Kidney Health for all.
Optimal care for people with kidney disease.

IFKF-WKA Connect
July 2023
Official Newsletter of IFKF-WKA
IFKF-WKA Connect July 2023

Content:

1. President’s Message
2. Committee Members & Portfolio
3. Kidney Foundation of Bangladesh
4. Ethiopian Kidney Care
5. Fundanier
6. Indian Renal Foundation
7. Italian Kidney Foundation
8. Kidney Foundation Malawi
9. Tamilnad Kidney Research Foundation
10. Fourthcoming Events
Greetings from Chennai, India!

For the quarter April - June, I am happy to announce our membership has increased. We have four new members and have an equal number to join very soon! This is because of the collective effort from our members, and I urge everyone to bring one new member this year.

We need to spread awareness to all the people in the world about Kidney Health and this will be possible if we increase our membership and spread the good word.

IFKF-WKA understands the need of Foundations and their struggle to make kidney patients lead a normal life. Hence we can also support our Foundation fraternity by requesting our family and friends to maybe contribute US$ 100 towards membership for those who cannot afford the fees.

I am also happy to announce our concrete plans for webinars starting July onwards, and all your participation encourages your Council Members to do more in this regard. A humble request to sign in and participate since a wealth of knowledge is shared between leading doctors and panelists. Look out for our mails on webinar series.
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
Ms Latha A. Kumaraswami
Managing Trustee, TANKER Foundation, Chennai, India.

We are trying our best to increase visibility in social media. We urge all our members to follow IFKF-WKA on FaceBook, Twitter and Insta pages.

Kindly share information of your important activities, webinars, sessions, anything that is relevant to Kidney Health on our social media handles. This is for the benefit of all our members and you can directly upload your activities. By sharing we will know how all our members are creating awareness in various parts of the world and motivate ourselves to do more for our patients. We are happy to include whatever is given by our membership in our web page and YouTube channel also.

Let us Care and Share our knowledge and ideas for Better Kidney Health For All!

Warm Regards,
Latha
COMMITTEE MEMBERS & PORTFOLIOS

1. **Executive Committee:** Dr. SF Lui, Dr.Kam Kalantar, Mr. Carlos Castro, Dr.Alessandro Balducci.
   Dr. Dina Abdellatif, Ms. Latha A Kumaraswami
2. **Membership Committee:** Dr. SF Lui, Dr.Joel Kopple, Ms.Ayse Onat,Ms.Esther Obeng,
   Mr.Zaki Morad
3. **Finance & Fundraising Committee:** Dr.SF Lui, Dr.Kam Kalantar, Mr.Carlos Castro,
   Dr.Dina Abdellatif, Ms.Latha A Kumaraswami
4. **Communication & Outreach Committee:** Dr.Kam Kalantar, Ms. Ayse Onat, Ms.Esther Obeng,
   Mr. Tashi Namgay, Dr.SF
5. **Education, Publication & Program Committee:** Dr.Kam Kalantar, Dr.Joel Kopple,
   Ms.Haris Agnes, Dr. Alessandro Balducci, Dr. Dina Abdellatif, Dr. Harun Ur- Rashid
6. **Website Management Committee:** Dr.SF Lui, Dr.Dina Abdellatif, Ms. Latha A Kumaraswami
# Kidney Foundation of Bangladesh

(April, May, June – 2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
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<td><strong>HD Patients</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Hospital Admission</strong></td>
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<td>532</td>
<td>428</td>
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Teaching at Continued Medical Education (CME) organized by Kidney Foundation
Total Teaching Sessions – 02 (May - 1, June- 01)

Continued Medical Education (CME) Organized by Kidney Foundation

Biopsy Meeting
Monthly virtual biopsy meeting with Royal London Hospital

IRB Meeting for Thesis of BRAC University Students
IRB Meeting for Thesis of Daffodil University Students
In Hospital Training of Pharmacy Students

From Jahangirnagar University
Total students - 24 (April -11, May- 13)
Exchange of idea and MOU discussion session with Department of Food & Nutrition Faculty, Daffodil University

Diploma in Renal nursing 4th Batch Inauguration

Proper medical waste management training of cleaning stuff

Basic life support training for nursing students and medical officers

MOU signing with Non Communicable Disease Control Wing of Directorate General of Health Services regarding research grant

Training of personnels for NCDC research project in Sylhet –
Training of doctors and hemodialysis nurses regarding proper needling technique in Mugda Medical College Hospital organized by KF

PhD Update Presentation
Ethiopian Kidney Care

From April to June
Ethiopian kidney care gave health education on a medical campaign prepared by GIV Ethiopia on June 4, 2023.
Ethiopian kidney care held a free screening medical campaign on July 15, 2015.
Fundanier
April to July 2023

April
Seminar on how to write scientific articles.

Seminar on how to manage finances for the Fundanier Team
May

Fundanier’s 20th Anniversary

Urology mission
2 cadaveric transplants

Elaboration of a disaster plan
June

Training of brigade members of Nephrology, Hypertension, Transplant and Dialysis units.

First training in Latinamerica of “Saving Young Lives”
Proyect “Mission for life” – Construction of 2 houses for patients of peritoneal dialysis.

**JULY**  First certified training for journalists on organ donation and transplant.
Fundanier

April to July 2023

April

Seminar on how to write scientific articles.

Seminar on how to manage finances for the Fundanier Team
India Renal Foundation (IRF) is a voluntary not-for-profit health organization working for Prevention, Treatment, Rehabilitation, Education and Research in the area of kidney diseases in Gujarat since January 2002.

Today IRF is in its 21st year and has 9 chapters in the state of Gujarat functioning at Ahmadabad, Mehsana, Vadodara, Surat, Bhavnagar, Rajkot Kutch-Bhuj, Geer-Somnath and Himmatnagar and have prominent citizens as advisory committee members at all chapters.

India Renal Foundation has done various activities in the last 3 months of April to June under the main program of the organization. The details of which are as follows:

1. PREVENTION THROUGH AWARENESS PROGRAMME and kidney (Serum Creatinine) diabetes and blood pressure screening camp:

During this quarter (April to June 2023), we organised 119 awareness programs and 55 screening camps were held across Gujarat, with people being made attentive through these programs in various talukas and interior villages of Vadodara, Surat, Anand, Narmda, Mehsana, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Gandhinagar and Ahmedabad district. Around 3200 people were given proper advise about diabetes – BP and to prevent kidney disease.
A Glimpse of Prevention Through Awareness Programme:

IGNOU, Ahmedabad

staff training centre, Gandhinagar

Karodiya village, Vadodara

G.S.T. Office, Bhavnagar
A Glimpse of BP, SUGAR and Kidney (Serum create.) check-up camp:

- Missionaries of charity, Vadodara
- Lincoln pharmaceuticals ltd., khatraj
- Vadodara village, Dist.- Gandhinagar
- Shivanand ashram, Satellite, Ahmedabad
2. PRERANA:

We at IRF, do rehabilitation activity for kidney patients under Prerna. The activity was started in the year of 2002. We have formal an association of kidney patients in all chapters. The objective of this activity are counselling, advise, recreation, rehabilitation, education and motivation of patients.

**Ahmedabad:**
21st June 2023, Prerna program on “Routine complication of hemodialysis and its solution” senior dialysis technician Smt. Madhvi Desai was interacted as a speaker. The program was well attended.

**Rajkot:**
India Renal Foundation Rajkot Chapter as part of its “Prerana” program the movie “the kerala story” was shown free of cost to the kidney patients in cosmoplex cinema, Rajkot. 65 people have been participated in this program.

**Vadodara:**
“Sangeet Sandhya” was organized by Vadodara Chapter as part of Prerana programme. In this program advisory member of Vadodara Chapter Shri Rohitbhai Parikh and his team entertained the Prerna members by singing melodious filmy songs. More than 70 peoples have been participated in this programme.
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Mehsana:
An educational program was organized at Mehsana Chapter on Sunday 18th June under the prerna program More than 75 peoples have been participated in this programme. Dr. Piyushbhai Patel invited as a speaker and he was delivered about A.V fistula Surgery and Dialysis

3. Public Awareness Programme

2 public kidney awareness programs were organized at Mehsana Chapter

1). On 28th May, a public kidney awareness program was organized at Suzuki Motors Gujarat Private Limited, Mandal, Dist.- Ahmedabad. Dr. Rajesh Patidar delivered their speech about kidney and kidney disease, blood pressure, diabetes and discussed the need and importans of organ donation. 150 people participated in this programme.
2). On 9th June, a public kidney awareness program was organized jointly by India Renal Foundation Mehsana Chapter and Inner Wheel Club. Dr. Neel Patel (Nephrologist) delivered their speech about how to prevent from kidney disease and treatment. 90 peoples participated in this programme.

4. Save a Life Programme:

‘Save a Life’ is India Renal Foundation's endeavor to provide financial assistance to needy patients undergoing dialysis and kidney transplant. This activity was started in July 2002.

During this quarter (April to June) we helped Rs. 1,85,666/- supporting 62 needy dialysis patients and kidney transplant patients by the way of providing dialysis kits, medicines, and support for the surgery expenses of making A.V. Fistula. 300 dialysis were done free of cost in the Hemodialysis unit run by the IRF.

In past 3 months we helped 2 needy kidney patients for AV Fistula surgery. Mr. Udaysinh makwana (In picture) is beneficiary of our financial assistance.
Italian Kidney Foundation

The fundamental doctor-patient relationship of trust

Patrizia, 62, from Italy, shares her journey as a three-time kidney transplant patient. Throughout her life, she battled complications from systemic lupus erythematosus, which forced her to spend many years on dialysis. Over the years, she built a long-standing relationship with the Italian Kidney Foundation which has supported her every step of the way.

Together with Prof. Massimo Morosetti, President of the Italian Kidney Foundation, Patrizia explains how she faced the complex moments of her illness with great strength, managing the diagnosis, the dialysis, the first transplant, and the return to dialysis.

In 1973, Patrizia was a very young Italian girl who was diagnosed very early with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (an autoimmune disease in which the immune system attacks its own tissues, causing widespread inflammation and tissue damage in the affected organs). In 1979, when she was only 19, this disease led her to require dialysis treatment.

At the time, there was not much accessible information about dialysis and kidney disease for patients and their families, as opposed to now, where more information is available thanks to local organizations such as the Italian Kidney Foundation (a non-profit association that deals with kidney disease and whose goal is to spread knowledge about kidney disease and support those who may need it) or worldwide campaigns such as World Kidney Day.
“I was disoriented when they first told me I had to start dialysis.” However, I was lucky to meet Prof. Massimo Morosetti, who was a young nephrologist at the time, and our relationship grew over time into trust, friendship, and affection. Because dialysis involves a big amount of time, being performed three times a week for four hours per session, it is important to have a relationship of trust between doctors and patients. We spent most of our lives in the hospital and this made it possible to build a strong connection”.

Patrizia’s first dialysis treatment started in 1979 and went on for a few years. Then, finally, the first transplant arrived. This was the first of many to follow because Patrizia didn’t undergo just one transplant in her life, nor just two; she has successfully faced three kidney transplants.

It is surprising how Patrizia, who is 62 today, recounts this fact with immense serenity: “I have had dialysis for thirty years, I underwent three transplants, and finally now I can say that I can live my life and cultivate my passions, including dancing, which now brings me a sense of calmness and happiness.”

Her story is surely heartwarming and motivating for those that, like her, must undergo dialysis therapy due to kidney disease.

Patrizia bounces back stronger than before, every time. She is a true example of resilience, which has led her to live a peaceful and satisfying life now. Patrizia proved the importance of willpower. Knowing how to recover is the foundation of all rebirths.

“I want you to know that the Italian Kidney Foundation can help you at any stage of your disease by providing information and accompanying you through all of your difficulties,” adds Prof. Massimo Morosetti.

You can watch Patrizia’s story on YouTube by clicking on this link: Patrizia, 62, from Italy, shares her journey as a three-time kidney transplant patient. Throughout her life, she battled complications from systemic lupus erythematosus, which forced her to spend many years on dialysis. Over the years, she built a long-standing relationship with the Italian Kidney Foundation which has supported her every step of the way.
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Kidney Foundation Malawi

RENAL SERVICES IN MALAWI

Kidney Foundation Malawi took their time to visit the Kamuzu Central Hospital in partnership with Jackeline a Nurse by professional to appreciate what the nurses in the dialysis unit at KCH are doing and to get an in depth of the challenges people living with kidney problems are facing while on dialysis.

During the visit the foundation met Sister Emily Matola who was on duty on that particular day and she explained to the foundation how the process of dialysis is done from the initiation to a point when the patient is free to go home. She said KCH dialysis unit has in total 57 patients with chronic kidney failure, who are depending on dialysis. Because the facility is operated by the government the renal services are completely free and it’s open to the general public. The renal unit at KCH usually diagnose 5 people per day at risk of kidney failure. The unit has 12 operational machines and the unit serves the central region and northern regions of Malawi, because we don’t have the dialysis unit in the northern region.

During the visit the foundation met one of the patients who was doing the dialysis and he was able to give his view in terms of services provision at the unit. Mr Mukhondia expressed his concern on the shortage of essential drugs, lack of proper diet for the patients, long distance covered by patients to reach the unit, lack of social support to the patients and lack of employment for the patients to sustain the lives. “It is difficult to get full support from the families because of poverty within the families and it’s a challenge when the patient is the bread win in the family. "To be on dialysis is almost the same as milking the elephant"
Samuel Kumwanje the board chair of Kidney Foundation-malawi, agreed with the two that Kamuzu central hospital dialysis unit is over populated because it covers the northern region because we don’t have a unit in the northern region which means all the patients from the northern region are always referred to KCH. “from my 19 years of lived experience on dialysis it is not easy to cope with dialysis more especially with the local and poor Malawian who are coming from ultra-poor families”. It is a challenge for the majority of patients in Malawi to cope with the transport cost to and from the unit twice a week, it is very hard for the most vulnerable patients to access the required medicines like calcium tablets, phosphate binders, Etheporitin and BP drugs. The chair said there is a need to mobilize the resources to support both the patients and the service provision at the unit.

In Malawi we have 2 government facilitates with dialysis unit and there are 3 private dialysis unit whereby the majority of the patients cannot afford to pay the services at the private. In these facilitate the foundation observed that there is only one nephrologist who is able to create AV fistulas and he is based at the private facility and this forces many patients to use catheters for a long and suffer from multiple infections.

KIDNEY FOUNDATION-MALAWI PARTICIPATED THE MMM2023.

Kidney Foundation Malawi participated in May Measuring Month, 2023 because from the observations there are many cases of hypertension which leads to kidney failure and there is a need to control and reduce the cases of hypertension. In Malawi many people do not have the access to check the levels of their BP, so this campaign enabled the community to check their BP status and those at risk were advised to take the precaution measures
Maggie during the MMM2023
Beatrice during the MMM2023
Colleta during the MMM2023
The second quarter of 2023 was a remarkable one as TANKER Foundation completed 30 years of service to the underprivileged who are affected by kidney disease.

**Celebration time**

It was a day of rejoicing and rededication for members of the TANKER family as TANKER Foundation turned 30, June 30, 2023. A small meeting was held in the admin office of TANKER Foundation at Chennai, Tamil Nadu to celebrate the landmark event.

TANKER Foundation Managing-Trustee, Mrs. Latha A. Kumaraswami, gave a small motivating speech and also made it an occasion to thank everyone who has made TANKER grow and expand.

All the staff members of the 14 units, whom Mrs. Latha Kumaraswami calls Angels on Earth, made it a day to remember. They did up their respective dialysis units with streamers, balloons and 'happy memories' of patients. Every unit cut a cake that was beautifully decorated and carried loving messages, and involved the patients in the exercise. The patients were given cakes and biscuits to celebrate the day.

On the whole, the day was an exhilarating experience for all members of the TANKER family.
Right recognition

TANKER Foundation Founder-Trustee, Dr. Georgi Abraham, was presented the Community Development Excellence Award 2023 by the Hindustan Group of Institutions which organised the Dr. K.C.G. Verghese Excellence Awards 2023, in Chennai. Dr. Georgi Abraham was selected for the Community Development Excellence Award for his contribution to the community through TANKER Foundation.

The citation, signed by the Hindustan Group of Institutions Chairman, Dr. Anand Jacob Verghese, talks of the achievements of Dr Georgi Abraham. It deals at length about his ‘over 40 years of dedicated experience in the healthcare field’.

Speaking in Japan

TANKER Foundation Founder-Trustee, Dr Georgi Abraham, participated in the 68th annual meeting of the Japanese Society of Dialysis Therapy at Kobe, Japan. At the conference, he spoke on the topic ‘The status of dialysis patients in Asian countries under COVID – 19 disaster: From the beginning to the era with COVID (2019-2023)’, and also on the topic: ‘The present status of conservative kidney management (CKM) in Asian countries: India’.

More power

Two dialysis machines, donated by Avant-Garde Systems and Controls Pvt Ltd and Mr. K. Ragothaman and Mrs. Usha Ragothaman for the positive wing of the dialysis unit in Valluvarkottam, Chennai, were inaugurated by Thousand Lights MLA, Dr. Ezhilan Naganathan, Mr. K. Ragothaman, Director, Mr. S. Balasubramanian, Director, and Mr. P.S. Sankaranarayanan, Director, Avant-Garde Systems and Controls Pvt Ltd.

Bedsheets donated by Rotary Club of Coastal Chennai were handed over by club President, Mrs. Latha Balamukundan.
Thanksgiving

It was a touching moment for the family of Mr. Selvabalaji and members of the TANKER Foundation family. Mr. Selvabalaji, his mother, Mrs. Janaki, his wife, Mrs. Kanimozhi, and his daughter, Baby Riyashree, dropped in at the TANKER Foundation admin office in Chennai. The family of Mr. Selvabalaji had come to the office to express its gratitude for TANKER Foundation helping him for the past 17 years.

Patient initiative

What better way to spread awareness on kidney health and hold screening camps than by involving the patients who use TANKER Foundation’s dialysis facility? They would be the ideal partners of the TANKER Awareness and Prevention Program (TAPP). So, the TAPP team has decided to rope in patients through its latest initiative, ‘Prevention Through Patient’.

TAPP Head, Mrs. Rajalakshmi Ravi, explains that they have decided to conduct awareness programmes and screening camps at the residential localities of the dialysis patients.

Patient, Ms. Uma, was the champion of the programme. She has been requesting TAPP to conduct a screening camp in her house at Oragadam and it was conducted. Her neighbours and friends benefited from the camp.

Caring for our own

It behoves TANKER Foundation to not just spread awareness on kidney health and take care of the general public through its screening camps, but also take care of the physical health of its dedicated staff, who Managing-Trustee, Mrs. Latha A. Kumaraswami, does not tire of calling as Angels on Earth. So, the TANKER Awareness and Prevention Program (TAPP) team has started on its mission to take care of the TANKER Foundation staff as well.

It launched the ‘Staff Health Programme’ at the Ambattur dialysis unit and all 20 staff members were tested for Hb, RBS, urine and had chest X-ray.
Patient artist

TANKER Foundation patient, Mr. Paritosh Pal, and his family dropped by during the managers’ meet in Chennai. An artist, Mr. Pal (50) resides in Darjeeling and earns Rs. 10,000 per month. His wife is a homemaker. He has two children. He has conducted fundraising programmes with his paintings for TANKER Foundation. In 2002 he underwent kidney transplant. Since Mr. Pal was unable to purchase post-transplant medicine, he approached TANKER Foundation for financial assistance. TANKER Foundation has been helping him since 20 years. He brightened up the managers meeting with his beautiful painting.

Accepted with gratitude

The Vellore Town Viswakarma Thondu Niruvanam, an NGO, donated a generous amount to the Pachaiammal Shanmugam Rotafort TANKER Foundation Dialysis Unit, Rotary Club of Vellore Fort, Sathuvachari, Vellore. The donation is to help 32 dialysis patients who use the facility.

Mr. Harikesanallur Venkataraman, a TV celebrity, made a generous donation to TANKER Foundation when TANKER Foundation Managing-Trustee, Mrs. Latha A. Kumaraswami, called on him.

Mrs. Lalitha Premkumar, a teacher in Kuwait (where her husband also teaches) and a friend of TANKER Admin Head, Mrs. Vasanthi Ravichander, called on TANKER Foundation Founder-Trustee, Dr. Georgi Abraham, in Chennai, and made a generous donation to TANKER Foundation. Dr. Georgi Abraham said he was happy to receive the donation and that every penny will grow manifold and be used to help the needy patients.

Reaching out

The TANKER Awareness and Prevention Program (TAPP) team never rests on its oars. The team members, led by their Head, Mrs. Rajalakshmi Ravi, took up special initiatives in the capital city of Tamil Nadu, the temple city of Madurai and Tiruppur. They conducted screening camps for the general public, construction workers, in a house and at an apartment for locals, and held awareness programmes in schools, colleges, and even spread the word on kidney during a temple festival in Madurai.
Forthcoming Events

With this event, the Italian Kidney Foundation wants to promote kidney health through the prevention and treatment of kidney disease, involving nephrologists, nephropathic patients, kidney transplant recipients, associations, medical and nursing staff, renal pharmaceutical companies and sports associations.

The Italian Kidney Foundation’s Archeo Fitwalking will be held at the Parco degli Acquedotti (Rome), a wonderful archaeological park that houses one of the most important Roman engineering testimonies. The walk will take place in various stages that will cross part of Via Latina and the archaeological remains of the 7 majestic Roman aqueducts and a stretch of Via Latina, with the assistance of specialized tourist guides. The participants will be divided into small groups equipped with audio guides.

Registration fee: €5.00
Registration includes:
- archaeological tour with guide,
- radio headphones,
- nordic-walking poles,
- backpack and water.

Free access to the Health Village