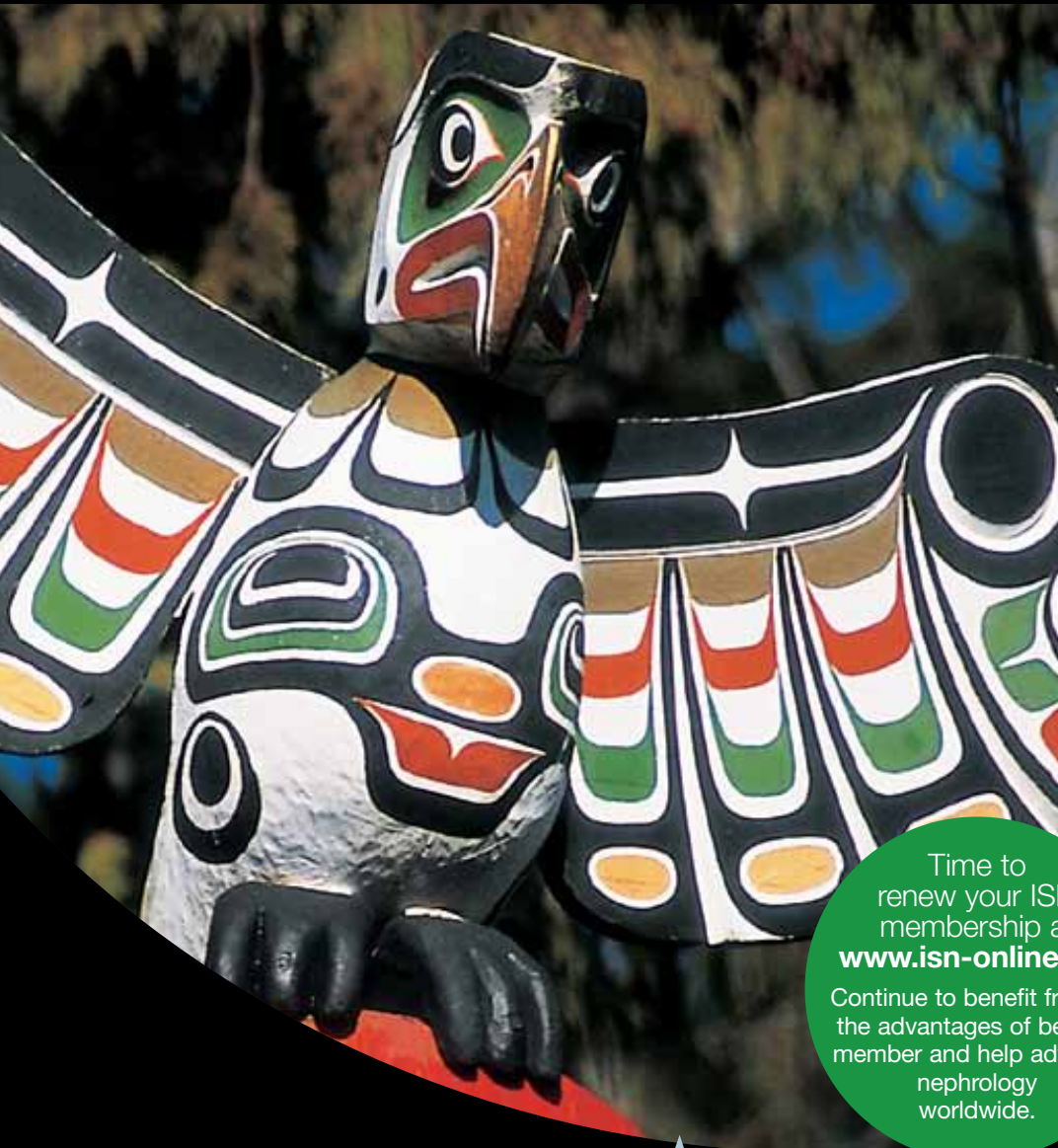


NEWS

ISN

WCN 2011: Sustainability and Diversity

ISN NEWS 36 February 2011



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EDITORIAL

Working together towards continuous kidney care and research worldwide



Sustainable and diverse models of care are essential to developing the future of nephrology and the well being of our patients. Different cultural, demographic, environmental, socioeconomic and political elements make it difficult to have internationally-applicable guidelines and worldwide models of care.

This issue of ISN News reveals how renal science and healthcare have been tailored to the unique and diverse needs of patients in specific areas. Building partnerships across regions and disciplines is also integral to developing knowledge.

New therapies and scientific advances are generally shared in international literature. However, strategies to ensure sustainability and diversity in delivering care are generally developed locally and limited opportunities are available to learn from each other.

Ensuring sustainability and appropriate diversity is critical to us as nephrologists, our patients and our colleagues who deliver kidney care. Sustainability and diversity will be the theme of the World Congress of Nephrology (WCN) taking place in the multi-cultural city of Vancouver from April 8 to 12, 2011.

A large country, Canada has a dispersed population and faces many challenges when treating patients from different backgrounds. Many of us have similar if not identical challenges. WCN gathers physicians, academicians, clinical researchers and other healthcare professionals involved in multidisciplinary nephrology care. Together they consider and work on resolving the challenges faced in delivering equitable and high-quality nephrological care in vastly different settings.

Differences in culture, language and diet often call for other medical approaches and the advent of the 'mobile world' means we all need to be sensitive to diversity. ISN's mission is supported by the theme of sustainability and diversity, leading to better education, improvements in preventing and treating CKD, access to peritoneal dialysis, hemodialysis, transplantation and conservative approaches to caring for CKD patients.

These issues are not unique to any region. They are challenges we all face. The World Congress in Vancouver hopes to provide a forum to increase interaction. I look forward to the WCN in April. The scientific program is excellent for clinicians and scientists alike. I hope to see many of you there.

Professor Carol Pollock



ISN News

Published by ISN
Editor: Carol Pollock
Staff Editor: Sally Horspool
ISN Executive Director: Luca Segantini

The contents of this publication are compiled in good faith. The publisher accepts no responsibility for omissions or errors.

Design www.landmarks.be

Global Operations Center

Rue du Luxembourg 22-24
B-1000 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 2 213 13 67
Fax: +32 2 213 13 63

Americas Operations Center

12100 Sunset Hills Rd., Suite 130
Reston, VA 20190, United States
Tel: +1 703 234 41 11
Fax: +1 703 435 43 90

Email: info@isn-online.org URL: www.isn-online.org

NEWS IN BRIEF

Advancing nephrology in the developing world

ISN GO CME course in Palestine

Medical professionals and last year students from Palestine and the Gaza Strip headed to Ramallah last October for the first ISN Continuous Medical Education course organized with the Al-Quds University Medical School, Palestine.

ISN GO Program Chair William Couser, British nephrologist Richard Banks and ISN GO CME Program Chair Norbert Lameire brought their expertise to make this course a valuable educational opportunity. Great credit for the success of this event goes to ISN-GO Middle East Committee Chair Riyadh Said and Norbert Lameire who worked together for a year to make this a reality.

The program focused on glomerular disease, nephrotic syndrome, vasculitis, screening for CKD, acute kidney injury and hypertension. The audience was particularly responsive to case study discussions on hyponatremia and metabolic acidosis. Breaks between sessions provided networking opportunities and a chance to discuss the challenges faced by nephrologists in this region. ISN delegates also talked about the importance of developing more dialysis units in Palestine and Gaza.

Delegates take a break from the sessions in Ramallah



SRC makes kidney services grow in Nigeria

The University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital (UIH) is the only tertiary healthcare institution in Kwara state, Nigeria. It provides healthcare services to 3.5 million people.

Through its involvement in the ISN Sister Renal Center Program, the center has shown tremendous growth in facilities, manpower as well as clinical research and training activities. With the help of the Middlesex Hospital in the UK, the Gambro Center in Sweden and the Fresenius Medicare Center in Germany, it has carried out hemodialysis procedures and trained existing staff.

Blood pressure measurement point



WKD campaign in Kwara State screened 350 people for CKD



In the 90s, the center received accreditation for training nephrology as a sub-specialty of internal medicine. Collaboration with other departments has evolved into a strong research group named the Ilorin Renal Study Group, focusing on infection and inflammation leading to glomerulonephritis - a common cause of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) in Nigeria.

With help from the Sheffield Kidney Institute, one of the biggest kidney units in the UK, the center has set up a CKD prevention program to determine the magnitude and pattern of CKD in Kwara state.

WCN 2011

A meeting place for knowledge

The World Congress of Nephrology (WCN) has an educational mission, gathering kidney doctors and specialists worldwide to exchange information. Since the first congress in 1960, WCN has provided vital guidance and support to advance nephrology in developing countries.

The 2011 edition is taking place from April 8 to 12, 2011 in Vancouver, one of the world's most culturally diverse cities. This time, the spotlight turns to sustainability and diversity with a high-quality program reflecting how renal science and healthcare must be tailored to the unique and diverse needs of patients and clinicians worldwide.

ISN and the Canadian Society of Nephrology (CSN) have joined forces to offer plenary sessions emphasizing the latest breakthroughs in nephrology.

Gathering the cream of the crop in nephrology

WCN attracts members of the worldwide nephrology community, including physicians, academicians, clinical researchers, young investigators and other healthcare professionals involved in multidisciplinary nephrology care.

“Yet again, WCN 2011 is providing high-level scientific sessions, up-to-date lectures on basic science topics from expert speakers, information on late breaking science and clinical trials and testimonies from leading figures. Four abstract awards will also be presented to young nephrologists during the plenary sessions. All this will be topped off with interactive debates, oral abstracts and poster presentations,” explains ISN Secretary General Adeera Levin.

Douglas C. Wallace, Director of the Center of Mitochondrial and Epigenomic Medicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, will open proceedings with a special plenary lecture. His rare bridging of anthropology and medicine provides for an inspiring talk on the origins of man, fitting with the congress' underlying theme.

Mitochondrial DNA studies have identified the migrations of several groups into the Americas. These changes in mitochondrial genes may provide a selective advantage during the migration of peoples. This may lead to understanding rare and common diseases affecting humans today.

Robin Eady, Professor Emeritus of Kings College in London and the longest living patient with end stage renal disease, will also give a vivid testimony on the early days of dialysis and the hope that hemodialysis has brought to those suffering from chronic renal disease.

Several other international plenary speakers will contribute their perspective to the sustainability and diversity debate. Highlights will include: Masayuki Yamamoto (Mechanisms for renal protection), David Sachs (Achieving tolerance in renal transplantation), Ananth Karumanchi (Unraveling preeclampsia), David Salant (Membranous nephropathy: journey from rat to man), Wendy Hoy (Renal disease in indigenous populations: lessons from the Australian aborigine) and Fiona Karet (Rare renal diseases: bedside to bench and back).





Valuable lectures and interactive debate

Participants will also benefit from several up-to-date lectures on basic science related to nephrology. Toshio Miyata and Masayuki Yamamoto will look at new antioxidant defense mechanisms leading to novel treatments for kidney disease. Increasing evidence reveals that hypoxia may drive kidney disease and cardiovascular disease. Studies led by Yamamoto have identified Keap1 as an intracellular sensor for oxidative stress, which then activates Nrf2 to generate an antioxidant defense.

Prime Minister's Life Scientist of the Year Award winner, Carola de Vineusa (National University Canberra Australia) will talk about the autoimmune basis of systemic lupus. Her work has led to the discovery of genes important for immune regulation and memory, and has identified a novel pathway of posttranscriptional control of gene expression to prevent autoimmunity.

“But, it is not all about learning. Another important aspect of this year’s congress is the opportunity to network with some 5500 people. Participants can share their challenges and questions at some of the many debates focusing on important clinical issues in nephrology,” says Richard Johnson WCN Scientific Committee Chair. Participants will join discussions on fluid management in acute kidney injury, dialysis in the octogenarian, the tri-weekly dialysis debate, the importance of microalbuminuria as a target, and other topics.

Fantastic Social Events on the Program

In addition to a fantastic program, there are several not-to-miss ticketed social events taking place on Saturday, April 9 from 7:00-11:00 pm.

A Night at the Vancouver Aquarium

Canada's national aquarium offers not only an outstanding view of the ocean, mountains and the city, but also a profound experience of educational and visual brilliance. The evening at Vancouver Aquarium will include a guided tour of the aquarium, high quality West Coast food and wine, and an exclusive Dolphin Show. Places are limited to 750 guests.



Grouse Mountain: the Peak of Vancouver

Perched 4,100 feet above Vancouver, leave the city and take an aerial journey on the famed Skyride to view from the top, one of the world's most spectacular cities, the Cascade and Olympic mountain ranges and Vancouver Island all in one glance. Once at the top, guests will be offered the ultimate fine dining experience with an award-winning menu, elegant atmosphere and spectacular view. Places are limited to 110 guests.



Hotel Reservations

The WCN 2011 official housing partner, onPeak, offers savings and convenience at Vancouver hotels. View the reservation website www.wcn2011.org/accommodation for hotels, rates, and single room reservations or email wcn@onpeakevents.com to make a group reservation. There are 5 good reasons to stay at an official WCN 2011 hotel:

- Official hotels have been inspected and selected by WCN and ISN
- Reservations within the WCN 2011 block are protected from guest relocation
- Representatives will be available for on-site reservation assistance
- Modifying reservations is easy with onPeak
- Future housing and registration fees will stay low by booking an official hotel

WCN Sessions Online

NEW! Presentations from the world-class scientific program at WCN 2011 will be captured in a DVD-ROM digital library. This DVD-ROM set will allow you to view 150+ hours of sessions from the upcoming meeting. Presenters' slides include full-motion video with live synchronized audio, so you can view sessions as if you were in the meeting room for years to come. Purchase of the DVD-ROM set includes FREE online access so you can reference your digital library from any internet connected computer.

For a limited time, congress registrants can order WCN 2011 Sessions Online and take advantage of special discounts only available during pre-meeting registration.

With this valuable digital library you can:

- Review key educational and scientific sessions from WCN 2011
- Watch all or part of the sessions at your own pace
- See sessions you are unable to attend at the live meeting
 - Access sessions online, from any internet browser, anytime, anywhere

What to do after WCN 2011?

8th Conference on Kidney Disease in Disadvantaged Populations: Disparities in Renal Disease – Moving Towards Solutions

The ISN Global Outreach Committee for Kidney Health in Disadvantaged Populations (CKHDP) is organizing one of WCN's post-congress satellite meetings taking place in Victoria BC, Canada from April 12 to 14, 2011. It will focus on renal problems linked to non-communicable diseases, a serious issue faced by racial and ethnic minorities, indigenous and migrant populations.

Visit: www.wcn2011satellite.com.

Focus on Fabry Nephropathy: Biomarkers, Progression and Treatment Opportunities

The Fabry Nephropathy satellite symposium will be held in Vancouver, Canada from April 12 to 14, 2011. It explores the current state-of-the-art for diagnosing and treating nephrology issues in Fabry Disease patients. Speakers will cover many aspects of Fabry Nephropathy, including natural history, factors that drive progressive loss of kidney function and responses to therapy.

Visit: www.wcn2011.org/satellite-symposia#Fabrys

Registrations

To register for WCN 2011, go to the official website www.wcn2011.org.

Pre-registration rates are available until March 18. On-site registrations are also available but at the higher on-site rates.

South-south initiative

Creating diversity in training

Nephrologists from developing countries are gradually turning to Host Training Centers in their own regions for ISN Fellowships. Institutions in South Africa, Asia and Latin America are offering opportunities consistent with the ISN Global Outreach (GO) Programs and tailored to the diverse needs of nephrologists.

Ethiopian nephrologist Yewondwossen Tadesse, who trained with Saraladevi Naicker at the University of Kwazulu Natal in Durban, South Africa, highlights the success of “south-south” fellowships. He believes these fellowships equip doctors to become fully-fledged renal specialists in tune with the needs of the region.

“Before, fellows had to find a training center in a developed country. I believed that the spectrum of diseases in South Africa would be similar to the pattern in my country and that I would get the best hands-on training in this region,” explains Tadesse.

“I became the first ISN Fellow to train in South Africa and in a developing country. The country has since become the place for training ISN Fellows from English-speaking Africa.”

Over the past decade, Naicker’s unit has trained 12 nephrologists from seven African countries who have returned home after training. The ISN GO Sister Renal Center Program is showing a similar trend with former supported centers in emerging countries helping less developed centers in their own regions.

Representing Ethiopian nephrology, Tadesse is now heading the renal unit of the teaching hospital and has become a spokesperson for renal care and teaching in his country. He is also a council member of the African Association of Nephrology and member of the ISN GO Africa Committee. His contacts have led to ISN-supported Continuous Medical Education Courses in May 2007 as well as February and December 2010.

The recent ISN Fellowship survey reveals that 60% of returning ISN Fellows take on leadership positions in their department or hospital. Many also actively contribute to renal health and medicine by raising awareness through international and local media and by setting up dialysis services and health camps in rural areas.



Yewondwossen (far right) and Saraladevi Naicker (2nd from left) stop for a team photo

“The growing sophistication of renal units in less developed regions of the world can be attributed partly to the success of ISN’s Sister Renal Center Program. South-South fellowships have helped to overcome linguistic, cultural and ethical barriers, and practice restrictions that exist in many developed countries. Fellows travel shorter distances and can be hosted in areas with a lower cost of living.”

David Harris, Chair of the ISN GO Fellowship Program.

David Harris



ISN Fellows thrive on transferring their knowledge and Yewondwossen Tadesse is no exception. *“Chronic dialysis was developed in Ethiopia through my training. I led the activities to start the first private dialysis unit in the country,”* he says. He trained local doctors and nurses, helping them take in the first patients for chronic hemodialysis. Later on, other hospitals in Addis Ababa opened dialysis units and the nurses he trained were instrumental in expanding these services.

Through his contacts, Tadesse liaised with sister transplant centers, prepared kidney donors and recipients, and provided post-transplant care for patients undergoing transplants abroad. *“Before my training, there may have been one or two patients every year going abroad for transplants, now more than 10 travel for a transplant every year. I have some 50 post-transplant patients under follow-up with me,”* he concludes.

EGIPT

Taking small steps towards fi

A community-based program, the Egypt Information, Prevention and Treatment of Chronic Kidney Diseases (EGIPT-CKD) project puts energy into screening, preventing, raising awareness and increasing research into CKD and other non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

Importantly, it reveals the success and value of the ISN GO Research and Prevention program. It shows how limited expertise and resources have established an outpatient detection and prevention facility for CKD and other associated NCDs. The project has improved the awareness and understanding of NCDs in Damamhur city and across Egyptian society.

“The data from our pilot study showed that screening for CKD is simple and inexpensive. It helps identify people at risk of the disease and motivates them to follow up on getting treatment from the right healthcare providers. It also revealed the need for a screening project in Egypt and other developing countries,” explains Zaghoul Gouda.

Since 2005, he has spearheaded the project at the nephrology department at Damamhur Medical National Institute, General Organization of Teaching Hospitals and Institutes (GOTHI), at the Ministry of Health in Egypt.

All members of Damamhur nephrology department participated in the project including nephrologists and nursing staff. They provided all their support to the CKD prevention program and received support from GOTHI to continue their role towards the surrounding community.

“We encourage people at risk to seek advice from healthcare providers and explain the benefits of following up on medical issues especially as our service is free,” says Gouda. A pilot study of some 1000 participants was followed by two screening projects carried out on first degree relatives of CKD patients and then diabetic and/or hypertensive patients.

Gouda also believes the ISN GO Sister Renal Center partnership with the European Kidney Institute and the Sheffield Kidney Institute helped establish and maintain the project.

“Visits from the team at the Sheffield Kidney Institute helped us gain further support regarding data analysis, statistics, critical appraisal, manuscript writing and improving nursing staff education and training. The Library Enhancement Program helped us establish our library and two nephrologists received travel grants to attend WCN 2009,” he continues.

As an ISN Fellow at Sheffield Kidney Institute, Gouda shared his newly-acquired knowledge and skills with his colleagues back home, helping the staff carry out a more in-depth analysis. He also trained colleagues on how to conduct statistics and write a paper.

The EGIPT-CKD Project has been ethically approved and registered by the Egyptian Ministry of Health. The program hopes to expand step two to cover 5000 diabetic and hypertensive participants.

“We encourage people at risk to seek advice from healthcare providers and explain the benefits of following up on medical issues especially as our service is free.”

Zaghoul Gouda



ighting CKD

“In the future, we would like to see if there are differences in the prevalence of CKD between first degree relatives of CKD patients and community members. We would also like to compare the prevalence of CKD in our diabetic and hypersensitive participants as well as those in other countries,” explains Zaghloul. He and Ghada Mashaal have created software to help detect and recommend strategies to prevent NCDs. This will be available at the start of 2011.

Training of nurses in the diabetes outpatient clinic



“In the future, we would like to see if there are differences in the prevalence of CKD between first degree relatives of CKD patients and community members.”

Zaghloul Gouda

Implementing EGIPT CKD program in the diabetes outpatient clinic in Damamhour city



حافظ على كليتك

EGIPT-CKD Program



المشروع المصرى للوقاية من أمراض الكلى والكلى

tection and prevention of chronic non-communicable diseases

Awarded from

COMGAN Committee and prevention - KHDC Program

EKI Sister Renal Center



ISN and IPNA

voice their support for pediatric kidney disease patients

Many children develop Chronic Kidney Disease early in life. The causes depend on different environmental, ethnic, genetic, and cultural factors. ISN and the International Pediatric Nephrology Association (IPNA) are joining international efforts to train and educate kidney doctors and specialists from the developing world in the latest specific procedures and treatments.



Several projects including the recently-established ISN IPNA Fellowship will help fulfill their common humanitarian and philanthropic mission while responding to the needs of pediatric nephrologists worldwide. The IPNA Fellowship Program offers six to 12 months training in various aspects of pediatric nephrology. Once completed, fellows can share the knowledge and new skills across their region.

The International Pediatric Nephrology Association (IPNA) is a professional organization of pediatric nephrologists dedicated to promoting knowledge and communication about pediatric kidney disease - improving the care and treatment of children with kidney and urinary tract abnormalities. ISN and IPNA both have long established Continuous Medical Education programs supporting local nephrology educational meetings in the emerging world by providing ISN or IPNA sponsored speakers.

The ISN GO Sister Renal Center Program has already lent its support to pediatric nephrologists in developing countries. In 2010, a partnership between the National Center of Nephrology, Dialysis and Kidney Transplantation in Minsk, Belarus and the Oxford Kidney Unit at Oxford Radcliffe Hospital has led to 18 successful pediatric transplants in Belarus.



Shortly, the pair will graduate from level A status after having set up a successful pediatric transplantation program. ***“The ISN Minsk-Oxford collaboration has been enlightening, exciting and rewarding for participants from the emerging and supporting center,”*** explains liaison officer Aleh Kalachyk.

In June 2010, surgeons from the UK travelled to Sousse, Tunisia to help local clinicians carry out five pediatric living-related donor transplants, supported by the University of Ghent’s Renal Division. According to Sister Renal Center Program Chair Paul Harden: ***“it was a major achievement for pediatric nephrology and transplantation in Tunisia.”***

These successful collaborations show the importance of education in advancing kidney care in the developing world. They reveal how a lot can be achieved with just a little training and guidance from the supporting center.

Tanzania - Access to Dialysis Project

Established by the ISN Africa Committee, this project has developed an infrastructure to provide acute peritoneal dialysis and manage acute renal failure in children. Over two years, dialysis will be implemented in two of the four major referral hospitals in Tanzania. It also trains doctors, nurses and technicians on inserting catheters and managing the actual treatment.

The Young Nephrologists' Corner

Guiding the careers of young nephrologists in Brazil



The first ISN Young Nephrologists Committee (YNC) education workshop was held in collaboration with the Brazilian Society of Nephrology at their scientific meeting in Vitoria, Brazil on September 11, 2010. With help from ISN and the Brazilian Society of Nephrology, YNC member Roberto Pecoits-Filho organized this highly successful event. Over 100 delegates attended, ranging from renal trainees to medical students interested in nephrology.

“There is already an increase in interest from young doctors to choose nephrology as a career in Brazil. This is due to the perception that nephrology is an intellectually-challenging profession with great public health need,” explains Pecoits-Filho. ***“The plenary lectures and small group discussions made this point clear and stimulated these young doctors to continue their careers in renal medicine. Also, the workshop was important to provide visibility and recognize rising stars in Brazilian nephrology who were part of the faculty.”***

YNC Chair Fiona Brown believes that the feedback was very positive. The workshops on career advice were very well received.

The format included a combination of plenary lectures delivered by Emmanuel Burdmann, Ricardo Correa-Rotter, Richard Johnson and David Salant. A dozen small interactive workshop sessions, were run by members of the YNC and local young Brazilian nephrologists.

“There is already an increase in interest from young doctors to choose nephrology as a career in Brazil. This is due to the perception that nephrology is an intellectually-challenging profession with great public health need.”

They discussed primary care nephrology, the intensive care management of acute renal failure and peritoneal dialysis complications.

Following the success of this event, three more workshops are planned in Senegal and Africa in February this year as well as Hyderabad, India in February 2012.



You can find out more about this group by following their activities on **Facebook – ISN Young Nephrologists.**



Protect your kidneys, Save your heart!



March 10, 2011 will mark the sixth World Kidney Day (WKD). This annual day of action is organized by the International Society of Nephrology and the International Federation of Kidney Foundations - putting kidney health at the center of the global health arena.

The big day is fast approaching

This year, WKD looks at the role of kidney dysfunction in increasing premature cardiovascular disease, the most common cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide.

“We hope that World Kidney Day 2011 will be an opportunity to reinforce the message that kidney disease is indeed common, harmful and treatable and that protecting your kidneys is an important health strategy that may save your heart,” says World Kidney Day Chair William Couser.

The WKD campaign is now the most widely celebrated event associated with kidney health. It is the most successful effort to raise public and government awareness about the importance of maintaining healthy kidney function and the consequences of kidney disease, especially chronic kidney disease (CKD).

Kidney-targeted detection and prevention programs are a valuable opportunity to institute early preventive measures that go beyond traditional cardio-protective approaches. Compelling evidence now shows that including selective screening for CKD in global health programs significantly improves the outcome of renal diseases, dominating future health care strategies.

World Kidney Day calls on the general public and the renal community to work together to convince health authorities about the importance of kidney health.



Let's make WKD 2011 the most successful ever!

Now it is up to you. We encourage you to start planning WKD activities in your city. You can find all you need to know at www.worldkidneyday.org.

If you already know what you will be doing, you can register your event online. Any activity, from handing out flyers at your clinic to an awareness walk getting your colleagues on the move for kidney health, will make a difference.

If you need inspiration, visit the 'Ideas for action' page or look at the past events to read success stories from last year.

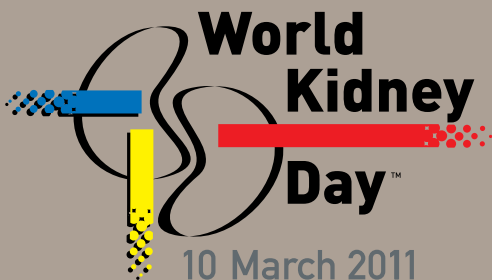
For help, contact the World Kidney Day Team at info@worldkidneyday.org

facebook

Show your support on

- Post a WKD pledge badge on your Facebook profile page at <http://www.worldkidneyday.org/page/wkd-pledge-badges>. Get your friends to do the same and 'like' your initiative – better than a new year's resolution... a World Kidney Day resolution!
- Change your Facebook profile picture to the WKD logo on **March 10, 2011**.
- Make a one minute video of your actual World Kidney Day event. Send it to the World Kidney Day team at info@worldkidneyday.org and they will post it online.

**Protect your *kidneys*,
Save your *heart*.**



GET INVOLVED !

For more information and ideas for action please visit

www.worldkidneyday.org

Beyond the call of duty

One more ISN Educational Ambassador gives back to the nephrology community by sharing his expertise with doctors in the developing world.

Last November, Ayo Shonibare from Lagos Vantage Medical Centre and visiting consultant at Saint-Nicholas hospital also in Lagos, Nigeria took time out from his daily work to visit the Dialysis Centre at Doula General Hospital, Cameroon. Local surgeons were in dire need of more training in fistula surgery. Shonibare provided the necessary guidance and training on inserting long-term dialysis catheters and Radio-Cephalic Fistulae surgery.

“I am thankful to ISN for this opportunity. My time in Douala was hard work but it was most rewarding. I left Cameroon feeling I had made a positive impact on the lives of many patients who will now benefit from better quality dialysis as a result of good vascular access,” says Ayo Shonibare. ***“It is comforting to know these procedures will now be carried out by locally-trained surgeons.”***

Shonibare explains that femoral cannulation is mainly used in first dialysis sessions. However, patients must travel three hours to Cameroon’s capital Yaoundé to be fitted with a fistula and long-term catheter. ***“My visit was a welcomed development for the surgeons who were keen to learn these procedures,”*** adds Shonibare. He also informed patients about the need to exercise hand muscles to ensure their fistulae matures and develops properly.

The dialysis centre is pretty impressive with 75% to 80% of patients with fistula as vascular access and the rest with long-term or short-term internal jugular dialysis catheters. There is only one nephrologist to look after 150 patients on dialysis. This costs around \$10 USD per session and is subsidized by government funds so many patients can sustain regular dialysis. The center collaborates with Fresenius to get free dialysis machines, provided they use Fresenius consumables for five years.

However, the hospital does need to invest in micro instruments and operating loops for the surgeons. ***“Fortunately I took my own set and donated two long term dialysis catheters to the unit,”*** adds Shonibare.

He believes that a good Educational Ambassador is one who is willing to sacrifice time, effort and resources to help fellow colleagues acquire valuable knowledge or skills. The key to success is to be tolerant, humble, friendly and focused.

“I will certainly recommend others to volunteer. The disparities, inequalities and imbalances we see today need not be so. The privileged few can afford to give and transfer some of what they have learnt to others who are not so fortunate, for the benefit of humanity,” he concludes.



ISN Forefronts

Proteinuria: from glomerular filtration to tubular handling

From September 22 to 25, 2011, leaders in cell biology, nephrology and diabetes will gather for the ISN Forefronts Symposium 2011 in Aarhus, Denmark. They will share the latest concepts on the glomerular filtration barrier, its disturbances in disease and handling of an abnormal protein load by tubular cells.

They will also focus on the mechanisms of proteinuria, a phenomenon which is defining the presence of kidney disease and associated with an array of adverse consequences. Proteinuria is therefore an important marker in renal and cardiovascular disease.

Analyzing underlying mechanisms of increased glomerular permeability and increased exposure of tubular cells to increased protein concentration may ultimately allow to develop novel concepts for therapeutic intervention. The symposium sessions will focus on biology of the glomerulus, the podocyte: experimental models, glomerular filtration barrier, signaling pathways in the glomerulus, the glomerular proteinuria and fibrosis controversy and tubular handling of proteins.

Using a highly interactive format, ISN Forefronts Symposia allow researchers with different areas of complimentary expertise to exchange the results of ongoing research projects and discuss latest developments and future perspectives.

Dates to watch out for:

January 17, 2011	Abstract submission opening
January 17 to April 18, 2011	Travel Grant applications
April 11, 2011	Abstract submission deadline
March 1, 2011	Registration opening
June 6, 2011	Early registration deadline

More information:
www.isnforefronts.org/2011/

“While proteinuria is firmly established as a marker of progressive kidney disease and cardiovascular complications for kidney disease patients, the underlying mechanisms are still inadequately understood. We expect this symposium to summarize the state-of-the-art in this area and outline future avenues for research and intervention.”

Kai-Uwe Eckardt, ISN Forefronts
Committee Chair



ISN Forefronts Symposium 2011

Proteinuria: From glomerular filtration to tubular handling

September 22-25, 2011
Aarhus, Denmark

Main topics

- Biology of the glomerulus
- The podocyte: experimental models
- Glomerular filtration barrier
- Signaling pathways in the glomerulus
- Glomerular proteinuria and fibrosis/controversy
- Dynamics of endocytosis
- Biology of the proximal tubule/proteinuria
- Future developments

Co-Chairs

Corinne Antignac, Paris, France
Erik I. Christensen, Aarhus, Denmark
Olivier Devuyst, Brussels, Belgium

For more information
www.isnforefronts.org/2011/

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Advancing Nephrology around the World Celebrating 50 Years

ISN Global Operations Centre
Rue du Luxembourg 22-24
B-1000 Brussels, Belgium
Tel.: +32 2 213 13 67
Fax: +32 2 213 13 63
Email: info@isn-online.org

ISN Americas Operations Centre
12100 Sunset Hills Rd., Suite 130
Reston, VA 20190, USA
Tel.: +1 703 234 41 11
Fax: +1 703 43543 90
Email: info@isn-online.org

