Changes to the Conditions for Coverage Regarding Patient Care Technicians
Reference: Conditions for Coverage 494.140.e.1-4, April 15, 2008

Qualifications	1. Meet all state requirements. *No Network 11 state has specific requirements for dialysis patient care technicians*. 2. High school diploma or equivalent. 3. Complete a training program that is approved by Medical Director and Governing Body and is under the direction of a registered nurse. a. If the PCT has worked in the dialysis facility for <u>longer than 2 years</u>, retraining is not necessary, however the PCT **must take and pass** a skills test that has been developed by the facility and includes all elements of the new training program. b. If the PCT has worked in the dialysis facility for <u>less than 2 years</u>, the PCT must go through the new training program. 4. Be certified under a state certification program or a national commercially available certification program
Training program	**Curriculum must include:** a. Principles of Dialysis b. Care of patients with kidney failure including interpersonal skills c. Dialysis procedures and documentation (initiation, cannulation, monitoring, and termination of dialysis) d. Potential complications of dialysis e. Water treatment and dialysate preparation f. Infection control g. Safety h. Dialyzer reprocessing if applicable. **Specific information regarding available training programs** a. This program can be facility specific but the curriculum should be in writing with evidence of review and approval by medical director and governing body b. Tools available i. *Core Curriculum for the Dialysis Technician* 1. Download and print entire book or chapters at www.meiresearch.org 2. Printed copies available from Amgen: call 1-800-77AMGEN. ii. *Standardized Training Program for the Patient Care Technician in Hemodialysis - Instructor's Guide* and *Standardized Training Program for the Patient Care Technician in Hemodialysis - Learner's Guide* 1. Available through the American Nephrology Nurses Association

	2. Order on website – www.annanurse.org 3. Instructor's guide - $18.00; Learner's guide - $28.00 iii. *A Study Guide for Dialysis Technologists*, Third Edition 1. Available from the National Association of Nephrology Technicians 2. Order on website – www.nant.biz 3. $30.00 c. College level training programs within Network 11 i. Lake Superior College 1. On-line program for Hemodialysis Patient Care Technicians 2. Contact: 1-800-532-2883 ext 7601 or www.lsc.edu ii. Milwaukee Area Technical College 1. On-site college classes 2. Contact: Judy Theune 414-297-6728 iii. Chippewa Valley Technical College 1. On-site college classes 2. Contact: Ann Rosemeyer 715-833-6432
Certification	**Nationally available certification programs** a. Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission – *Certified Clinical Hemodialysis Technician (CCHT)* NNCC – 888-884-6622 www.nncc-exam.org b. Board of Nephrology Examiners for Nurses and Technicians (BONENT) – *Certified Hemodialysis Technician (CHT)* 202-462-1252 www.BONENT.org c. Professional Testing Corporation – *Certified Clinical Nephrology Technician (CCNT)* 212-356-0660 www.ptcny.com
Certification Resources	The Medical Education Institute (MEI) and the National Association of Nephrology Technicians/Technologists (NANT) have developed a CD-ROM of Presentations for Dialysis Technician Training. More information available at www.nant.biz/store.
Timeline	1. All patient care technicians must pass facility or college training program as outlined above. Facilities should maintain documentation of this training. 2. Currently employed PCTs must pass certification exam (listed above) within 18 months after October 15, 2008, i.e. by **April 15, 2010**. 3. All PCTs employed after October 15, 2008 must be certified within 18 months after hire date.