



ALLIANCE FOR HOME DIALYSIS APPLAUDS TRUMP ADMINISTRATION PLAN TO REVOLUTIONIZE KIDNEY CARE IN AMERICA AND OPEN UP ACCESS TO HOME TREATMENT TO THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS

*****For Immediate Release*****

July 10, 2019

*****Media Contact*****

Elizabeth Lee – (202) 466-8700

- *The American Kidney Health Initiative would direct testing of payment models to incentivize nephrologists and dialysis facilities to provide home dialysis treatment*
- *The Initiative as previewed in the President’s Executive Order is a much-needed overhaul of America’s kidney disease treatment systems*

WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 10th, 2019) - The Alliance for Home Dialysis today announced their support of the Advancing American Kidney Health Initiative announced by President Trump. The Alliance urges Secretary Azar and leaders within CMS to see these monumental goals through, in order to reduce mortality and improve quality of life for thousands of Americans living with End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), both now and in the future.

Kidney disease affects nearly 30 million Americans and is a leading cause of death in the United States. ESRD is the final stage of kidney disease and requires a patient to undergo a transplant or recurring dialysis treatments in order to stay alive. Studies show that some patients receiving dialysis treatment in their home can feel healthier, have a reduced rate of heart and blood pressure issues, and go to the hospital less frequently. Studies also show patients have better mental health outcomes, including social function. While 11.2 percent of dialysis patients in the U.S. currently receive treatment in the home, patients in other developed nations have access to home treatment at much greater rates. For example, more than half of ESRD patients in Hong Kong, Australia, and New Zealand dialyze at home. The Administration’s planned new payment models, designed to encourage home treatments, could allow thousands more the choice of dialyzing at home, with all the benefits that home dialysis modalities have to offer.

“We applaud this Administration’s comprehensive, strategic commitment to transforming kidney disease treatment and empowering ESRD patients to balance their treatment with busy, full lives through home treatment,” said Elizabeth Lee, Executive Director of the Alliance for Home Dialysis. “As a leading national organization focused on breaking down barriers to the provision of home dialysis in this country, we believe that the President’s plan to change payment and create new incentives for home treatment has the potential to improve life expectancy and quality of life for millions of Americans now living with kidney disease. Our members from across the kidney community stand ready to work with the Administration in their implementation of this bold, forward-thinking plan.”

###

The Alliance for Home Dialysis represents patients, clinicians, providers, and industry working to promote policies that facilitate treatment choice for individuals in need of dialysis, and to address systemic barriers that limit access to the many benefits of home dialysis. These issues are particularly important given that over 700,000 Americans are currently living with End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) and most of them depend on dialysis for survival.