Agenda

• What is this call about?
• Today’s speaker:
  ▪ Jennifer Andersen, RN
    Avera McKennan Hospital & University Health Center,
    Sioux Falls, South Dakota
  ▪ Topic: COVID-19 Dialysis Unit Strategies
  ▪ Questions and Answers (Q&As) from chat and Q&A panels
What Is This Call About?

• Hear from stakeholders and peers in the ESRD community who are adapting to COVID-19.
• Share examples and provide real-world strategies for facilities to use.
• Engage in weekly calls on varying topics.
COVID-19 Dialysis Unit Strategies

June 24, 2020
Jennifer Andersen, RN
Avera McKennan Hospital & University Health Center, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
COVID-19 Dialysis Unit Strategies

- We contribute our success to the following:
  - We were proactive.
    - Evening of Wednesday, March 11, we contacted all patients that were to run on Thursday and did a prescreening.
    - Thursday March 12, we contacted all patients that were to run on Friday and did a prescreening.
  - Along with the prescreening, we implemented the no-visitor policy, placed signs around the unit, and positioned an employee at the entrance for screening patients we could not reach by phone.
  - During those first runs, we handed out the CDC flyers on COVID-19, signs and symptoms, what to do when sick, and handwashing.
COVID-19 Dialysis Unit Strategies (cont.)

- Friday, March 13
- Staff started screening temperatures in and out with signs and symptoms; We followed the hospital’s plan and masked within 6 feet of patients and removed ancillary staff off the dialysis floor.
- We started planning for isolation rooms to be available for known exposures or signs and symptoms patients.
- We looked at different options for treatment. We decided it would be best to move patients around on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Last shift being COVID-positive. Treatment floor was empty by 3 p.m. and then the COVID shift did not start until 3:30 p.m.
Exposure COVID-19 Plan in Action

- March 24: First confirmed case at local meat packing plant—Smithfield
  - This meat packing plant’s health insurance plan is through our hospital, so we knew we would see patients and potential exposures.

- From this day forward we followed:
  - Mayor’s and Governor’s press conferences
  - Social media and local news outlet coverage of where COVID-positive cases were located in our city and counties.
Exposure COVID-19 Plan in Action (cont.)

- Social workers worked on updating places of employment for family members and modes of transportation.
- We contacted the transportation company when their drivers had tested positive; We did not wait to hear if one of our patients were on their route.
- We contacted nursing homes when they had positives to follow up on the patients we had in their facilities.
Conclusion

- We found that by being proactive and having a team that could listen to press conferences, social media, and news reports, along with calling businesses, helped us to have a head start on quarantining patients.
- We did not have any staff members test positive.
- 6 patients tested positive: 1 home dialysis patient and 5 in-center patients.
- To date, we have tested about one-half of the in-center patients, with 5 positive and 48 negative; The current patient population is 103.
- Our state has flattened our curve by 75 percent. The main county affected opened back up from a social distancing order on May 29.
- We are continuing to monitor closely after all restrictions are lifted.
Let Us Hear From You

Q&As from chat and Q&A panels
Introducing TheKidneyHub.org.

• New resource for patients and professionals.
• Secure, mobile-friendly web tool developed by the ESRD NCC with assistance from patient Subject Matter Experts (SMEs).
• Links to important resources, such as:
  ▪ COVID-19 emergency resources.
  ▪ Patient-created resources on transplant, infection prevention, well-being, etc.
  ▪ Educational materials for new (and experienced) ESRD patients.
  ▪ And more.
Our Next COVID-19 Quickinar Events

• Save the dates for our next events.
  ▪ Patient-focused event:
    July 1, 2020, at 5 p.m. ET
  ▪ Provider-focused event:
    July 2, 2020, at 5 p.m. ET

• Visit www.kidneyCOVIDinfocenter.com for information and to register.
Thank You!

NCCinfo@hsag.com
844.472.4250
813.865.3545
www.esrdncc.org

Additional COVID-19 resources for patients and providers:

www.kidneyCOVIDinfocenter.com

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