



MEMORANDUM

To: Clinic Manager
Facility #

From: Shean Strong, QI Director
Lisle Mukai, QI Coordinator

Subject: **QI Mailing**

Date: March 31, 2010

Please review the mailing for the following enclosed items:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION/INSTRUCTIONS	ACTION
Fistula First Breakthrough Initiative (FFBI) Reports: Fistula First	Please review the facility-specific and Network-specific Fistula First Feedback Reports enclosed. These reports represent vascular access rates for incident and prevalent patients in your facility. Review the data provided for your facility's progress and opportunities for improvement as well as comparison with others in the Network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review data for opportunities for improvement. (Notice trends of all vascular accesses.) Network staff may follow up to discuss your facility's results.
Fistula First Newsletter: Volume 25	This newsletter will provide you with updates on the Fistula First Project through acknowledging and broadcasting successes within the ESRD Network community.	Review and share with staff.
Champion Vascular Access Facilities	The enclosed flyer lists all facilities with AVF rates that meet and/or exceed the CMS AVF goal of 66%. Facilities are encouraged to contact these units and learn best practices that have made them successful and allowed them to maintain improvements. A facility directory can be found on the Network 18 website at www.esrdnetwork18.org .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post flyer so that all staff including nephrologists can review. Contact facilities to learn successful best practices.
Change Concept #12 Change Concept #13	The Fistula First Breakthrough Initiative recently developed 2 new Change Concepts to assist facilities in improving vascular access care through the promotion of AV fistula placement and patient management. Enclosed please find a copy of the Change Concepts. More information and resources regarding these Change Concepts can be found on the Fistula First website at www.fistulafirst.org .	Review the new Change Concepts and discuss with your interdisciplinary vascular access team strategies to implement the concepts and incorporate them into your vascular access program.

Should you have any questions, please contact Shean Strong or Lisle Mukai at the Network 18 office at (323) 962-2020.

Mission Statement

To provide leadership and assistance to renal dialysis and transplant facilities in a manner that supports continuous improvement in patient care, outcomes, safety and satisfaction.