialysis Unit in Bendigo, Victoria.

I have worked here for around five years. I have a background in both haemodialysis and critical care. In my current role we manage around 38 Peritoneal Dialysis patients that reside in Bendigo as well as many outer areas of regional Victoria. I work with a fantastic team and am really enjoying my role promoting Home Dialysis!

I currently live on a small property just outside of Bendigo, Victoria. I live with my hubby & daughter, along with our three horses, one cat and one dog (Heidi, pictured).



The  
**HOME**  
Network™

Educate, Enable, Empower

Established 2009

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

I have been a member for approximately 12 months.

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

I discovered The HOME Network whilst researching for assignments when undertaking my post graduate renal studies. I thought this was a wonderful initiative and a great opportunity to meet others that share my passion for home dialysis. I realised that there is so much more to learn about home dialysis therapies and thought it would be a fabulous opportunity to increase my knowledge in this area.

### What projects have you been involved with?

I have been involved with the *My Chit Chat Time* channel which was created to promote 'kidney friendly meals'. I interviewed one of our patients to give some feedback on the channel.

### Future plans with The HOME Network?

I would love to learn more about the following areas:

- *the Teach PD program*
- *green dialysis*
- *incremental PD.*

---

## 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://kidney.org.au/shop/books/dining-in-delicious-dialysis-recipes-and-meals>

This edition's recipe is **Savoury Corn Fritters**—*enjoy!*



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqMurV\\_pKFo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqMurV_pKFo)

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

ClinicalTrials.gov Registry: NCT03816111



# The HOME Network™

Educate, Enable, Empower

Established 2009

**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
1280	220

**Patient Recruitment will END on 31 March 2023**

### 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.

The trial is integrated into usual clinical practice and no face-to-face study visits are required.

Follow-up of the enrolled participants is unlikely to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.



Thank you to all the participating PD Units in Australia and New Zealand as we certainly could not have done it without you. Thank you to the participants, the PD nurses, the Nephrologists and the Global Trial Steering Committee, and of course our lovely Project Manager and Clinical Research Associates.

## 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://themenetwork.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)**

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.



The  
HOME  
Network™  
Educate, Enable, Empower

Established 2009

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!*



**A**s we head into the 2022 Christmas Season and welcome 2023, I want to take this opportunity to say a very big **THANK YOU** to each and every one of you!

**W**hether you are part of the THN members, associate members, or readers of the THN newsletters, *you are truly amazing!*

**W**hat a wonderful, yet once again, challenging year we have had.

**W**hile COVID-19 has not left us alone, its impact has been to a much lesser degree and with far fewer community restrictions than in previous years.

**T**he HOME Network newsletters are an opportunity to reflect on incredible work happening right across the renal home dialysis communities, however, they only highlight a fraction of the high quality and compassionate care that is delivered to thousands of renal patients every single day.

**W**ishing you all a peaceful, happy and healthy festive season.

**P**lease take care of yourselves, your loved ones and each other.



## 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 Jelic, Angela Folpp and Paula Woodward.

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.