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Kidney Care Leaders Work Toward ‘Quality Blueprint’

KCP Gathers Leaders from Patient, Physician, Provider, Caregiver and Research Communities to Identify Quality Improvement Goals and Develop Recommendations for Medicare’s Quality Incentive Program

Washington, DC – Kidney Care Partners (KCP) has concluded a day-long “quality summit” involving 35 experts from across the U.S. The goal of the summit was to work toward development of a strategic national blueprint for advancing kidney care quality.

The blueprint is intended to aid in development of recommendations for Medicare’s quality incentive payment system (QIP) and priorities for internal quality improvement, research, innovation and public policy.

The Department of Health and Human Services’ (HHS) National Quality Strategy (NQS) aims for *better care, healthy people and communities*, and *affordable care* provided context for the agenda, and the Blueprint, once final, will be made publicly available as a report in the summer of 2013.

“The kidney care community has made significant strides in quality,” said KCP Chairman Ron Kuerbitz. “Development of a quality blueprint will be important as we work on the evolution of the QIP and as we continue to make progress on our internal quality improvement efforts.”

The focus on blueprint development follows KCP’s Performance Excellence and Accountability in Kidney Care (PEAK) initiative, which was designed to improve survival rates among first-year dialysis patients. To date, that initiative has reduced first-year mortality by 12 percent. KCP also has developed kidney care quality measures, some of which have been endorsed by the prestigious National Quality Forum.

KCP is the nation’s largest kidney care coalition of patient advocates, dialysis professionals, care providers, researchers and manufacturers dedicated to working together to improve quality of care for individuals with end-stage and chronic kidney disease.

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About Kidney Care Partners:

KCP is an alliance of patient advocates, dialysis professionals, care providers and manufacturers dedicated to working together to improve quality of care for individuals with Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD). To learn more about Kidney Care Partners, visit <http://www.kidneycarepartners.org>. To join the kidney health policy conversation, connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

