

Responsibilities

1. To evaluate and/or serve as the editorial committee, promoting patient and staff education about end stage renal disease (ESRD) and the ESRD Program from a patient's perspective as needed.
2. Active participation and input during PAC subcommittee meetings.
3. Report on PAC activities during MRB and EC meetings.
4. Actively provide input from patient perspective on grievances.

Goals

1. Identify and present the needs and concerns of renal patients.
2. Act as a liaison between the renal population and the Network.
3. Promote patient empowerment and involvement in their healthcare issues.
4. Develop and provide patient education to be used in the community at large.

Leadership

The PAC has chosen to have a Chair, a Vice-Chair and a Secretary. The Chairperson remains in contact with all members of the PAC and coordinates the agenda with the Network staff. The Chair oversees the meetings and teleconferences, while the Vice-Chair supports the Chair with these tasks. Minutes are kept by the secretary for distribution to all PAC members.



Heartland Kidney Network

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Promoting and facilitating high quality care standards for dialysis and kidney transplant patients in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska.



PATIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PATIENT EDUCATION SERIES

Background & Purpose

Persons with renal failure have served on the Network's Medical Review Board (MRB) and Executive Committee (EC) since the organization began. The Network's Patient Advisory Committee (PAC) helps the Network respond to patient needs and seeks ways to improve patient/staff relationships and empower fellow patients with information and educational resources.

The PAC has patient members from Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. They provide insight to the Network on patient-related issues and concerns that involve improving patient-centered care and quality driven outcomes.

INSIDE!

- ★ **How You Can Get INVOLVED**
- ★ **PAC Responsibilities & Goals**
- ★ **Membership Requirements**

GET INVOLVED - NOMINATE YOURSELF!

Are you interested in making a difference and assisting the PAC help others hear the voice and needs of yourself and fellow patients?

Consider getting involved by nominating yourself to become a member of the PAC. Call 1-800-444-9965 for a nomination form or download a form from heartlandkidney.org.

Below are the expectation the PAC has of its members:

1. Serve a 3-year term.
2. Commitment to attend two or three meetings a year; members must attend at least 50% of all meetings and/or teleconferences.
3. Ability to travel - meetings are typically held in Kansas City, Missouri. (Travel expenses will be reimbursed or prepaid if requested by PAC member).
4. Renal patient.
5. Ability to work as a team member.
6. Good communication skills.
7. Familiarize him/herself with pertinent

issues prior to the meeting and actively participate during meetings.

8. When responses, voting or opinions are requested, all members reply by the cutoff date.
9. Be respectful of the opinions of other committee members.
10. When unable to attend a call or meeting, members are expected to contact the Network staff (the PSC, then the QID or ED) to provide their comments to be shared with the group and after the meeting for an update.
11. Notify the Network when contact information changes (phone, address, email, etc.)
12. PAC members attend Heartland Kidney Network's Annual Meeting.
13. PAC members serve as editorial reviewers for patient resources.
14. Report out to the MRB (written or verbal).
15. Email and direct mail minutes to all members (secretary).

Be a Voice for Yourself & Your Peers!

Call 1-800-444-9965 and ask for a nomination form.

Visit www.heartlandkidney.org and download a nomination form.

Be the voice for yourself and the patients in your unit to impact the community.

Any incurred expenses are paid by the Network, so cost is not a barrier.

Actively influence patient education.

The PAC usually meets four times a year by either teleconference or face-to-face.

Help develop projects to impact the renal community at large.

Actively engage and encourage your peers to participate in their care!