



Using VISION at Our Facility



*VISION User Becky Lee-Kaffar, Social Worker
Sioux Valley Hospital, Sioux Falls, SD*

“Training for VISION and QNet occurred in January, 2005 in Sioux Falls, SD. Ideally we would have had our database to put on our computers so we could begin implementing right away but unfortunately we had to wait a few weeks to get a database, and then get VISION installed on our computers. VISION operates on an older version of Java than normally installed on our hospital computers. We were unable to send documents initially and it took a little bit to figure out that Java was the problem. Our IT department needed to be very involved in getting the program up and running at Sioux Valley Hospital and all of our outreach units.

There continue to be internal concerns about keeping outreach units online—our IT department [is very involved in] taking care of this. Tom Kysilko, IT Consultant at Renal Network 11, was great in helping us through the learning curve and was always encouraging us along the way.

One suggestion would be for Tom to talk directly with IT before training begins, to be sure everything is in place and implementation could

begin immediately after training. Clarification of the user authorization process is also really important [in order] to proceed in a timely manner.

Once the computer glitches were resolved, the program has been easy to use. As the Social Worker, I find that it's a little more time consuming because I have to get information from the patient, type the form, then print it for the patient and doctor to sign, instead of being able to get signatures when gathering information. I also wish the new version of the 2728 [form] had been ready to implement by June 1 instead of having to wait to complete forms until mid-June. The positive is that the program does not allow you to send an incomplete form and it's printed so that it's very legible. As our hospital moves toward computerized charting, this piece will fit in perfectly. The unit coordinators have found it quick and easy to transfer patients in and out and always have an updated roster.”

— Becky Lee-Kaffar, Social Worker
Sioux Valley Hospital, Sioux Falls, SD

New 2728 Issues

Question #18 a, b, or c on the new 2728 does not accommodate an answer for less than 6 months. If you intend to report less than 6 months, please write it in.

Be Sure to Use the New PAR!

A new PAR was released by CMS in June. If data is submitted on an old form, it will be returned to the facility and a new PAR will have to be completed. You can download the new PAR at our Web site: www.esrdnet11.org