



# **GFC Guidelines**

## **Mission Statement**

- The aim of the ISN Global Fellowship Program is to create an ideal International Platform for all past and present Fellows to stay in contact with the ISN as well as each other in order to aid the Society in accomplishing its mission of advancing nephrology worldwide.
- An ISN Global Fellowship Club (GFC) is a worldwide forum for fellows to meet, interact, learn from each other, and conduct joint initiatives as research, registries, community service etc.
- Together with the ISN leadership a GFC forms a link between ISN and the regional renal physicians. The latter includes the national and supranational societies, other associations and groups interested in kidney disease, as well as individuals seeking collaboration with the global society.

## **Structure**

- Each GFC must have at least five fellow members (current or past).
- The fellows of the GFC must be ISN members (full membership or Joint membership).
- GFCs can be multinational, comprising members from adjacent countries.
- Each GFC shall elect a “moderator” who takes the administrative responsibilities and acts as a liaison officer, on behalf of the group, with ISN. The term of office should be 2 years. A moderator should only be re-elected once in a row.

## **Responsibilities**

- Developing a rotary-like activity in their region, whereby regular meetings are held, with scientific and social components.
- Communicating with neighbouring GFCs in order to develop a truly interactive network all over the globe.
- ISN may seek advice from the GFCs on regional/local issues such as identifying individuals or assessment of institutions requesting ISN support, potential leaders, experts and teachers, etc.
- A yearly report on the activities of the GFC must be submitted to the ISN Global Headquarters.
- Diffusion of ISN related information and recruitment of members to ISN Should be a priority.
- ISN may seek the help of GFC members in the regional implementation of its programs, including COMGAN and similar meetings, CMEs during the national meetings etc.
- Working with the national societies (subject to approval by both parties) for the dissemination of knowledge among the medical profession (e.g. CMEs), conducting regional research (e.g. epidemiology) and improvement of patient care (e.g. implementation of clinical practice guidelines) based on specific programs and as deemed appropriate by the ISN.
- It is expected that all GFC's behave in an honourable fashion, not forgetting that they are representing the ISN.

## **Recognition and Privileges**

- All fully established GFCs will receive a certificate.
- Each GFC member will receive a GFC membership ID Card issued by the ISN, and is entitled to use the term "Member of the ISN Global Fellowship Club"
- Publication of GFC news and articles on the web.
- Assignment of specific GFC-organized sessions in ISN-COMGAN sponsored meetings, whereby GFC members design their own program and invite their own speakers. This is to be based on approval by and co-ordination from the meeting organizers and ISN COMGAN.
- ISN shall request national societies receiving ISN support to assign at least one 2-hour-session in their national congresses for ISN fellows to present their scientific, clinical, social and other achievements.
- Members of the GFCs shall have priority in ISN-managed travel grants
- Members of the GFCs shall be invited to participate (at their own expenses) in the ISN Fellows poster and oral sessions, and to all related social activities in the International Congresses of Nephrology worldwide.