



Dialysis Community Response Needs Team (DCRN)

Several leading providers in the kidney care community, including DaVita, Fresenius Kidney Care, U.S. Renal Care, American Renal Associates, and Satellite Healthcare are collaborating to provide adequate capacity for the temporary treatment of outpatient hemodialysis patients who are, or who are suspected to be, COVID-19 positive (isolation patients). Across their combined network, these providers aim to act as a safety net for any provider that cannot provide enough isolation treatments in its own clinics (DCRN or Team). The goal is to treat as many patients as possible in the outpatient setting, thus reducing the burden on hospitals and other emergency providers.

Due to the fluid nature of the availability of stations, staff and PPE, all placements must continue to be initiated through the Central Admissions processes of each respective provider. Providers will coordinate among each other to ensure placement of isolation patients as quickly as possible.

Process to place an isolation patient:

1. New isolation patients with no existing home clinic should be referred to the dialysis clinic or provider of their choice, using the Central Admissions Numbers below.
2. All existing dialysis patients should be referred back to their “home” dialysis clinic for treatment, using the Central Admissions Numbers below. This is vital to ensure continuity of care for prevalent patients, including those who have been diagnosed as COVID-19 positive. All providers participating in this collaboration are committed to providing adequate isolation treatment capacity for their existing patients as their first priority and preference. If the patient’s home dialysis clinic cannot provide an adequate isolation setting, the home clinic provider will work with other providers in the Network to coordinate an “under arrangement” placement through DCRN. Providers who are already part of the Team will coordinate this process among one another. Other providers will need to become part of the Team to participate.

To join the Team:

A provider seeking to become part of the Team must sign the Team agreement. In addition, the provider must commit to providing isolation treatments to its own existing patients as long as possible and to accept other providers’ patients in emergency situations and subject to the terms of the Team agreement.

To join the Team, contact Ken.Nelson@fmc-na.com or Kapil.Vashistha@davita.com. The DCRN team will provide details on the Network agreement, placement process and other operational details.

Of note: The DCRN was convened by the dialysis community exclusively to respond to the issues raised by COVID-19. The DCRN is entirely separate from and independent of the ESRD Network and any governmental agency.

Central Admission Numbers:

American Renal Associates: 1-855-556-6556

DaVita: 1-866-475-7757

Fresenius Kidney Care: 1-866-434-2597

Satellite Healthcare: 1-888-267-5888

U.S. Renal Care: 1-800-550-9664

If a discharge or transfer does not go through this process, it will disrupt caregivers from screening and treating patients and could result in delay in the ultimate placement of the patient. In all events, requests will be directed to Central Admissions teams.