

NEWS

ISN CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

ISN

ISN NEWS 32 February 2010



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Advancing Nephrology around the World Celebrating 50 Years

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AMGEN



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BREAKING NEWS

You can help:

Nephrologists and intensive care specialists who are interested in enrolling as volunteers for the RDRTF should contact the ISN Global Operations Center at info@isn-online.org

Ensuring kidney relief for the victims of the Haiti earthquake The ISN Renal Disaster Relief Task Force is in motion once again

An assessment team from the ISN Renal Disaster Relief Task Force (RDRTF) has entered Haiti on 15th January via Santo Domingo on the flight from Paris. The team included one doctor, R. Caluwe and one nurse, S. Claus from the hospital of Ghent, Belgium and is working in close collaboration with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). A second team including one renal nurse, S. Maddens and one dialysis technician, P. Stockman with further equipment reached Port-au-Prince the 17th January.

A further two teams composed of one volunteer nephrologist (Dr. J. Vanmassenhove, Belgium), four renal nurses (N. Eyhartz and D. Borniche, France; V. De Preester, M. Struelens, Belgium), one intensivist (N. Gibney, Canada), and one dialysis technician (JP. Garcia-Perez, France) have also arrived. The last team will concentrate on screening and infectious cases.

It goes without saying that these are the most extreme disaster conditions the RDRTF has ever been faced with during its existence. Fortunately, it can rely on the excellent logistic support of MSF. The RDRTF is also grateful for all the help and support it has received from colleagues all over the world. But structural chaos together with a disaster of unseen dimensions makes progress extremely difficult. Nevertheless, all these tiny acts of support together will help save a substantial number of lives.

The ISN President, Bernardo Rodríguez-Iturbe, is personally involved in coordinating efforts across the various scientific societies and organizations (SLANH, the Dominican Society of Nephrology, some of the dialysis manufacturers and of course the ISN members from Haiti and the Dominican Republic).

About ISN RDRTF

The ISN's Renal Disaster Relief Task Force (RDRTF) provides essential medical care to people in the wake of natural disasters. The Task Force consists of a worldwide network of experts in the management of patients with acute renal failure. It was created after the severe earthquake in Armenia in 1988 to provide future renal aid in action wherever needed around the globe. For more information on RDRTF visit the ISN Gateway.



ISN News

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VISION Bernardo Rodríguez-Iturbe



The last 50 years have seen a significant shift in the role of the International Society of Nephrology in regards to the worldwide renal community.

The roots of our organization sought to assure that the latest research and practices were clearly disseminated throughout the world in an efficient manner and to provide a culture of growth that allowed these ideas to flourish. Through *Kidney International*, *ISN News*, our World Congresses and other sponsored events, ISN has worked to be at the forefront of this technology.

Through the decades the goal of ISN has evolved into something more than an informative Society. Our pursuit of the worldwide dissemination of renal-care knowledge and resources showed us the great depths of disparities between developed and developing countries. It was out of this insight that the Commission for the Global Advancement of Nephrology (COMGAN) was born.

As we were made aware of the need of these centers, we were forced to face the demand of those they were trying to help. Along with our COMGAN programs, World Kidney Day has developed over the last few years into a major platform to increase public awareness worldwide. We are excited to see the continued growth and development of WKD as each year we see tremendous expansion.

In the next 50 years we look to enact a greater 'hands-on' approach and help achieve optimal care of people with kidney disease throughout the entire world. We believe that the success of our programs and the overall support of the entire renal community will enable us to make this vision a reality.

ISN 50th Anniversary

50 years after the ISN boat was launched on the placid Geneva lake, we are proud to say that ISN has successfully crossed many turbulent waters and is still at the forefront of nephrology, working with members from more than 120 countries to advance nephrology in the developing and developed world. Stay tuned for many exciting initiatives that will not only celebrate achievements, but more importantly communicate ISN's vision for the next 50 years.

John Feehally
President Elect

"As we go forward into the next 50 years, it is likely that our programs will seek to better address the team approach to CKD by including a greater emphasis on non-nephrologist renal care providers."



William Couser
ISN COMGAN Chair

"I anticipate that moving forward, ISN educational activities will include digital venues that can bring relevant material to ever expanding audiences, that the role of COMGAN regional committees and ISN affiliated local societies will grow more important and that the goal of developing centers of excellence in each region will be achieved."



ISN 1960-2010

Advancing Nephrology around the World Celebrating 50 Years

RDATF team in the field in Iran

Adeera Levin
Secretary General

“In order for ISN to effectively increase our outreach activities, we will need to increase our visibility throughout the renal community. I expect ISN to increase attendance at national meetings across the globe.”



Luca Segantini
Executive Director

“Together with the whole ISN team, I’ll do my very best to ensure that ISN continues to build its unique humanitarian activities. Making sure people understand the real soul of ISN will be an integral part of these efforts which can be achieved by better communicating what we do.”



Carol Pollock
ISN News Editor

“Since 1960, when dialysis and transplantation were very much ‘experimental’ and renal failure was generally a death sentence, terrific progress has been made, and chronic kidney disease is now being seen as a preventable and very treatable condition. With the world becoming a much smaller place over the last 50 years and globalisation of business, technology and indeed medicine, the ISN is likely to play a central role in facilitating universal access to care and equity of outcomes in patients with renal failure.”



Doctors Remuzzi and Gennarini, Italy © CodaScope



The Lasting Effects of ISN COMGAN

The ISN global outreach programs provided through the Commission for the Global Advancement of Nephrology (COMGAN) represent the core of the ISN commitment to advance nephrology in the developing world through research and education. In just a few years, COMGAN programs have delivered substantial benefits and will remain the most important component in fulfilling the ISN mission.

ISN COMGAN is the largest organized set of global outreach programs provided by any international medical subspecialty society.

Dr. Glendah Kalunga, becoming the 2nd Nephrologist in Zambia through ISN Fellowship © CodeScope



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Looking at the Numbers

- 1 **The COMGAN Continuing Medical Education Program** activities have reached 14,000 renal health care providers in the developing world each year.
- 2 **ISN Fellowships** have trained over 400 nephrologists from developing countries that have later gone on to leadership positions in their own regions.
- 3 **Sister Renal Center Program** has been expanded to provide funding as well as other educational services for over 30 sister-center pairs each year. The goal of generating independent centers capable of research and training in every region of the developing world is being achieved.
- 4 **The COMGAN Research and Prevention Program** has implemented 28 research, prevention and screening programs in 19 emerging countries to ensure early detection and management of non-communicable diseases, especially chronic, hypertension, diabetes and cardio-vascular diseases.
- 5 **The Kidney Disease Data Center** in Bergamo, Italy, is now following and analyzing data from over 40,000 individuals recruited through the prevention grant programs.
- 6 **The COMGAN Research and Prevention program** has been selected to head the renal data collection and analysis aspects of the WHO Global Burden of Disease project.
- 7 In 2010, the **COMGAN Educational Ambassadors Program** will be launched in order to send experts to developing centers for visits of 1-2 weeks.



World Congress of Nephrology

8-12 April 2011

Vancouver

British Columbia, Canada

Mark the date in
your calendar and
look out for further
announcements
from the ISN
WCN 2011 team!

Sustainability and Diversity

ISN is pleased to be working with the Canadian Society of Nephrology (CSN) to host the 2011 World Congress of Nephrology in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada on April 8-12, 2011.

The WCN 2011 – Sustainability and Diversity, will highlight not only the ecological awareness of green initiatives to reduce our impact on our environment, but it will also outline the importance of sustainability and diversity of renal science and renal patient care throughout the world. Canada's experience with diversity distinguishes it from most other countries. Canada's inhabitants reflect a cultural, ethnic and linguistic makeup found nowhere else on earth, a true cultural mosaic. Respect for diversity is becoming a priority for more and more countries around the world, and Canada favors it within and beyond its own borders. Canada's approach to diversity is based on the belief that the common good is best served when everyone is accepted and respected for who they are.

WCN 2011 will strengthen and support the world's community of nephrology. The Scientific Committee is committed to bringing together education and training that will advance the understanding of the global burden of kidney disease and provide guidance and support vital to advancing nephrology in developing countries. The WCN 2011 program addresses eight scientific themes, offers CNE courses, Interventional Nephrology Courses and will present eight keynote addresses throughout the conference. The program will be augmented with abstracts both oral and poster presentations as well as an exposition presenting companies who provide products and services to renal professionals worldwide.

WCN 2011 Keynote presentations will be:

- **Human Origins from Mitochondrial DNA**
Doug Wallace
- **Transplant and Dialysis**
David Sachs and Robin Eady
- **Nephrology in Indigenous People**
Wendy Hoy
- **Rare Renal Diseases**
Fiona Karet
- **Preeclampsia**
S. Ananth Karumanchi
- **Autoimmune Basis of Diabetes or Lupus**
Carola Garcia De Vinuesa
- **Hypoxia, Renal Progression**
Masayuki Yamamoto
- **Glomerulonephritis**
David Salant



World Kidney Day Making a Difference

Dr. Sanjib Kumar Sharma

A World Kidney Day Outstanding Achiever

For many years, Dr. Sharma has been a driving force in Nepal to organise World Kidney Day awareness activities. In 2009, his efforts were instrumental in organizing and executing the Healthy Kidney Healthy Heart - Made for Each Other, Bring Your Pressure Down program that took place in multiple cities and semi-urban areas throughout Nepal including Dharan, Damak, Biratnagar, Dhankuta, Itahari and Tarahara.

The public education and awareness program took place throughout the month of March which included a seminar on KHDC* to emphasize early detection and management of CKD and its risk factors. Through the help of local organizers, World Kidney Day efforts included a prevention rally, pamphlets, documentary, media coverage from local TV, radio and journalists.

Additionally, there has been a concerted effort to go above and beyond the World Kidney Day efforts and to actively reach out to those in Nepal most vulnerable to CKD. Sharma and his colleagues initiated a door-to-door campaign to the population of eastern Nepal to better educate them on the importance of early detection and assessed their risk factors for last few years. This is all the more important in Nepal, a country where nephrologists are all concentrated in the capital, and where there is no access to care for most people.

*ISN Program for Detection and Management of Chronic Kidney Disease, Hypertension, Diabetes, and Cardiovascular Disease in Developing Countries (KHDC).

With the help of local organizers and volunteers, 30,000 people have been screened for kidney disease, diabetes, hypertension and lipid disorder.

Unfortunately, it remains an uphill battle. Many in Nepal with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) never reach a nephrologist and those that do can scarcely afford the treatment. 60% of those receiving dialysis are forced to stop treatment within the first three months. The few that are lucky enough to receive a transplant find the financial demands to be too much and cannot continue the necessary immunosuppressive drugs.

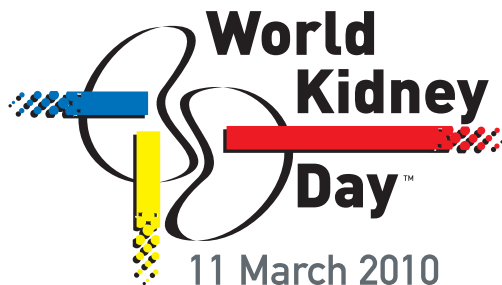
Dr. Sharma is working to create a free pharmacy store for these people receiving aid from pharmaceutical companies, physician samples and private donors. The efforts have been well received by those that have been assisted and many of them joined as volunteers to help continue the effort. Thanks to Dr. Sharma's involvement around the World Kidney Day campaign, many patients were detected early, treated and are in remission.



Dr. Sharma screening for kidney disease in Nepal © CodaScope

Amazing Kidneys!

Are yours
healthy?



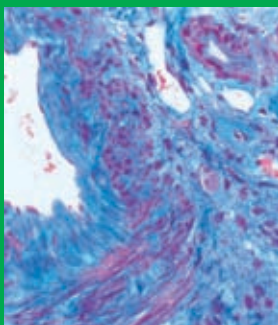
www.worldkidneyday.org

World Kidney Day is an initiative
of the International Society
of Nephrology and the International
Federation of Kidney Foundations.



ISN nexus

LINKING RESEARCH TO PRACTICE



Mark your calendar for the ISN Nexus Symposium 2010

The Kidney and the Vascular System:
Emerging Culprits in Pathogenesis and
Advances in Therapy

April 15-18, 2010 / Kyoto, Japan

This Nexus symposium addresses recent advances of translational research and clinical medicine on the intriguing links between the kidney and extra-renal vascular system. Newer culprits involved in vascular alterations, such as mineral metabolism, oxygen disorders, adipobiology, pointed by recent cutting-edge discoveries, will be highlighted to better understand pathologies of cardio-renal syndrome and bone-vascular connection, as well as identify promising targets for innovative, future therapies.

Translational Sessions

- Mineral Metabolism
- Oxygen Disorders
- Adiposcience
- Promising Targets for Future Therapy

Clinical Sessions

- Cardio-renal Syndrome
- Bone-Vascular connection
- Renovascular benefits of cardiovascular drugs
- Recent Therapeutic Advances

**Late
Registration
Deadline**

15 March 2010

For more information:
www.isn-online.org/nexus

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Hirofumi Makino (Japan)
President of the
Japanese Society
of Nephrology (JSN)

Co-Chairs

Eberhard Ritz (Germany)
Past-President of the
International Society
of Nephrology (ISN)

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Society of Dialysis
Therapy (JSDT)

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Advancing Nephrology around the World

NEXUS KYOTO

Addressing Recent Advancements and Links Between Kidney, Bone and Vascular System

The Nexus Symposium in Kyoto, Japan 'The Kidney and the Vascular System: Emerging Culprits in Pathogenesis and Advances in Therapy' will address recent advances of translational research and clinical medicine on the intriguing links among the kidney, bone and vascular system.

Disturbances in mineral metabolism are associated with CKD and are implicated in bone disease, atherogenesis and CVD. Vascular calcification and bone-vascular connection will be among the discussion topics. The program also contains the latest updates on vitamin D and FGF2 studies. With the recent focus on abnormal oxygen metabolism and oxidative stress research in both CKD and the CVD field, Nexus Kyoto looks at how to break the vicious cycle of organ damage affecting both the kidney and the heart.

Nexus Kyoto will also address the role that obesity and abnormal lipid metabolism play in CKD and CVD. The program will highlight the recent advances in adipocyte biology and adipocytokine research, as well as clinical perspectives of the metabolic syndrome in relation to CKD and CVD.

Highlighted at this event will be the 'Meet the Professor Breakfast', an outstanding forum for young nephrologists and scientists to actively get involved. A small interactive group of clinical experts and senior academic scientists will be assembled to provide insights in respective fields and career guidance. These sessions offer a chance to receive outside advice, network with experts looking for young nephrologists or future colleagues, or simply to have an interesting conversation with experts in the field. 22 different topics will be addressed from all fields including basic, translation, and clinical.

The scientific program consists of four plenary speakers, 33 invited lectures, poster session, 'Meet the Professor Breakfast', four luncheon sessions and 2 evening seminars consisting of 13 speakers. Attendance is anticipated at 600 - 800 attendees.

Kyoto, Japan 15-19 April, 2010
Please visit the website
www.isn-online.org/nexus
for more details.

The Golden Pavilion and Saizen-in Temple in April



Photos taken by Hirofumi Makino, President of the JSN & Chair of ISN-Nexus Kyoto





forefronts
IN NEPHROLOGY

Induction and Resolution of Renal Inflammation

May 6-9, 2010
Kursaal Rantum
Sylt, Germany

Sessions

- Innate Immune response: the classical players
- Resolution of inflammation
- Mediators of Inflammation
- Innate Immune response: new cellular players
- Adaptive Immune response: T Lymphocytes
- Adaptive Immune response: B Lymphocytes
- New concepts in renal auto-immune disease
- Role of Chemokines and their receptors in immunity and inflammation

Co-Chairs

Richard J. Johnson
(Denver, USA)

Christian Kurts
(Bonn, Germany)

Ulf Panzer
(Hamburg, Germany)

Rolf A. K. Stahl
(Hamburg, Germany)

Registration opening

18 January 2010

Early registration deadline

15 March 2010

Abstracts submission opening

01 January 2010

Abstracts deadline

15 February 2010



For more information

www.isn-online.org/forefronts

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Advancing Nephrology around the World





Are you at the Forefront?

ISN Forefronts has been known to create lasting ties to other professionals in the themed disciplines.

ISN Forefronts provides a setting for an in-depth look into exciting ideas that are changing the way we look at renal care. Forefronts looks to make nephrologists aware of the latest findings both inside and outside of nephrology. Using an interactive format, ISN Forefronts Symposia allow nephrologists to develop a collegial relationship with leading researchers from other disciplines.

These Symposia regularly gather select groups of 100 -150 participants from nephrology and interrelated specialties to analyze cutting-edge themes. In May 2010, the Forefronts Symposium will address the role of inflammation in kidney disease. This Forefronts Symposium will look to better understand the mechanisms driving inflammation as it relates to kidney diseases and also identify the normal means by which inflammation is prevented or reversed. The scientific forum will look to identify the key mediator systems and discuss the roles of the mediators in driving kidney disease. The potential for interrupting these pathways as a means for treatment represents an exciting venue for future treatments.

The meeting will also address the term, definition and function of “RESOLUTION” in inflammation. In the last decades the molecular signaling pathways that initiate inflammatory reactions have been extensively studied. The mechanisms which are important for downregulation of proinflammatory mediators and thus for a switch from inflammation toward resolution are, however, largely unknown. Recent studies indicated that the resolution of inflammation can be regarded as an active process which requires activation of endogenous signaling pathways which counter-regulate inflammation and promote resolution.

The intimate setting allows for an engaging forum that offers discussion and critical discourse between disciplines. ISN Forefronts has been known to create lasting ties to other professionals in the themed disciplines.

Sylt, Germany, 6-9 May 2010

Please visit the website

www.isn-online.org/forefronts for more details.



LINKING RESEARCH TO PRACTICE



Fibrosis and the Kidney: Emerging culprits in pathogenesis and advances in therapy

30 June - 2 July 2010
Geneva, Switzerland

Translational Sessions

- Pathophysiology of renal fibrosis
- Review of experimental fibrosis models
- Key mediators and options for intervention
- Stem cells and renal fibrosis
- Regression of renal fibrosis

Clinical Sessions

- Clinical studies targeting renal fibrosis
- Study end points
- Biomarkers of renal fibrosis
- Imaging of renal fibrosis

Chairs

Jürgen Floege
(Aachen, Germany)

Kumar Sharma
(San Diego, USA)

Eric Neilson
(Nashville, USA)

Registration opening

25 January 2010

Early registration deadline

16 April 2010

Abstracts submission opening

18 December 2009

Abstracts deadline

1 March 2010



For more information

www.isn-online.org/nexus



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Advancing Nephrology around the World

ISN Nexus on Fibrosis and the Kidney



The Nexus symposia address the increasingly multidisciplinary approach to kidney health issues by bringing together researchers and practicing clinicians to advance science and treatment around highly targeted and specific themes of current relevance. These meetings focus on real clinical challenges and directions for future research and health-care solutions. The Nexus Symposia bridge the gap between basic research and clinical practice and offer regular opportunities to interact with peers and colleagues and stimulate sharing of research, best clinical practices and case studies across borders.

Topics Include:

Nephropathology of Fibrosis

- Major criteria of renal fibrosis and key predictors based on pathology in humans and experimental studies
- Experimental models of renal fibrosis and evidence for regression
- Serial biopsies in humans, evidence for regression
- Standardize main pathology criteria for renal fibrosis and need for repeat biopsies in clinical trials or clinical management

Basic and translational aspects of EMT

- Transcriptional control of EMT
- Outside-inside signalling in EMT
- EMT and vascular pericytes
- Regression of fibrosis by manipulating EMT

Geneva, Switzerland 30 June - 3 July 2010

Please visit the website

www.isn-online.org/nexus for more details.

Interaction of Hypoxia, Nox and Fibrosis

- Hypoxia/ - kidney fibrosis induced by chronic hypoxia
- The role of hypoxia and HIF in tubular differentiation and peritubular fibrosis
- Defensive mechanisms against fibrosis in the hypoxic kidney
- NADPH Oxidases and Kidney Fibrosis/Diabetic Nephropathy
- Lung fibrosis: Molecular mechanisms & options for therapeutic intervention

Study end-points, imaging fibrosis, biomarkers

- Imaging for clinical trials (20 min + 5 for Q)
- Renal imaging to study renal fibrosis and pathogenesis
- Urinary biomarkers for CKD prediction
- Debate: What is a good study end-point in clinical fibrosis research?

Development / Angiogenesis / Epigenetics

- Notch, renal development and fibrosis
- Angiogenesis and Fibrosis
- Epigenetics and diabetic kidney disease
- Epigenetic modifications of fibroblasts during fibrogenesis

Manipulation of growth factors in animal models and patients

- Translational approaches in liver fibrosis
- TGF- β and BMP7
- CTGF
- The PDGF family in renal fibrosis

Inflammatory Mediators of Fibrosis

- T-cells and fibrocyte development
- Complement
- Chemokines and Toll-like receptors

Clinical approaches to modulate fibrosis and stem cells

- Stem cells and fibrosis (bone marrow derived, resident, exogenous)
- Aldosterone, RAS, statins
- Vitamin D/calcitriol

50th Anniversary Events

Come and celebrate ISN's 50th Anniversary at the following events:

May 2010

British Renal Society / Renal Association Conference
Manchester, UK,
17-20 May 2010

June 2010

Asian Pacific Congress of Nephrology
Seoul, Korea
5-8 June 2010

ERA-EDTA Congress
Munich, Germany
25-28 June 2010

July 2010

ISN Nexus Symposium
Geneva, Switzerland
30 June – 3 July 2010

Beyond

American Society of Nephrology
Denver, USA
16-21 November 2010

ISN World Congress of Nephrology
Vancouver, Canada
8-12 April 2011

ISN Leaders Discuss the Future of Nephrology 30 June 2010 – 11:30 am Geneva, Switzerland

As part of the initiatives planned to celebrate ISN's 50th Anniversary, a panel discussion will take place in Geneva among ISN leaders, to give a snapshot of current advances in nephrology and to communicate the ISN vision. All sessions will be webcasted through ISN Affiliated Societies websites, and of course be available on the ISN Gateway portal.

Participants

Bernardo Rodríguez-Iturbe,
ISN President, Venezuela

John Feehally
ISN President Elect, United Kingdom

William Couser
ISN COMGAN Chair, USA

Adeera Levin
ISN Secretary General, Canada

Phillip Li
ISN Executive Committee Member,
Hong Kong, China

Sarala Naicker
ISN Educational Ambassador
Program Chair, South Africa

Program

11:30 -12:00
Panel 1 – A 50-year perspective on the science of nephrology: advances, milestones, challenges.

12:00 -12:10
Turning the World Around – 50 Years of Achievement
To celebrate its first 50 years and to communicate its vision for the next 50 years, ISN commissioned a film. On 30 June the film will be officially presented to ISN members and supporters, and to the nephrology community at large.

12:10 -12:40
Panel 2 – The impact of ISN in the developing world: how a scientific society can help improve patient care by bridging gaps and providing education.

How to participate

The discussions will be accessible as follows:

- **Attend in Geneva:** by invitation only. Please contact ISN if interested.
- **View online on 30 June 2010:** both discussions will be available through a real-time webcast which will be accessible from the ISN Gateway portal and from the websites of ISN Affiliated Societies.
- **View the event after 30 June 2010:** on the ISN Gateway and the websites of ISN Affiliated Societies.

For more information or if you are interested in promoting this initiative through your website, please contact Luca Segantini, ISN Executive Director, at lsegantini@isn-online.org.