

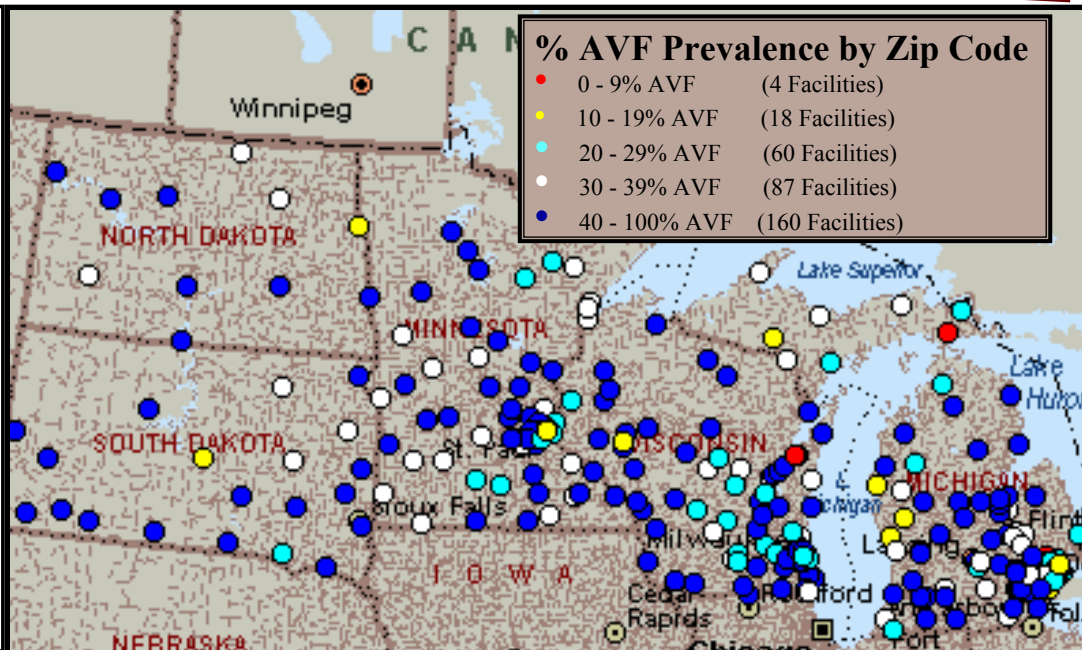
# Renal Network 11

# FISTULA FIRST NEWS

FEBRUARY 2006

## A Look at the data...

### Network 11 Prevalent AVF Rates as of December 2005



## Coalition Activities

### Upper Midwest Fistula First Coalition

As an extra step to improve AVF placement and use in our 5 state area, Renal Network 11 created a coalition of providers, state survey agencies, quality improvement organizations and others to implement strategies toward AVF improvement. Since its initial meeting in August 2005, three workgroups have now formed and are working toward the implementation of strategies to improve AVF within Network 11.

- **CKD Early Referral Workgroup**

This workgroup is working on a strategy to support legislation in all five states that would require laboratories to automatically calculate a GFR when a serum creatinine is ordered. This group endeavors to educate PCP providers about CKD and this initiative to achieve early referral to nephrologist and subsequently early referral to the vascular access surgeon.

- **CKD Management Workgroup**

This workgroup is developing a toolbox for nephrologists and physician extenders (NP/PA) which will facilitate early ESRD care and vascular access placement through the implementation of a CKD clinic.

- **ESRD**

This workgroup is collaborating with state survey agencies to create a tool to be used by state surveyors during the facility survey process to support AVF improvement and the Fistula First project.

## Network 11 Goals

**CMS Goal:** 4% increase in AVF **ACHIEVED**  
(31.3% December 2002 to 37.9% Dec 2005)

**NW 11 Goal:** 40% AVF by June 2006

## Coming Up...

- Data to all NW 11 facilities February 2006
- WI Surgeon Workshop March 23, 2006
- WI ANNA Conference: Cannulation April 2006

## Resources

[www.fistulafirst.org](http://www.fistulafirst.org)  
[www.esrdnet11.org/fistulafirst](http://www.esrdnet11.org/fistulafirst)

## Give us your feedback!!

Please submit success stories, feedback and questions to  
[fistulafirst@nw11.esrd.net](mailto:fistulafirst@nw11.esrd.net)  
651.644.9877

