

NKF In Touch Extra

Information from The National Kidney Federation – supporting kidney patients, their friends & family

Date: 22nd October 2015

The NKF has had **two major successes** regarding issues recently reported on at The NKF Annual Conference, in Kidney Life magazine and IN Touch

Commissioning Dialysis Services

The threat of Dialysis Services being commissioned by CCG's instead of centrally by NHS England has receded. Following a long and hard fought battle waged by the NKF for over a year and involving KPA's we are pleased to report that NHS England has now published "*Improving Value for patients from Specialised Care*" – *Commissioning intentions 2016/2017 for prescribed Specialised Services*

NKF is relieved to see that there are no wholesale plans to remove Kidney Dialysis from the Specialised Commissioning stable – so from that point of view this is an NKF victory. Even Co-commissioning is not proposed, although there is some experimentation with Collaborative commissioning where Dialysis remains centrally commissioned but in co-operation with CCG's. It should be noted that NHS England (the central commissioners) now splits its work into National, Regional and Sub regional levels.

Changes that will go ahead are as follows:-

1. Renal in London will be Collaboratively Commissioned across the whole care pathway
2. Data is being collected to highlight service variations in Renal dialysis by Public Health England
3. Some renal services will be commissioned via evaluation schemes
4. Renal Transplant is to have a national Tariff
5. Collaborative Commissioning for Renal Dialysis will be proposed where there are links to Obesity and diabetes in an attempt to increase prevention across the CKD pathway

NKF is very pleased with this, as we seem to have prevented the downgrading of Dialysis from level one commissioning to level three commissioning. The changes that are being proposed make a lot of sense, and as London is a region in its own right (Under the NHS England new tier structure) what is now proposed is logical.

Cuts to the Dialysis Tariff

At a meeting with MONITOR on 21st October 2015 the threat to make swinging cuts to the Dialysis Tariff also receded – instead it was understood that the existing Tariff will be "rolled over" to next year – this also followed extensive campaigning by the NKF. The meeting further agreed that to ensure that the Tariff was fit for purpose in future years the following work would be undertaken :-

- Identifying a reference cost baseline
- Involving a 'working group' of stakeholders which can reflect the holistic patient pathway and the inherent patient support services of the MDT
- Incentivising Home Dialysis
- And assessing the BPT

The NKF believes this to be a sensible approach and is very pleased at this outcome

NKF thanks the All Party Parliamentary Kidney Group who supported the NKF in both campaigns.

www.kidney.org.uk

The NKF - the largest Kidney Patient charity in the UK
A federation of more than fifty patient charities, supporting kidney patients & carers

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