

## **QualityNet Exchange Overview**

The purpose of QualityNet Exchange is to improve the quality of care for Medicare beneficiaries through increased efficiencies in information exchange. QualityNet Exchange accomplishes this by providing secure, real-time communications and data exchange between healthcare providers and Quality Improvement Organizations (QIOs) or End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Networks.

Other features of QualityNet Exchange include education and training opportunities through online presentations and "Webinars" (seminars over the Web), as well as online collaboration and information exchange between healthcare providers and their QIOs or ESRD Networks.

### **Quality Improvement Organizations**

QualityNet Exchange provides secure, interactive applications for the exchange and input of privacy data between healthcare providers and the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) responsible for their state. Healthcare providers participating in this program have the capability to receive immediate data feedback, featuring comparisons to regional and national norms, as well as predetermined benchmarks. To complement the data feedback, access to an "information warehouse" for topic-specific quality improvement tools and clinical information to support quality improvement projects will be provided

### **End Stage Renal Disease Networks**

QualityNet Exchange provides a secure channel for the exchange of End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) patient-related data between ESRD facilities and their corresponding ESRD Network.

Dialysis facilities participating in the program have the capability to transmit private data directly to their corresponding ESRD Network and receive feedback reports from their network in real-time.

### **Security**

Security is ensured through two layers of advanced data encryption technology. The first layer utilizes TecSec's Constructive Key Management® (CKM) to scramble data on a user's computer prior to transmission. The second layer uses industry standard Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) technology to encrypt the transmission to the QualityNet Exchange servers. QualityNet Exchange has incorporated this technology seamlessly into the application resulting in a simple, user-friendly interface. Access to QualityNet Exchange requires the use of a digital certificate and user token (a password protected file with user credentials embedded).