

T.E.E.C.

www.texasemergencyesrd.org

866-407-ESRD (3773)

Texas ESRD Emergency Coalition

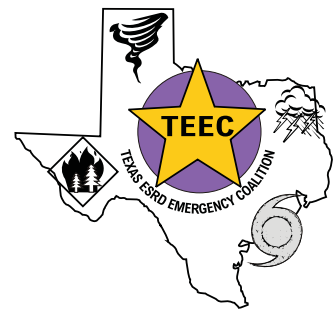
2009 Year In Review

Volume 4: 2010

As we look back at 2009 we can't help but breathe a small sigh of relief that there were no tropical storms or hurricanes that disrupted service to our community. However, we did have a new issue to occupy our time called H1N1. This new threat to the safety of not only patients but staff as well caused initial panic and confusion as to how this "pandemic" situation would be handled while maintaining continuity of care. Immunization requirements for patients and staff took center stage and we are all glad that 'Mother Nature' decided to give us a break and cooperate.

As we move into the 2010 storm season, we are forced to look ahead at the upcoming flu season and whatever else man or nature may throw our way. We can **all** take credit for being a part of an ESRD community that is better prepared to handle any emergency or disaster situation that could arise.

To all the dedicated volunteers working to achieve the goals of TEEC, providers of dialysis services, Medical Directors, Clinical staff, Dietitians, Social Workers, Administrative Assistants, Unit Clerks, Biomed Technicians and all support staff- THANK YOU for making Texas the best place to receive ESRD services, especially during emergency and disaster times.



TEEC

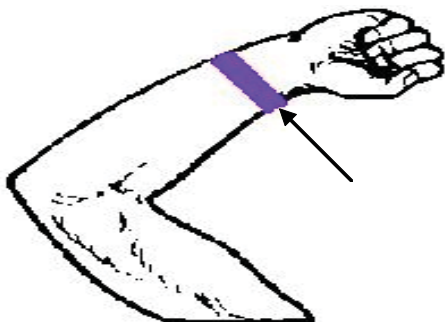
Steering Committee

Vanessa Guillory- chair
Balbi Godwin- chair-elect
Debbie Heinrich-secretary
Bryan Sanders- treasurer
Alex Rosenblum
Becky Heinsohn-advisor
Connie Oden
Derek Jakovich- advisor
Doug Havron
Dr. Jeff Thompson
Dr. Robert Leggington
Eugenia De Los Reyes
Glenda Harbert-ED NW 14
Glenda Payne- advisor
John Dahlin
Kelley Harris
Karen Walton
Mikki Ward
Minnie Malone- advisor
Narendra Singh
Steve Tays
Sylvia Spencer
Jeff Hoogheem- advisor
Kevin Burns Sr.
Michael Thompson
Geli King-Brown- NW 14
liaison



Mission Statement :

The mission of the Texas ESRD Emergency Coalition is to coordinate Planning, Preparedness, Response and Recovery to Emergency Events affecting the Texas ESRD community.



**Don't Leave
Home
Without It**

Wristband Project:

The lavender wristband project continues to be recognized by emergency planners Nationally. The project has been adopted by other states and recognized by DSHS in the State of Texas emergency plan. Instructions on how to order bands and what should be listed on the labels can be found on the TEEC website. Make sure you plan early and keep a current roster list of patient UPIN numbers. UPIN numbers can be requested in writing from the Network office. Fax requests can be sent to 972-503-3219.



Fanny Packs:

The purple fanny packs are available online through the TEEC website. The fanny packs should be used during an emergency evacuation to provide a secure place for patients to store medications, medical records and other small items that they would need away from home. The fanny pack also has the number to the TEEC command center and identifies the person as a dialysis patient. The fanny packs can be customized to include the name and logo of your facility, visit the TEEC website for more information and to order. www.texasemergenciesrd.org/tools.asp.

Transportation Assistance Registry (TAR) Enrollment:

The State of Texas maintains through its 211 service a data base for individuals that would require transportation and/ or emergency assistance during an evacuation. Every dialysis patient that would require assistance during an emergency evacuation should register through 211 annually. There are 2 ways to register, either fax a completed enrollment to the number listed on the top of the form OR by calling 211 directly from any land line phone. The fax form can be downloaded from the TEEC website.



Finding Help In Texas



EMSystem Compliance:

The ESRD community in the State of Texas continues to use EMSys-tem as their main database tool for emergency/disaster communica-tion and tracking of facility operational status. The facilities can also include emergency needs for staff and supplies. Updating this system is a monthly requirement. All new users are encouraged to download the user manual from the TEEC website and make available to staff and personnel that have access to the system. TEEC and the Network run preparedness drills through this system and periodically send out alerts to ensure proper usage and communication is maintained by users of the system throughout the year. This system is the key communication tool for the State of Texas.



Conditions For Coverage and Texas Rules revision:

There have been major changes in the Conditions for Coverage and the Texas Rules specifically dealing with Emergency/Disaster Preparedness and planning. Every facility is required to do drills and cooperate with the State mandated system for monitoring activity during a disaster or emergency, which in Texas is EMSys-tem. For more information on the specific rules or EMSys-tem usage please visit the TEEC website.

H1N1 Update: What's next with the H1N1 Pandemic?

The question on everyone's mind going into the 2010-2011 flu season is... Do we need to get vaccinated with H1N1 every single year like we do with seasonal flu? The answer is yes, but it will no longer require 2 separate shots, one for seasonal flu and one for H1N1. The flu shot will contain a strain of the H1N1 virus along with 2 other strains of influenza virus. The combination shot will provide the necessary coverage for all patients.



It has been recommended by the WHO that the 2010–2011 seasonal influen-za vaccine contain a strain of the H1N1 virus. Therefore for the 2010-2011 flu season the H1N1 vaccination will be incorporated into the seasonal flu vaccination.

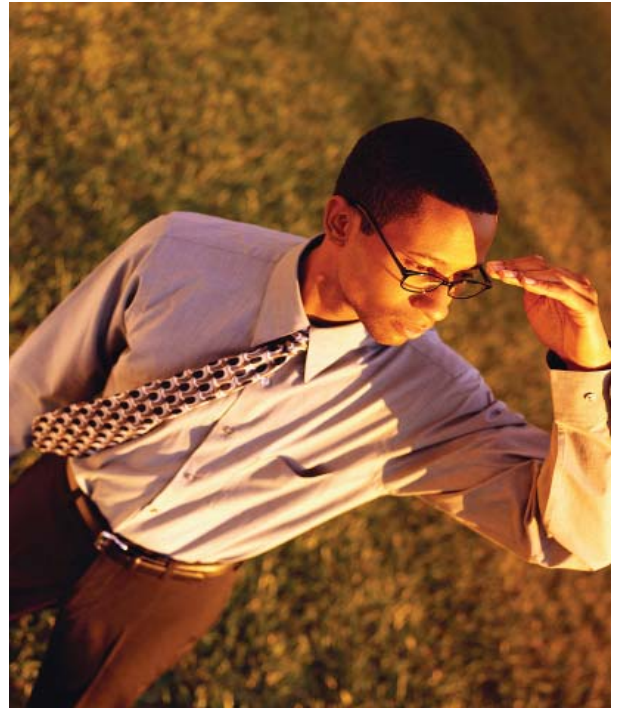
Should the long-dated 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine be used instead of 2010-2011 seasonal influenza vaccine?

The 2010-2011 seasonal vaccine will contain two other strains in addition to the 2009 H1N1 strain. For this reason the 2009 H1N1 monovalent vaccine will not be considered a substitute for the seasonal trivalent vaccine. The 2009 H1N1 vaccine would only be used in the event of a resurgence in the disease before the 2010-2011 seasonal vaccine is widely available.

Goals for 2010

TEEC continues to work towards its original goals established at the inception of this coalition. As time passes and the coalition work continues to grow and expand into other areas of preparedness activities and planning. TEEC is primarily focused on the following goals.

1. Enhancing the participation of the community and utilizing TEEC tools and resources within the State emergency/preparedness plan for Texas
2. Increasing patient awareness and education of emergency/disaster preparedness and planning
3. Assisting staff and facilities with preparedness activities and drills



Message from the 2009 Chair- Vanessa Guillory

TEEC has continued to grow and spread our mission to the ESRD population of Texas. We have a strong core team that has worked together to extend the TEEC education out to the ESRD patients and staff. Thankfully a quiet year for tropical events!

As you all know we had a quiet year with the tropics. We took the opportunity to fine tune our processes and reinforce community education. TEEC traveled the state bringing entities to the table in order to integrate the communities' resources for the ESRD.

Topic of 2009- H1N1

The H1N1 (Swine Flu) resulted an influx of information and education. The state of Texas mobilized the immunization efforts and ESRD caregivers and patients were priorities for receiving the vaccine. The ESRD network 14 was at the fore front with updates on the most accurate information for the ESRD community.

TEEC recognized the H1N1 epidemic as one that could have serious repercussions for the Dialysis patient and began its planning of such epidemic and we will continue this focus to be prepared for the possible reoccurrence and any similar future events.

TEEC received its first donations for the coalitions' funding from DSI Renal and liberty Dialysis and has galvanized its efforts for the contributions from the LDOs. TEEC has also gained new membership for both the steering committee and the general population. Our efforts will continue to be infused by the energy of our core steering committee members as well as that of the new members eager to serve.

TEEC would like to thank the ESRD Network 14; namely Glenda Harbert, Director and Geli Brown; Outreach Coordinator for its dedication to the mission of TEEC; we need and appreciate the support.