

### For immediate release

March 10, 2011

Contact: Paula Alt

Medical Education Institute, Inc. 414 D'Onofrio Drive, Suite 200

Madison, WI 53719 608-833-8033

alt@meiresearch.org

# **Dramatic Rise in Home Dialysis Programs Expands Patient Options**

Madison, Wisconsin—The non-profit Medical Education Institute reports that, since 2004, the number of US home dialysis programs in the Home Dialysis Central (<a href="www.homedialysis.org">www.homedialysis.org</a>) database has doubled—from 3292 to more than 6500. As a result, more people who want to try a home treatment now have the option. (NOTE: Each modality a clinic offers is considered a separate program. Most clinics offer more than one home modality. The database does not track numbers of patients.)

### Home hemodialysis takes off

The fastest area of growth has been short daily home hemodialysis (SDHD): 2-3 hour treatments 5-6 days a week. In 2004, there were just 37 SDHD programs in the country. By March 1, 2011 there were more than 800; an increase of 2065%!

The number of programs offering other types of home dialysis has also increased:

- Conventional home hemodialysis (3x/week) is up 200% (from 294 programs to 889).
- Nocturnal home hemodialysis programs increased by 575% (from 73 to 493).

The number of peritoneal dialysis (PD) programs has grown as well: in 2011, 40% of all US dialysis clinics offer PD—up from 30% in 2004.

## Home program database

The Home Dialysis Central database (<a href="http://www.homedialysis.org/locate/">http://www.homedialysis.org/locate/</a>), started in 2004 when the site launched, was designed to help people find home treatment programs. It can be searched by city, state, zip code, and treatment option and has a Google mapping function and US coverage maps for each modality. Last year, more than 12,300 people used this database to search for a home program.

## **About Home Dialysis Central**

Home Dialysis Central (<a href="www.homedialysis.org">www.homedialysis.org</a>) aims to raise awareness and use of home dialysis treatments—both PD and HD. The site was created and is maintained by the nonprofit Medical Education Institute, Inc. Support from multiple sponsors makes this effort possible.