



**Penn State College of Medicine
Continuing Education**



Kidney Updates 2026

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

**Handouts are intended for use by participants of this conference.
Unauthorized distribution or use is prohibited.**

**Any names or ages used on the upcoming slides are fictitious
and not referring to an actual patient.**

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, please inform Continuing Education of any accessibility issues you may have related to this document.



PennState
College of Medicine



1



Pennsylvania
Department of Health

4/21/2026

Chronic Renal Disease Program (CRDP)

Joshua Goodling, Program Administrator
Chronic Renal Disease Program

2

Contents

- **Chronic Renal Disease Program Overview**
- **Medical Services**
- **Pharmacy Services**
- **Transportation Services**
- **Renal Disease Advisory Committee**

Chronic Renal Disease Program (CRDP)

The CRDP is a state-funded program.

Program budget for the 2025-2026 state fiscal year is \$6,678,000.

- Pharmacy Services budget: \$1,494,589
- Medical and Transportation budget: \$4,958,411
- IT Shared Services: \$225,000

Overview of Program Services

The CRDP, through contracted providers, provides care and treatment for eligible adults with end-stage renal disease.

The CRDP currently assists with costs related to:

- Dialysis services;
- Renal transplantation;
- Medical management;
- Inpatient and outpatient services;
- Home dialysis supplies and equipment;
- Medications; and
- Limited patient transportation.



5

5

CRDP Eligibility

- All ages are eligible for the CRDP
 - If an individual under age 21 applies for the CRDP, they will be referred to medical assistance unless they are an emancipated minor or have provided documentation of a denial from medical assistance.
- Individuals must be a resident of PA for at least 90 days or show intent to reside in PA.
- Individuals must be a U.S. Citizen or a qualified non-citizen.
- Individuals must have an End-Stage Renal Disease diagnosis.
- Individuals must be within the CRDP income guidelines, currently 325% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines.
- Applications should be submitted to the CRDP Eligibility Unit and annually thereafter for renewal.



6

6

CRDP Medical Services

- The CRDP fee schedule for medical services is available on the Department of Health website at: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/health/diseases-conditions/chronic-disease/chronic-renal-disease>
- In order to have medical services covered by the CRDP, individuals must use a participating provider.
- There are over 130 participating providers representing more than 500 sites that participate with the CRDP.
- Depending on the CRDP cardholder's income, they may be responsible for a patient share of cost for medical services.



7

7

Medical Claims Payment Rules

- The CRDP is the payer of last resort. Providers must seek and collect payment from all third-party payers who may be legally obligated to pay for services provided to CRDP cardholders, including, but not limited to, insurers, Medicare or Medicaid.
- Payments will be made in accordance with the fee schedule.
- In addition to requesting payment for services, providers may submit a claim to CRDP for the cost of a patient's co-insurance or deductible.



8

8

Pharmacy Services

- These are administered by a PACE contractor (Prime Therapeutics), through a memorandum of understanding between Department of Health and Department of Aging.
- For medications to be covered, they must be on the CRDP formulary. The formulary is available on the CRDP website.
- There are over 90 medications on the formulary.
- There is a co-pay for medications:
 - \$6.00 for generic medications
 - \$9.00 for brand name medications
- Cardholders must use a participating pharmacy.



9

9

CONTINUED

Pharmacy Services

- The pharmacist may dispense a 30-day supply or 100 capsules/tablets per prescription, whichever is less costly.
- Seventy-five percent of the medication must be used before the prescription can be refilled.
- The CRDP reimburses up to 11 refills on a prescription within 12 months from the date it was written.
- If a cardholder is enrolled in medical assistance (MA), the CRDP will not reimburse the cardholder's pharmacy claims if MA provides drug coverage.



10

10

Medical Exception Process

- Several medications that are not on the CRDP formulary are available via medical exception.
- The appropriate exception form (available on the Department of Health website) and corresponding lab work must be submitted to the CRDP Drug Utilization Review Unit via fax or mail.

Medications available through the exception process:

- Auryxia
- Fosrenol
- Insulin Pens
- Nutritional Supplements
- Renvela
- Velphoro
- Sodium Zirconium Cyclosilicate



11

11

MEDICARE PART D PREMIUMS

CRDP Pharmacy Services

- The CRDP assists with the costs of cardholder's Part D Premiums up to the regional benchmark.
 - In 2026 the regional benchmark is \$32.71
- For 2026 the Partner Plans and Monthly Premiums are:
 - SilverScript Choice Plan - \$22.70
 - WellCare Classic Plan - \$14.70
- If the CRDP enrolls a cardholder in a Part D plan, they will receive a letter from the CRDP indicating which Part D plan they were enrolled in.
- If a cardholder is enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan (HMO) or if the cardholder has creditable coverage through an employer-sponsored retiree plan, the CRDP will not enroll them in a plan.



12

12

CRDP Transportation Services

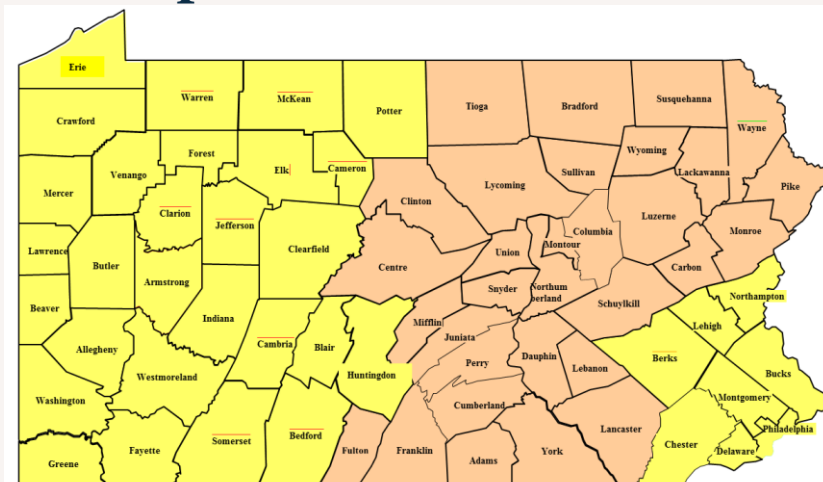
- The CRDP transportation program requires a separate application be completed.
- Once the application is completed by the cardholder, and if necessary, the physician; the application should be submitted to the appropriate transportation provider immediately.
 - The two transportation providers are:
 - The National Kidney Foundation
 - The Kidney Foundation of Central Pennsylvania
- After the transportation provider completes their portion of the application, they submit the application to the CRDP for review/approval.



13

13

CRDP Transportation Provider Service Areas



National Kidney Foundation of the Alleghenies

The Kidney Foundation of Central PA



14

14

CRDP Transportation Services

- The CRDP assists with the cost of three modes of transportation:
 - RT110 – Public transportation (bus, taxi, commuter rail system, or county share ride)
 - RT130 – Non-emergency ambulance
 - RT140 – Invalid coach
- Transportation assistance is only available for transportation to and from dialysis.
- The transportation providers invoice the CRDP on a monthly basis; receipts and/or other supporting documentation must be submitted for invoices to be processed.
- The CRDP Transportation Program application and fee schedule is available on the Department of Health website.



15

15

CONTINUED

CRDP Transportation Services

- The CRDP Transportation Program requires a yearly renewal.
- CRDP cardholders are sent a renewal letter and application approximately two months before their transportation program eligibility ends.
- The transportation providers also receive a list of the cardholders who are due for renewal.
- If the renewal application is not received timely, the CRDP cardholder may experience a gap in coverage for the transportation program.
- If a CRDP cardholder needs to change the mode of transportation they are utilizing, a new application needs to be completed and submitted to the transportation provider, who will then submit it to the CRDP.



16

16

Renal Disease Advisory Committee

- Required by the Renal Disease Act.
- Eleven-member group comprised of individuals representing:
 - Hospitals and medical schools which establish dialysis centers
 - Volunteer agencies interested in kidney disease
 - Local public health agencies
 - Physicians licensed to practice medicine
 - General public
- Meets quarterly and meetings are subject to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Law (open to the public).
- Each member is appointed for a two (2) year term and may be reappointed.
- Subcommittees – do not have to be an RDAC member to participate on a subcommittee.



17

17

Committee Responsibility

- To advise the Department related to the care and treatment of persons suffering from end stage renal disease who are unable to pay for treatment, care, and equipment on a continuing basis.
- To consult with the Department in the Administration of the law.
- Members will attend a minimum of three of the quarterly meetings each year.
- Meeting dates, agendas, and additional information are available online.
- Visit: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/health/diseases-conditions/chronic-disease/chronic-renal-disease/advisory-committee>



18

18

CRDP Contact Information

- Department of Health website: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/health/diseases-conditions/chronic-disease/chronic-renal-disease>
- CRDP Administrator: Joshua Goodling,
717-772-2762 or josgoodlin@pa.gov



19

19



Pennsylvania
Department of Health

Questions?

Thank you!

20