



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

IFKF-WKA Connect

July 2025

Official Newsletter of IFKF-WKA

IFKF-WKA Connect July 2025

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Secretary's Message

THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Dr.Dina Abdellatiff

NKF-ESNT, Egypt



Dear Members,

On behalf of the Executive and Organizing Committee of the International Federation of Kidney Foundations-World Kidney Alliance (IFKF-WKA), and in my role as President-Elect and Secretary General, I was truly honored to witness the success of the 19th IFKF-WKA Annual Congress held in Rome.

This year's congress was a celebration of global collaboration, impactful dialogue, and a shared commitment to advancing patient-centered kidney care.

I am proud to highlight milestone sessions that reflected our collective mission:

- ✓ Kidney Foundations in Action – showcasing impactful programs, innovations, and advocacy activities from IFKF member foundations worldwide
- ✓ IFKF– European Renal Association (ERA) Joint Session – advancing the Strong Kidneys Initiative, Green Nephrology, and Disaster Preparedness
- ✓ IFKF– Declaration of Istanbul Custodian Group (DICG) Joint Session – addressing ethics, transparency, and justice in transplantation
- ✓ IFKF–WIN Session – elevating women's leadership, with representation from all global WIN groups Women in Nephrology USA, Womenin Nephrology India , WIN ERA & WIN Africa.
- ✓ Patient Voice Session – amplifying the lived experiences, insights, and leadership of kidney patients across diverse regions



Secretary's Message

THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Dr.Dina Abdellatiff

NKF-ESNT, Egypt



We were privileged to welcome speakers and contributors from across all continents, including: Argentina 🇦🇷, Bangladesh 🇬🇧, Bosnia 🇸🇦, Cameroon 🇨🇲, Egypt 🇪🇬, France 🇫🇷, Hungary 🇭🇺, Hong Kong 🇭🇰, India 🇮🇳, Italy 🇮🇹, Lebanon 🇱🇧, Mexico 🇲🇽, Nigeria 🇳🇮, Switzerland 🇨🇭, Turkey 🇹🇷, UAE 🇦🇪, and USA 🇺🇸. 🌍

Beyond the scientific sessions, the congress also offered memorable opportunities for connection from the elegant gala dinner to exploring the timeless beauty of Rome together. These moments of friendship and shared culture made the event even more meaningful. ❤️

Heartfelt thanks to all our guest speakers, panelists, and member foundations whose presence and insights enriched every moment of the congress. 🙏

A special note of gratitude to:

Prof. Alessandro Balducci, President of IFKF-WKA

Prof. Massimo Morosetti, President of the Italian Kidney Foundation
for their exceptional leadership and warm hospitality. 🙏🌸

Together, we move forward—stronger, more united, and more committed to advancing kidney health for all. 💪🌍



Bangalore
Kidney
Foundation

Bangalore Kidney Foundation

ACTIVITIES OF BANGALORE KIDNEY FOUNDATION FOR CONNECT JULY 2025

Ms. Usha Baliga – Highest Fundraiser for BKF at TCS Marathon

The Bangalore Kidney Foundation (BKF) is proud to celebrate Ms. Usha Baliga, who was honoured as the Highest Individual Fundraiser at the TCS Marathon 2025. She raised nearly ₹18 lacs, making a big difference to the lives of kidney patients.

Usha has been associated with BKF for the last three years and has consistently supported the cause with great passion. Each year, she has used the marathon as a platform to reach out to her friends and well-wishers, encouraging them to contribute. Her dedication and belief in BKF's mission have inspired many others to join hands and support patients in need.

For over four decades, BKF has been providing affordable dialysis and holistic care for patients suffering from kidney disease. The Foundation depends on generous well-wishers and committed fundraisers like Usha to continue its work.

Her achievement at the marathon is not just about the amount raised—it is about the compassion and determination behind it. BKF warmly thanks Ms. Usha Baliga for her tireless efforts and for being a shining example of how one individual can create a lasting impact.



Bangalore
Kidney
Foundation

Honouring Mr. Vasant Chandra – Best Director, Global Grants

The Bangalore Kidney Foundation (BKF) is proud to share a special achievement from the Rotary District 3192 Awards Night, where Mr. Vasant Chandra, our Director – CSR and Donations for the Rural Centre, was honoured with the Best Director – Global Grants Award.

This recognition highlights his dedicated efforts in building CSR partnerships and mobilising donations to support BKF's Rural Dialysis Centre. For patients in remote areas, dialysis is often difficult to access and unaffordable. Long travel distances, high costs, and limited facilities add to the hardship. Through corporate support and generous donations, Mr. Chandra has helped BKF take quality dialysis care closer to rural communities, offering them relief, dignity, and hope.

Beyond raising funds, his leadership has created greater awareness about kidney disease and inspired corporates to make meaningful contributions to healthcare.

Since our inception, BKF has strived to combine affordability with compassion, and champions like Mr. Chandra strengthen this mission.

This award is both a personal honour for him and a proud milestone for BKF. It is a reminder that when commitment meets purpose, lasting change becomes possible.

Activities of Kidney Foundation

(April, May, June -2025)

	January	May	June	Total
HD Patients	731	727	730	2188
HD Session	6165	6126	5743	18034
OPD Patients	7541	8567	7132	23840
CAPD	0	2	0	2
Transplant	4	4	2	10
AVF	135	165	141	441
Temporary venous catheter	100	103	81	284
Tunneled catheter	7	9	2	18
Renal Biopsy	29	16	11	56
AKI	66	43	32	101
Hospital Admission	515	482	467	1464



Bangladesh
Kidney
Foundation

CME on case presentation, renal histopathology, death review, journal presentation and lectures at Kidney Foundation Hospital and Research Institute

Date: Monday Time: 12:30pm	Topics of 20 minutes lecture, followed by 10 minutes discussion. Total 30 minutes.	SPEAKERS
07-4-2025	Management of infectious complications of CAPD	Dr. Md.Shoeb Nomany, Associate Professor of Nephrology, KFH&RI.
21-4-2025	Organ procurement and preservation in the deceased donor renal transplantation.	Dr. Abu Sayed. Assistant professor of Urology KFH & RI.
28-4-2025	Arteriovenous Fistula: Basics, Creation ,Use and Examination	Dr. Md.Shoeb Nomany, Associate Professor of Nephrology, KFH&RI.
12-5-2025	Case presentation on GN with renal histopathology.	Dr. Sobnom IMO Supervised by Dr. RomanaAkbor Assistant professor of nephrology, KFH & RI.
19-5-2025	Rational use of Tolvaptanin ADPKD	Dr. Omar Faruq, Assistant Professor of Nephrology KFH&RI.
26-5-2025	AVF related complications and management	Dr. Md.Shoeb Nomany, Associate Professor of Nephrology, KFH&RI.
2-6-2025	General Supportive Management of Glomerular Diseases.	Brig.Gen.(Prof) AK M Mijanur Rahman Professor of Nephrology KFH&RI.
16-6-2025	Optimum management of metabolic acidosis in CKD patients	Dr. Md. Shoeb Nomany, Associate Professor of Nephrology, KFH&RI.
23-6-2025	Death review of a hemodialysis patient.	EMO Supervised by Dr. Farnaz Nobi Rima Assistant professor of nephrology, KFH & RI.



Lecture provided by Asst. Prof. Dr. Romana Akbar on CME session at KFHR&I.



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Shoeb Nomany on CME lecture at KFHR&I.

Internship On Renal Nutrition

Duration = 1.5 months

Total Students = 09

Daffodil International University = 07

Dhaka University = 05

Noakhali Science & Technology University = 01

Duration = 6 months

Total Students = 04

Daffodil International University = 04



Diploma in Renal Nursing 5th Batch

Start from – July 2024

Duration – 1 year

Total students – 20

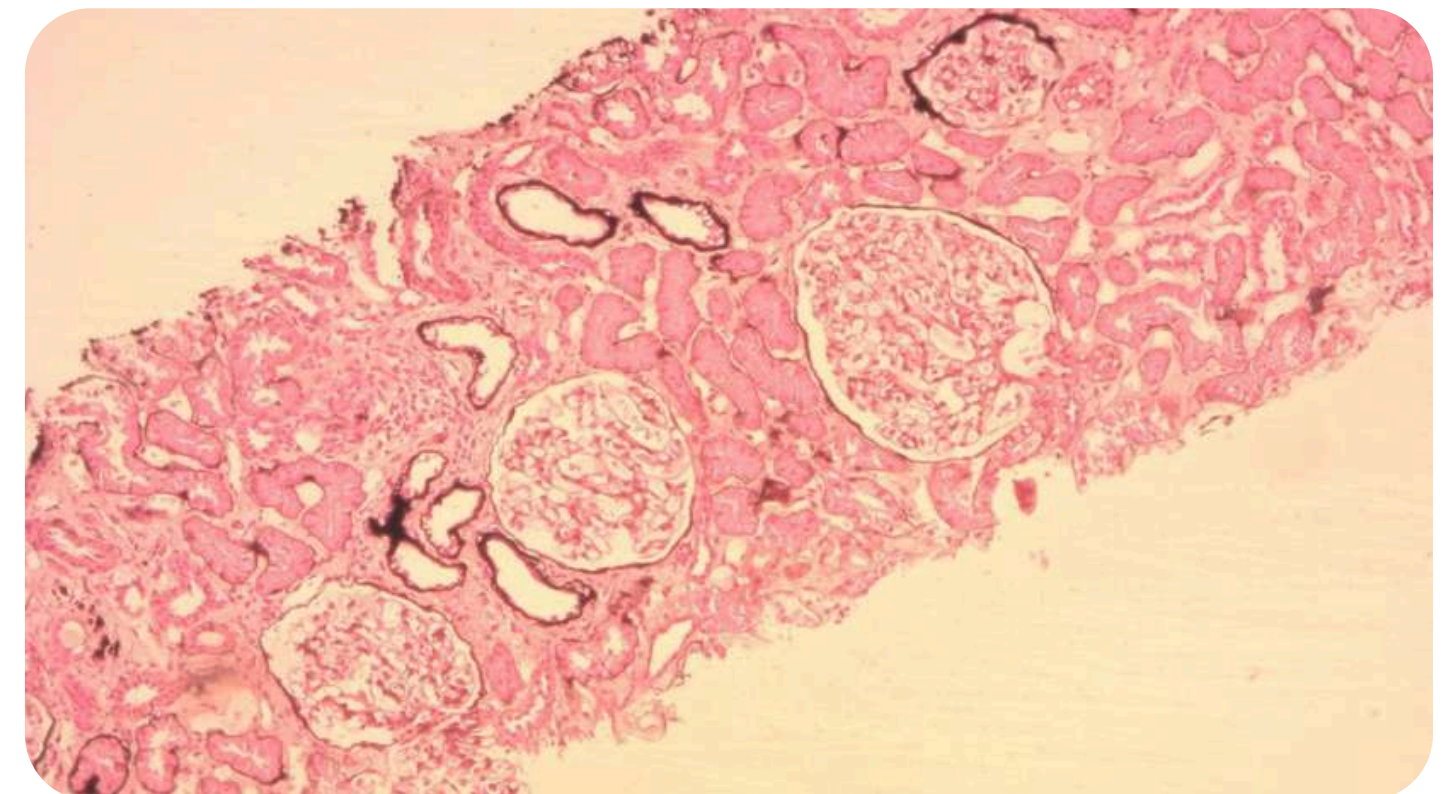
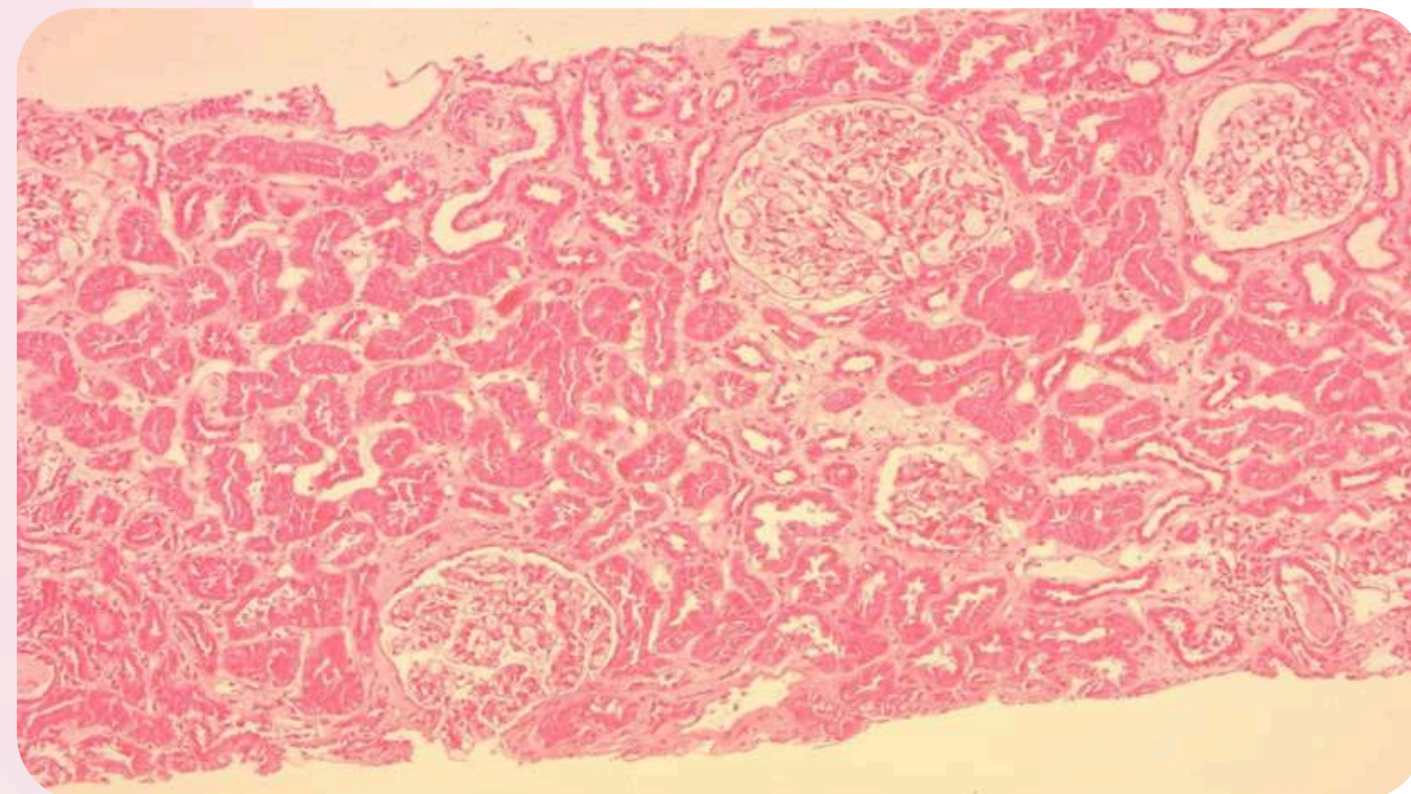
Hands on Training on BLS to Diploma in Renal Nursing student

Hands on Training on BLS to Diploma in Renal Nursing student



Monthly virtual renal biopsy meeting with Royal London Hospital

Topics: Bilateral leg swelling



In Hospital Training of Pharmacy Students From Jahangirnagar University Total students – 16

Starts From -

14.06.2025 to 18.06.2025 - 08

21.06.2025 to 25.06.2025 - 08



**Asst. Prof Farnaz Nobi Rima with Pharmacy Students from
Jahangirnagar University**



Bangladesh
Kidney
Foundation

The 5th Bangladesh-Korea Transplantation Seminar

Date: 3rd to 5th May 2025

Venue: Convention Hall

Kidney Foundation Hospital and Research Institute, Bangladesh

Total Participants-335

The 3 day Seminar focused on Transplantation bringing together experts, practitioners from Nephrology and Urology Society.

Day 1: 3rd May

Opening remark was given by Prof. Ruhul Amin Rubel, Greetings from Prof. John Fung(Virtual) of TTS ,Prof. Yeong Hoon Kim of Vitallink, Prof. Jeremy Chapman(Virtual) from Vitallink Academy. Prof Curie Ahn shared her experience on transplantation. Prof Harun Ur Rashid shared the situation of transplantation from Bangladesh.

Scientific session was conducted on following topics followed by Question & Answer session

SESSION- 1: Update in Kidney transplantation Patient Management

- Speech on Transplantation immunology for Clinicians given by Prof. Curie Ahn
- Speech on Update in Kidney Transplantation Rejection and Immunosuppression over Video by Prof. Adisorn Lumpaopong
- Speech on Emerging Therapies for PTDM by Prof. Yeong Hoon Kim
- Speech on Management of CMV infection in Transplant patient by Prof Shakib Uz Zaman Arefin



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SESSION- 2: Infection Control in Organ Transplantation:

- Speech given by Prof. Harun Ur Rashid on Early Infection Post Transplantation
- Speech given by Prof. Muhammad Nazrul Islam on Delayed Infection in Kidney Transplant Recipients
- Speech given by Dr. Md. Abu Sayed on Sterile technique and immediate Post Tx Infection Control given

SESSION- 3: Transplantation Laboratory and Database

- Speech given by Prof. Borae G Park on The ABC's of HLA Antibody
- Speech given by Assay Prof. Borae G Park on Real World Application of HLA Antibody
- Speech given by Prof. Adisorn Lumpaopong on Transplantation waiting List and Organ Allocation Rules
- Speech given by Sehwa Hong on Post Transplantation Database: ASTREG

Day 2: 4th May

Special Presentation-1:

- **Speech given by Prof. Ghazali Ahmed on Deceased Organ Donation-Islamic Point of view**

Scientific session was conducted on following topics followed by Question & Answer session & Simultaneously workshop was conducted on transplantation both living and deceased Donor.

SESSION-1: Hemodialysis and Peritoneal Dialysis

- Speech given by Prof. Ghazali Ahmed on Anemia in Dialysis
- Speech given by Prof. Kazi Shahnoor Alam on What is the barrier of establishing APD in Bangladesh
- Speech given by Assoc Prof Shoeb Nomany on HD Vs PD as bridging therapy before Transplantation.



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SESSION- 2: Infection Control in Organ Transplantation:

- Speech given by Brig.Gen. Prof. Mamun Mostafi on Cardiovascular and Hemodynamic Complications
- Speech given by Assoc Prof Mesba Uddin Noman on Lupus Nephritis at a crossroads: Embracing triple therapy and ditching traditional phases
- Speech given by Prof. Samuel Lee on Vascular mapping for successful access creation
- Speech given by Assoc Prof. Tasnuva Sarah Kashem on Tuberculosis in Transplantation

SESSION- 3: Transplantation Laboratory and Database

- Speech given by Prof. Yeong Hoon Kim on Diabetic Nephropathy, mechanism, natural course
- Speech given by Prof. Wasim Md. Mohosin Ul Haque on Diabetic Nephropathy in Bangladesh
- Speech given by Prof. Shamim Ahmad on Update of Management of DKD

Poster Presentation:

Following poister were presented in the seminar

- Dr. Md. Omar Faruq -Assessment of Brachial Ankle Pulse Wave Velocity in Non Dialysis CKD Patients
- Dr. Madhabi Karmaker -A Young Man's Battle with Renal Tubular Acidosis was presented by
- Dr. Tamanna Bahar Toma -Multiple Myeloma with Amyloidosis in a 22 Year Young Girl:A Case Report and Literature Review
- Dr. Rummana Tazia Tonni presented -Relation Of Sociodemographic Factors with Treatment Modalities in Pediatric End Stage Renal Disease
- Dr. Afrin Akter presented -Complications Associated with Native Kidney Biopsy and Assessment of Risk Factors
- Dr. Nadira Sultana presented -Atypical Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome & Anti Factor H Autoantibodies in Children: Insights from A Tertiary Centre in BD
- Dr. Shanjida Sultana Juthy presented -Evaluating Tacrolimus Treatment in Glomerulonephritis in A Tertiary Centre in Bangladesh.



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Free Paper Presentation:

- Dr. Md Nayeem Uddin-Salivary Creatinine is Complementary to Serum Creatinine in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease
- Dr. Romana Akbar -Clinical & Bacteriological Profile & Antibiotic Sensitivity Pattern in Spontaneous Bacterial Peritonitis among children with Idiopathic Nephrotic Syndrome
- Dr Hasinatul Zannat -Clinical Profiles and Outcomes of Cytomegalovirus Positive Renal Transplant Patients in Early Post Transplant Period
- Dr. Tasnova Mahin-Emphysematous Pyelonephritis: Experience at a Tertiary Care Hospital in Bangladesh
- Dr. Debashis Majumder- Diagnostic value of serum Soluble Urokinase type Plasminogen Activator Receptor(suPAR) levels in Adults with Non proliferative Glomerulonephritis
- Dr. Shegufta Mishket Mukerrama -Association of Tumor Necrosis Factor-Alpha(TNF-a) with Clinical & Laboratory Parameters in Different Stages of Chronic Kidney Disease
- Dr. Samaya Hasan Suchana -Association of Total Kidney Volume with Renal Function and Arterial Hypertension in Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease

Closing speech was given by Prof. Curie Ahn & Prof. Harun Ur Rashid.



Bangladesh
Kidney
Foundation

Seminar on National DDOT system building

Venue: Classroom, Kidney Foundation Hospital and Research Institute

Orientation about Deceased organ donation and transplantation system development	
Bd-ODA :National authority for transplantation program operation	Prof.Jeremy Chapman (Online)
Legislation and Brain death determination	Legislation and Brain death determination
OPO: Structure and function	OPO: Structure and function
Deceased Donor Management	Dr. Abu Sayed
Waiting list and Deceased organ allocation rule	Dr. Farnaz Nobi
Transplantation lab	Prof. Borae G Park
Post- Transplantation patient management and database in Bangladesh: ASTREG	Dr. Nura Afza Salma Begum
Public Awareness	Prof. Yeong Hoon Kim
Guideline for Consensus workshop	Prof. Hyun Bae Yoon
Q/A	

National DDOT system building workshop I 14:00 - 16:00	
Introduction to Consensus workshop	Prof. Hyun Bae Yoon
Consensus workshop ~ Pre-registered Participant	Prof. Yeong Hoon Kim Prof. Insung Moon Prof. Samuel Lee



Bangladesh
Kidney
Foundation

Day 3
5th May, 2025

National DDOT system building workshop I	
Introduction to Consensus workshop	Prof. Hyun Bae Yoon
Consensus workshop ~ Pre-registered Participants	Prof. Yeong Hoon Kim Prof. Insung Moon Prof. Samuel Lee
Introduction to Consensus workshop	Prof. Hyun Bae Yoon
Luncheon and Prayer break	
Consensus workshop ~ Pre-registered Participants	Prof. Yeong Hoon Kim Prof. Insung Moon Prof. Samuel Lee
Closing	Prof. Harun Ur Rashid Prof. Curie Ahn





Bangladesh Kidney Foundation



Bosnia and Herzegovina

Overview of Quarterly Activities – Donor Network in B&H and Association of Dialysed and Transplanted Patients in FBiH and Central Bosnia Canton

In the second quarter of 2025, the mentioned NGOs launched their activities with the “**Vitez Runs for World Kidney Day**” race in the town of Vitez, continuing the momentum from the previous month’s diverse events across FBiH marking World Kidney Day. The race gathered over 250 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, aiming primarily to raise awareness about kidney disease prevention among both athletes and the wider public through strong media coverage. The event featured children’s races, distribution of educational materials, fruit, and water, with medals for all finishers and trophies for top competitors in junior, senior, and veteran categories. The initiative was supported by the Central Bosnia Canton Ministries of Health, Education, Youth, Culture, and Sports, alongside numerous sponsors and donors.

Institutional Meetings in May with the Health Insurance and Reinsurance Institute of FBiH and the University Clinical Center Sarajevo management resulted in productive agreements for future cooperation to improve dialysis quality and increase the number of transplantations.

On **May 13, 2025**, in Goražde, the Donor Network in B&H and the Association of Dialysed and Transplanted Patients of FBiH, with the support of the Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH and the hospitality of the Cantonal Hospital, held the **Conference on Organ Donation and Transplantation – “Give Hope, Save Lives”**. Topics included the past, present, and future of transplantation, brain death as a prerequisite for organ donation, the work of the Donor Network, and donor cards. The event concluded with local leaders signing donor cards in support of the cause.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

In early June, representatives attended the **International Conference in Belgrade – “Challenges and Perspectives of Transplantation in the Region”**, which featured sessions with leading transplant medicine experts from Slovenia, Croatia, Spain, and Belarus, discussions on legislative and practical barriers in Serbia, and patient association initiatives to improve dialysis treatment and increase transplant numbers.

At the **invitation of the Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH**, a meeting was held with Minister Dubravka Bošnjak and her advisors, focusing on aligning the country’s transplantation system with Eurotransplant standards. The discussion addressed ongoing challenges, future campaign plans, and the ministry’s commitment—led by Minister Bošnjak and Prof. Jurica Arapović—to promoting organ donation to save patients’ lives. In a symbolic gesture, ministry staff also signed donor cards, reinforcing institutional support for the cause.

This quarter’s activities reflected a strong combination of **public engagement, institutional cooperation, and international networking**, all aimed at advancing organ donation awareness, improving dialysis services, and increasing transplantation rates in Bosnia and Herzegovina.





Fondazione
Italiana del
Rene

Fondazione Italiana del Rene



April

- Launch of the fundraising campaign related to the 5x1000 tax donation. Through this initiative, Fondazione Italiana del Rene aims to 1) support the 6 million Italians affected by kidney diseases, 2) raise public awareness on organ donation.

May-July

- **Erasmus+ KA122 Adult Education mobility in Rome**, organized by OZ ZDRAVÉ OBLIČKY, was carried out in cooperation with the Italian host organization Fondazione Italiana del Rene (FIR). The mobility took place in May and July 2025 and was attended by five participants from Slovakia, each contributing their unique perspective and expertise related to kidney health, transplant care, and patient support. The host organization provided a professional and welcoming environment. Participants engaged in a structured program that included visits to the nephrology department of the Ospedale C. B. Grassi in Rome, meetings with representatives of FIR, dieticians, nephrologists, transplant coordinators, and specialists in renal patient care. Discussions were focused on prevention, early diagnosis, dialysis, transplantation processes, and patient follow-up. The mobility also included participation in the IFKF-WKA conference, where international best practices were shared. A key part of the experience was the comparison of health systems in Italy, Germany, and Slovakia in terms of accessibility, patient support, and innovation. Each participant had defined educational objectives, which were successfully fulfilled through direct observation, shadowing of professionals, and active discussion. Special emphasis was placed on the exchange of good practices and gathering inspiration for new educational materials.



Fondazione
Italiana del
Rene

The Slovak team collected a number of examples of good practice, including communication strategies between doctors and patients, personalized diet plans, and educational tools for patients with CKD. They also discussed the potential for adapting the MyFIR mobile app to Slovak conditions. The project met the goals defined in the application, including professional development, building international partnerships, and increasing awareness about chronic kidney disease. The acquired knowledge will be used to improve the support and education of patients in Slovakia.

June

- June 13–15: 19th IFKF-WKA International Conference, hosted in Rome by the Fondazione Italiana del Rene together with the International Federation of Kidney Foundations – World Kidney Alliance.

The three-day event offered discussions on crucial topics for the present and future of kidney health worldwide, including:

- The role of nutrition in kidney disease management
- Patient experiences and testimonies
- Organ donation and ethical implications (with a highly participated debate on organ trafficking)
- Establishing foundations in developing countries to promote prevention and kidney disease treatment
- Communicating CKD through social media
- The role of fundraising
- Women's perspective in Nephrology and gender equality in the field

All panel discussions were interactive, reflecting the commitment and vitality of the international community.

A special highlight was the presentation of the Joel Kopple Award, recognizing outstanding contributions to the global promotion of kidney health.



Fondazione
Italiana del
Rene

- **June 28–29: Coast to Coast Challenge 2025** – a European cycling event supporting kidney health and peace, from Paestum (Campania) to Giovinazzo (Puglia). Many cyclists crossed Italy coast-to-coast to send a powerful message: kidney health matters to everyone. This symbolic ride combined sport, prevention, and research. The initiative, supported by Fondazione Italiana del Rene and promoted by the European Renal Association (ERA), raised awareness on the importance of kidney disease prevention and supported research through a concrete gesture of solidarity.
- **June 28:** FIR has joined the **XXIV Spot School Award** promoted by the association CreativisinascE. Students attending communication/advertising courses at universities, academies, and specialized schools throughout Italy developed various advertising campaigns, including one promoted by FIR titled 'Are Your Kidneys OK?' to promote kidney health, screening, and early diagnosis of chronic kidney disease. The XXIV Spot School Award started in October 2024 and concluded on June 28, 2025, with the awards ceremony held in Salerno at the Pier Paolo Pasolini Theatre - Salerno. Numerous students and faculty from universities and academies from all over Italy were present. The Gran Prix 2025 City of Salerno - the most important award - was won by a press/advertising campaign created for FIR titled "You don't see them but every day they go the extra mile." A concept as simple as it is powerful that manages to transform an invisible organ - the kidney - into a silent protagonist of our daily lives. An excellent example of truly effective social communication, capable of generating real awareness.



Fundanier
Guatemala

Activities from April to June 2025

Fundanier Guatemala - April

- “Mission for Life” and Bridge of Life visit



May

- Fundraising campaign from “Ronald McDonald house” to purchase reclainable chairs for parents accompanying their children at the hospital.



GRACIAS AL APOYO DE:



Actualmente, las mamás que acompañan a sus hijos en el hospital duermen en en estas sillas.

Cada mes, alrededor de 45 madres enfrentan esta dura realidad.

Con tu apoyo, podremos donar 14 sillones reclinables que les brinden un descanso más cómodo y digno mientras permanecen al lado de sus hijos.

Además, también estarás ayudando a las mamás que se hospedan en Casa Ronald McDonald, lejos de casa pero cerca del cuidado que sus hijos necesitan.



- Fundanier Anniversary



Mother's Day celebration with Fundanier's team and mother's of patients



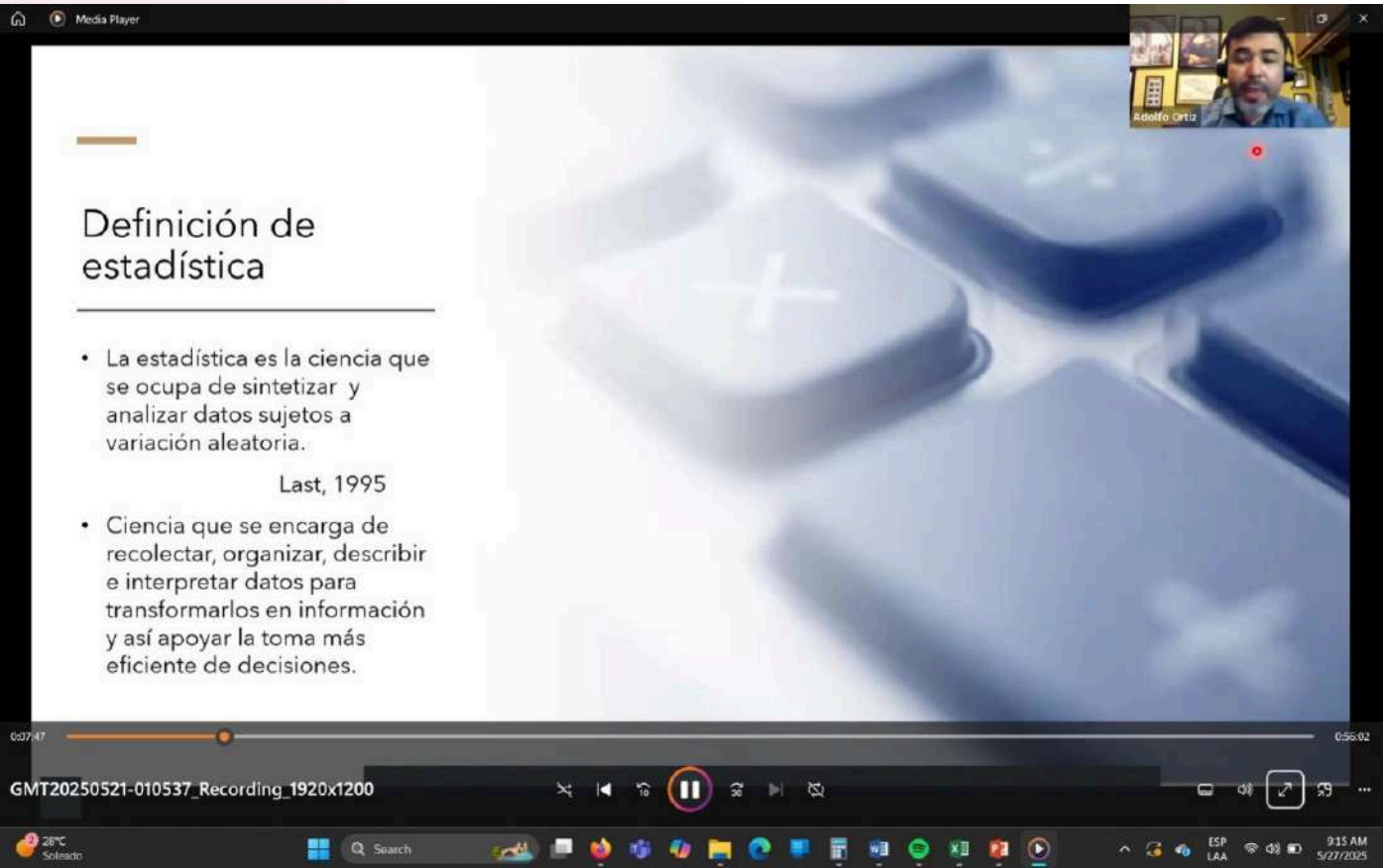
Celebration of Social Worker's Day at Ronald McDonald Foundation.





Fundanier
Guatemala

End of course of Scientific Writing



Start of volunteer work- “Fundamigos” sharing with the patients mothers



Start of physical activity on Hemodialysis patients



Start of Pediatric Nephrology course for Residents.



Urological Mission 2025





Fundanier
Guatemala

Approval of resolution by the WHO



Presentation of article to the Pediatrics Department.



JUNE

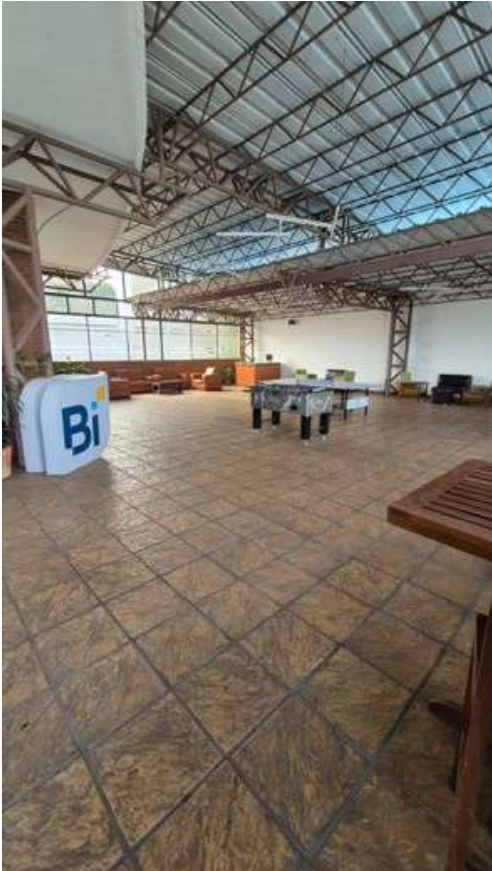
- Completion of PAHO course – “Ethics in public health”





Fundanier
Guatemala

Organization of FUNDANIER’s Bingo – Taking care of our kidneys, Transforming lives.



Father’s Day Celebration





Fundanier
Guatemala

Starting of the program “Nutrition for Life” were several of Fundanier’s families are benefited.



Interview of Dr. Sindy Méndez on “World Day of transplanted patient”.



Dr Nancy Rivera on TV Azteca station talking about the “World Day of transplanted Patient”



Patients Cristopher Arriola and Sherly Moran giving their testimonies on the impact of their transplants (live and cadaver) to give more visibility on this noble action.



- Illumination of “Torre del Reformador” (a City landmark) in orange color, to commemorate World Kidney Day. We gave away water tumblers and 4 important rules on how to take care of your kidneys. This in collaboration with Scandia water Company.



- Vicocuentos –A tale story teller that brought joy to the hospitalized children.





Hungarian
Kidney
Foundation

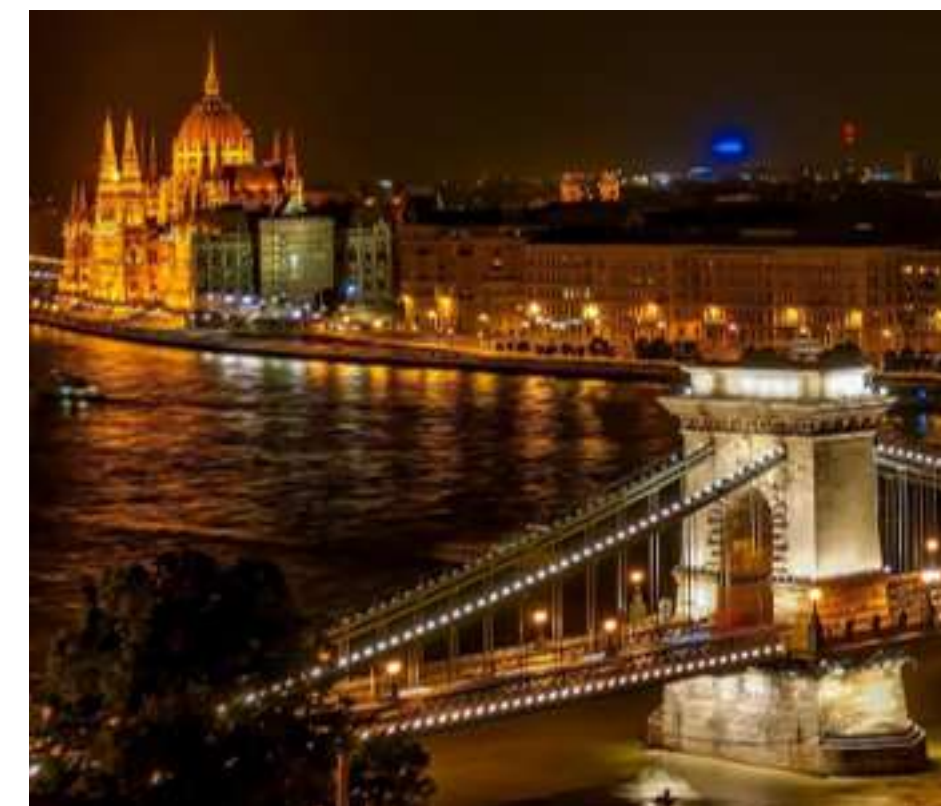
HUNGARIAN KIDNEY FOUNDATION

The Hungarian Kidney Foundation was established by Professor László Rosivall in 1987. The major aim of our Foundation is to support the development of education, research and clinical practice of nephrology from prevention to rehabilitation. Our activities include education, facilitation of research and the rehabilitation of CKD patients.

We provide education for patients, their caregivers and relatives, for family physicians and pharmacists, and also for the members of the society, including young children, students and senior citizens. One of the outstanding results is the establishment of Budapest Nephrology School in 1994, as a one-week, English speaking, internationally recognized, CME refresher nephrology course at the Semmelweis University. The school has been organized yearly for the past 28 years. Aiming of the rehabilitation of patients with CKD educational and lifestyle camps have been organized by multidisciplinary educational team, containing nephrologists, CKD nurse educators, dietician, social worker, psychologist, rehabilitation specialist, Tai-chi- and pysiotherapeutist, and expert patients.

**working together with Hungarian Society of
Nephrology Szent Margit Hospital Kidney
Foundation Avicenna International College**

Dr. Haris Ágnes PhD
Budapest, Hungary





Hungarian Kidney Foundation

Establishment of the Hungarian Kidney Foundation

The 1st charity foundation after II World War in Hungary

Established

In 1987 by Laszlo Rosivall

Type: Charity, public foundation

Aim

To support the development of education, research and clinical practice of nephrology from prevention to rehabilitation

Strategic plans

- provision of grants by applications
- establishment of Nephrology
Research and Training Centre, 1990
- academic nucleus by inter-departmental network
- training young talented nephrologists
at international levels
- establishment of PhD program, 1993
- establishment of an international refreshing course, 1994
- education the patients and the society
- establishment of Awards





Hungarian
Kidney
Foundation

Major activities of our Foundation

Education



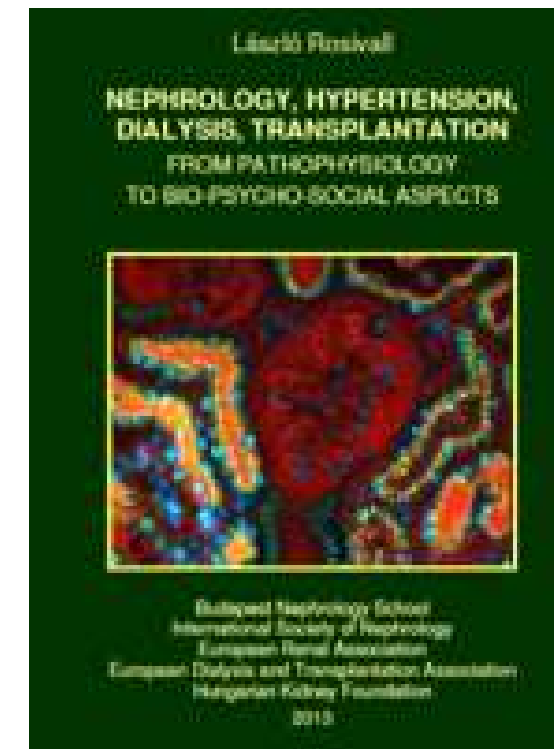
Everything you can do
yourself to SLOW
YOUR KIDNEY
DISEASE

*K.Bergström, Per Åke
Zillén*



THE KIDNEY BOOK
Dr.S.MirzaHosseini
Dr.T..Várady
Dr.K.Farkas PhD

Facilitation of research Rehabilitation



Budapest Nephrology School
Nephrology Research and
Training Centre PhD program
Grants and Awards



Educational and lifestyle camps for Patients and Their Relatives

Organized and led by Kálmán Polner MD
St Margit Hospital Kidney Foundation, Budapest

One week camps with 10-12 patients and their relatives in each group

- multidisciplinary educational team: nephrologists, CKD nurse educators, dietician, social worker, psychologist, rehabilitation specialist, Tai-chi- and physiotherapist, expert patients
- conversations about compliance, coping, self- and stress-management

Patients have to be accompanied by their relatives, but free of charge for everyone

Major aims

- Slowing down the progression of CKD
- Choosing home-based dialysis modality
- Enhancing Tx activity

EDUCATIONAL AND LIFE STYLE CAMPS FOR PATIENTS AND THEIR RELATIVES IN HUNGARY



Establishment of the Budapest Nephrology School in 1994

Budapest Nephrology School is a one-week, English speaking, internationally recognized, CME refresher nephrology course which has been organized by the Hungarian Kidney Foundation at the Semmelweis University for the past 28 years, under the auspices of **ERA-EDTA, RPS, IFKF ISP and earlier support from the ISN.**



Lectures about kidney health and diseases for senior citizens, family physicians, pharmacists, etc.





nOw Piloting **The Kidney Book**

The first **in-depth** and **interactive**
coursebook dedicated to **kidney studies**.

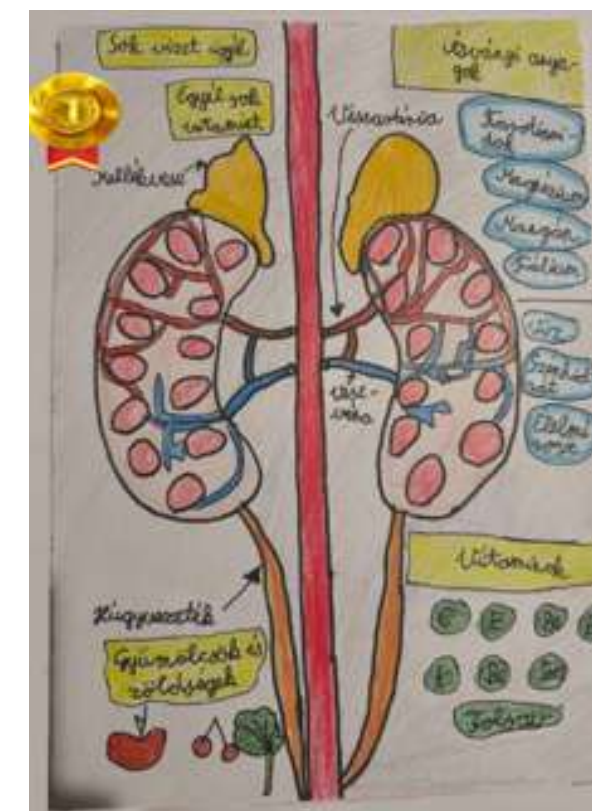
8 thematic units

AI & research-based tasks

Videos & quizzes in each unit



Young students' art works for the WKD





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 23rd 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 2025), we organised 51 awareness programs and 38 screening camps were held across Gujarat, with people being made attentive through these programs in various Taluka and interior villages of Vadodara, Surat, Anand, Narmada, Mehsana, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Gandhinagar and Ahmedabad district. Around 3200 people were given proper advice about diabetes – BP and preventing kidney disease.

- A Glimpse of the Prevention Through Awareness Programmes:



Ahmedabad



Gandhinagar



Vadodara



Mehsana

- A Glimpse of BP, SUGAR and Kidney (Serum creat.) check-up camps:



Gandhinagar



Mehsana



Rajkot



Bhavnagar

2. PRERANA:

We at IRF, do rehabilitation activities for kidney patients under Prerana. The activity started in 2002. We have a formal association of kidney patients in all chapters. The objectives of this activity are counseling, advise, recreation, rehabilitation, education and motivation of patients

Ahmedabad

On Sunday, 27 April 2025, a delightful and fun motivational program was organized for Prerana members under the 'Prerana' program at Sadvichar Parivar, Satellite, Ahmedabad. The main speaker was well known motivational speaker Shri Maheshbhai Sanghvi. He gave an outstanding explanation on the topic of 'Four Keys to Happiness' in very simple speech with examples, praise and inspired to live life with a positive approach.



Surat

On April 20, 2025, a musical program of beautiful songs and music was organized in this chapter for the benefit of kidney patients under the banner of 'Prerana' in collaboration with artists from the well-known Pancham Group of Surat. On this moment, the Chairman of IRF Surat Chapter, Shri Sharadbhai Kapadia & Local Advisory Committee Member, Mrs. Jignasaben Trivedi, was especially present.



Gir Somnath

For the first time, an educational program was organized by the organization in Veraval under the banner of Prerana at Gir Somnath Chapter. Dr. Danish Savaliya (Nephrologist) was present as a main speaker and provided detailed information on the diet that kidney patient undergoing Hemodialysis and kidney transplant treatment have to follow, Regular check-ups and control of BP and diabetes and other problems encountered during treatment.



Bhavnagar

A heart-warming aid program was organized at India Renal Foundation, Bhavnagar on 21 June 2025 in collaboration with Indian Red Cross Society, Bhavnagar. Under the program, Free Foolscap notebooks were distributed to kidney patients and their studying children.



3. Save a Life

‘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 (January to March) we helped Rs. 2,03,202/- supporting 52 needy dialysis patients and kidney transplant patients by the way of providing dialyzer and Blood tubing, medicines, and support for the surgery expenses of making A.V. Fistula.

Musical program organized to help in the treatment of needy kidney patients

Shri Rohitbhai Parikh, a member of the local advisory committee of the Vadodara chapter of the organization, has taken a resolution to raise funds to financially help kidney patients in their treatment by organizing 71 musical programs on the occasion of his 71st Birthday.

In accordance with which, 2 musical programs were organized during this period.

Firstly, a beautiful musical event was organized on May 16, 2025 at Vasvik Hall, Vadodara. In which the famous singer Shri Chandrashekhar Pagedar, his daughter Janaki Kanetkar, Shri Rohitbhai and his team members enthralled the audience by singing evergreen melodious songs. Enjoying the program, the audience present donated as much as they could.

India Renal
Foundation



Second program was organized on May 25, 2025, Sunday at Smt. Kamalaba Hall, Mehsana. Shri Rohitbhai and his team entertained the audience by singing beautiful melodious songs.

Shri Sharadbhai Shah, Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Mehsana, the members of the Advisory Committee Shri Chandubhai Patel, Shri Surendrabhai Parikh and Shri Dr. Mukeshbhai Chaudhary(Nephrologist) were specially present.



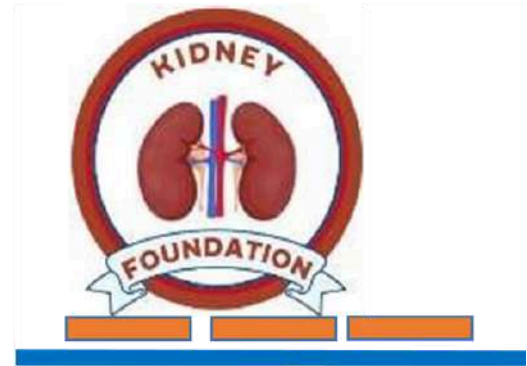
In both the above programs, Rs. 1, 44,829/- and Rs. 1, 36,355/- have been received respectively by the organization.



Kidney
Foundation
Malawi

Kidney Foundation - Malawi

TOGETHER WE CAN REDUCE CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE AND TIMELY
TREAT ACUTE KIDNEY DISEASE



Dr. Charles Munthali RENAL DOCTOR AT KCH

Kidney Foundation-Malawi and all the dialysis doctors, nurses and clients were heartbroken due to the death of dedicated, friendly and loving doctor, Dr Charles Munthali in the month of July while he was receiving treatment in India. Dr Munthali was our renal doctor who could not go for lunch until he finishes with his patients, a doctor who could give hope and in some case patients could get relieved just meeting him. From the community who work with him or treated by him they describe him as; Dr. Munthali was extremely kind and very empathetic. He gave every patient particular attention that made them feel well- cared for. (Mercy Chipyoza-Guardian), A very passionate Doctor who loved both his work and clients too, (Patrick

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Kidney
Foundation
Malawi

AMPLIFYING THE CHALLENGES FACED BY PATIENTS WITHIN THE DIALYSIS UNIT IN MALAWI



Gezawo and Samuel- Thandiwe
as the host

The Foundation conducted a television program at Luntha TV to amplify the challenge which people living with kidney failure are facing when accessing dialysis services at Kamuzu Central Hospital (KCH) in Lilongwe. It was a panel discussion and Samuel and Gezawo participated and the following were highlighted as the main challenges which patients at KCH dialysis unit face. There is persisting shortage of drugs, including hypertensive drugs, calcium casitrial and other supplementary drugs, patients are coming from rural areas and majority of us are not working with very little if not no income and depending on well-wishers to support the patients with transport to and from dialysis twice a week. Because of the economic hardship the government is facing all patients are being given renal unfriendly diet including beans on our meals.

Living with kidney failure without a sustained resources is like tempting to brush the teeth of a crocodile

MAY MEASURING MONTH-MMM2025



ELLIOT- BOARD MEMBER OF KFM
RECORDING THE BP READING
FOR THE COMMUNITY-M'BALUKU

One of the contribution factor of the increased kidney failure in Malawi is uncontrolled hypertension, poor management of hypertension by the community and lack of information or not knowing that people are living with hypertension or not knowing that they are at risk and they need medical attention.

For the past 6 years Kidney Foundation has been involved in May Measuring Month which runs from 1st May to 31st July every year. This year we covered the following areas; Namiyasi, Makawa, Nsanama, Liwonde, area 24 and Katondo. The foundation managed to screen a total of 4,821 people and identify 837 who were at risk and we referred them to nearest health care center for further investigation.

MEDIA TRAININGS ON NCDS IN LILONGWE-MALAWI



GROUP PHOTO OF MEDIA TRAINING

We need to mobilize resources because this was just a drop of water in the ocean. There are many reporters who need such type of training. Therefore the foundation need to lobby other funders to enable the foundation hold such trainings now and then.

LIFE IS A PRECIOUS GIFT



MAC SOON AFTER TRANSPLANT IN INDIA

Media houses are very important when it comes to awareness and there is a need to build their capacity so that they are able to report and give the correct information of NCDs including kidney disease to the general public.

Kidney Foundation in partnership with the NCD alliance facilitated a training to building the capacity of reporters from different media house, including the Televisions, radios, on-line Medias and newspapers houses. From the trainings it was observed that there is a gap on the NCDs information as it was evidently noted that some reporters don't know the risk factors of NCDs including the causes of kidney failure

Mac had been on dialysis for over 10 years. This occurred due to high blood pressure and diabetes. The family members were very supportive in helping him to go to the hospital and showing him love. As time went on, he started to become weak day by day because of the dialysis process. One day, the family had a meeting discussing the kidney transplant process.

The process for kidney transplant went well, the surgery was successful, and the new kidney began to function immediately. He was very happy to see his normal life back. The donor was happy too for serving the patient's life. This transplant was done in India and used out of pocket total of \$ 41, 0000 of which many Malawian cannot afford.

Even though Mac had transplant, the journey is not easy, it has its challenges. Mac is supposed to be taking immunosuppressant medication for the rest of his life to prevent rejection and these drugs are very expensive in Malawi at average he is spending MK 1,100,000 using his medical insurance per month. He is always dealing with side effects such as infection and weight gain. He also has some emotional challenges, worrying of taking a lot of medication for the rest of his life.

Apart from the above challenges, the transplant process has made him see the importance of charity work towards the patients who are on dialysis. He offers transport money to the patient who stays very far from the hospital, and sometimes he provides food to the patients who have been admitted in the wards.

As the foundation we have a plan to involve Mac to advocate for organ donation like kidneys, and advocate for the change in policy for the benefit of those who did transplant

YOUTH AND POLITICS



Shaila as host with Samuel and Dingani

Youth and Politics is a radio and TV program on the national TV and Radio, Malawi Broadcasting Cooperation MBC. The Producer of the program invited the foundation to be part of the panel discussion on the topic of effects of Alcohol on NCDs

Malawi is facing alarming rates of alcohol consumption, particularly among young people, with some reports placing the country among the highest in the region. This trend has serious implications for public health including kidney failure, social stability, and economic productivity. Despite having the Liquor Act and related bylaws in place, alcohol remains widely available, often in unregulated forms and in settings accessible to minors. The Alcohol Regulation Board has recently signaled its intention to take a stronger stance, introducing tougher measures to curb harmful drinking

The foundation through its representatives took this as an advantage to amplify the results of alcohol consumption in relation to kidney disease. The foundation emphasized the need to monitor the consumption of alcohol to prevent NCDs including Kidney disease which is very expensive to manage.



Kidney
Foundation
Malawi

KIDNEY FOUNDATION IS COMMITTED TO SUPPORT PATIENTS

COMMUNITY SENSITIZATION



The Foundation has been working in corroboration with Malawi NCD Alliance to identify the gap in the response to NCDs in Malawi and it was noted that our communities are not meaningfully involved because some of them don't know their role or they don't understand issues of NCDs including kidney disease.

Therefore the foundation in corroboration with the Alliance conducted the community sensitization and gave the opportunity to the general communities for screening. We conduct the community sensitization in three places and we managed to screen 430 for hypertension and 203 for diabetes.

We had challenges of resources like shortages of gluco- sticks and this hindered us to do more screening. We believe that next time we will have more resources and reach out to more

KAMUZU CENTRAL HOSPITAL DIALYSIS UNIT



Kamuzu Central Hospital Dialysis Unit has 12 dialysis machines and is able to accommodate 24 patients plus per day from Monday to Saturday. The majority of the patients do twice a week, many of these patients are coming from the rural area, un-employed and living below the poverty line.

We noted that there two critical challenges patients face; there is persisting shortages of drugs and because of the economic hardship the government is going through patients are receiving renal unfriendly diets. These challenges are compromising the health of patients.

KCH DIALYSIS UNIT IN LILONGWE

The foundation is trying to mobilize resource to support the patients through support kidney failure patients with essential medicine project. We are calling on well-wisher to support the project either financially or in kind. We are also working out if we can manage to mobilize funds and improve diet because we only need close to \$ 256 per week.

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Editorial Desk

Global Organ Transplantation Report 2023: Key Highlights

In 2023, global organ transplants rose by 9.5%, according to data from 93 countries compiled by the Global Observatory on Donation and Transplantation (GODT).

While donation after brain death (DBD) rose by 7%, it was donation after circulatory death (DCD) that saw a remarkable 19% increase, now contributing 25% of the global deceased donor pool - a significant factor driving the overall growth in transplant numbers.

Notably, heart transplants crossed the five-digit mark for the first time, with 10,121 transplants performed globally - reflecting a 13% increase over the previous year. Lung transplants also saw a robust 15% rise, further contributing to the upward trend.

We bring you these compelling insights from the GODT report.

- India continues to play a pivotal role on the global stage:
- It accounts for 9.5% of all transplants performed worldwide.
 - It performs 25% of the world's living kidney transplants.
 - India leads the world in the number of living kidney and liver transplants.

Reference:
<https://www.transplant-observatory.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/2023-data-global-report-17122024.pdf>

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Global activity in organ transplantation Estimations 2023

Kidney	Liver	Heart	Lung	Pancreas	S. bowel
111,135	41,111	10,121	7,811	2,054	177

≈ 172,409 solid organ transplants

≈ 9.5% increase vs 2022

≤ 10% of global needs

39% living kidney transplants

25% living liver transplants

45,861 deceased donors (34,466 DBD and 11,395 DCD donors)

Information of 93 Member States on organ transplantation activities (75% of the total population)
<https://www.transplant-observatory.org/>

To cite : Shroff S. Global Organ Transplantation Report 2023: Key Highlights. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p1.

continued on page 7...

In the news – International

Human Bladder Transplant: Innovation in the Regenerative Surgery of the Urinary System

For the first time ever, a multidisciplinary group from the University of Southern California (USC) and University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), successfully performed a human bladder transplant in May 2025. The recipient was a 41-year-old man with prior oncologic surgeries and end-stage renal failure. He underwent an eight-hour surgery at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center where he received both a bladder and kidney transplant.

This first attempt at bladder transplantation has been the result of more than four years of preparation. There has been preclinical simulation for robotic-assisted techniques on deceased, immunologic feasibility studies and more. The principal investigators Dr. Inderbir Gill from USC and Dr. Nima Nassiri from UCLA reported that the transplanted bladder showed signs of immediate vascular integration and the kidney produced urine during the operation which confirmed integrated function leading to metabolic management.

The conventional methods for reconstructing bladder loss, particularly enterocystoplasty, have a high long-term morbidity burden. This transplant model provides a more biologically and functionally optimal solution, which may further reduce the metabolic complications and infection risks.

Although short-term graft survival and recovery have shown promise, the team has begun a clinical trial at UCLA to assess bladder function over time, immune response, graft-host integration, and patient-reported outcomes. This single case contributes to a major leap in the development of composite organ transplantation, profoundly advancing the scope of regenerative medicine, surgical technology, and prospects for lower urinary tract reconstruction.

To cite : Sharma P, Suriyamoorthi S. Human Bladder Transplant: Innovation in the Regenerative Surgery of the Urinary System. In the news. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p2.

Brain Dead Mother from Georgia Delivers Baby Boy Named 'Chance'

In an extraordinary emotionally charged case from Georgia, Adriana Smith, 31, a nurse and mother, suffered from a brain hemorrhage from blood clots during early pregnancy which led to her being declared brain dead in February 2025. Medical staff kept her on life support for over three months to enable her fetus to grow. Under Georgia's strict abortion laws, which give embryos legal personhood around six weeks, Smith's family reported they were told that life support termination was out of the question.

An emergency caesarean section performed on June 13, resulted in the birth of a 1 pound 13-ounce premature baby boy named Chance. He was born 26 weeks into gestation. Chance was being treated in a neonatal intensive care unit when the news was published.

However, in May 2025, Georgia Attorney General Chris Carr released a statement stating Georgia's six-week law does not require medical professionals to keep women alive on life support after being declared brain-dead.

"Removing life support is not an action with the purpose to terminate a pregnancy," Mr Carr's spokesperson, Kara Murray, said in the statement.

This has raised significant concerns regarding the legal rights of the family and the emotional distress they experience during such a sensitive time. This case has reignited discussions around the blend of legal abortion, life sustaining treatment and the rights of families dealing with such enormous implications.

To cite : Sharma P, Suriyamoorthi S. Brain Dead Mother from Georgia Delivers Baby Boy Named 'Chance'. In the news. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p2.

Ireland Implements Opt-Out Organ Donation System

In an effort to enhance organ availability for transplantation, Ireland implemented its opt-out organ donation system in June 2025. As per the Part 2 of the Human Tissue Act (HTA) 2024, all individuals over the age of 18 will be automatically considered to have consented to organ donation unless they actively opt out.

However, as before, family consent will still be required for organ donation. The legislation will formalize the concept of a "designated family member" and establish a clear hierarchy among next-of-kin. At the time of death, a member of this designated hierarchy will be approached by the medical team to provide consent for organ donation.

This change places Ireland in the same category as other European Union Nations that operate on the presumed consent basis. The system also allows for non-directed altruistic living donation and ensures an oversight panel for ethical and transparent governance.

The Health Service Executive (HSE) will be responsible for maintaining the Opt-Out Register and providing national oversight to ensure compliance. Early evidence suggests favorable attitudes from the public. With around 600 patients waiting for transplants, the policy is expected to not only boost the number of organ donations but also deepen research trials focussed on organ preservation, immune tolerance, and paediatric transplantation.

The new policy change is a significant milestone in Ireland's organ donation system - enhancing evidence-based transplant practice while still being compliant with donor autonomy and ethical safeguards.

To cite : Sharma P, Suriyamoorthi S. Ireland Implements Opt-Out Organ Donation System. In the news. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p2.

In the news – National

Octogenarian Mother Donates Kidney to Save Ailing Daughter - The Mother's Miracle

At Sawai Man Singh (SMS) Medical College and Hospital, Jaipur, an 84-year-old mother made a rare and selfless kidney donation to her 50-year-old daughter struggling with chronic kidney disease. Although she was an elderly donor, she went ahead without second thought to donate her kidney, when the doctor advised transplantation as the only hope of survival for her daughter, and there was no other living donor willing to donate. She had said, "My life can save hers; I am ready if I can save my daughter."

Dr. Neeraj Agarwal, the senior consultant who performed the surgery, said, "Organ donation at this age is quite rare." Her physical fitness, mental strength, and willingness has challenged the belief that age is a barrier in donation. The donor was kept under observation for three days in the Urology ICU before discharge; while the daughter - the recipient was recovering well with the new kidney functioning near normal.

Dr. Shivam Priyadarshi, Head of Urology, stated that such donations not only offer hope to patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD), but also highlight the altruism and strong support systems that exist within families. This inspiring donation story reflects not only a medical triumph but also the enduring strength of a mother's love.

To cite : Sharma P, Suriyamoorthi S. Octogenarian Mother Donates Kidney to Save Ailing Daughter - The Mother's Miracle. In the news. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p3.

Organ Donation Infrastructure Boost: ₹643.88 Cr nod for Kozhikode Institute

A sanction of ₹643.88 crore as the budget to set up the Kozhikode Institute of Organ and Tissue Transplant was given in the cabinet meeting held on June 5, 2025. The decision has been made after a detailed project report presented by the implementing agency, the Health Minister Veena George informed.

The upcoming institute will be one of its types in the state, where all services related to organ donation and transplantation will be available under one roof. It is expected to cover treatment, education, training, research, and awareness in the field of organ transplantation and provide cutting-edge transplant treatment and post-operative rehabilitation.

The centre would be constructed in Chevayur, Kozhikode on a 20-acre site. It will consist of four six-storeyed blocks with the capacity of 510 beds developed in two phases and will include operation theatres, dialysis centre, and a research facility.

The centre will facilitate both organ and tissue transplants, including kidneys, livers, hearts, lungs, corneas, intestines, pancreas, bone marrow, soft tissues, hands, and bones. The State-run K-SOTTO will be in charge of the drive to coordinate organ donations.

To cite : Sharma P, Suriyamoorthi S. Organ Donation Infrastructure Boost: ₹643.88 Cr nod for Kozhikode Institute. In the news. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p3.

AIIMS Raipur Carried out the Landmark-First-ever Swap Kidney Transplant in Chhattisgarh

AIIMS Raipur has successfully performed its first swap kidney transplant in March 2025, becoming the first government hospital in the state to do so.

Two male ESRD (end-stage renal disease) patients, 39 and 41 years old from Bilaspur, who were on dialysis for three years, could not accept the kidneys offered by their wives as living donors, due to blood group incompatibility. The AIIMS Raipur team thus, had to carry out Kidney Paired Transplant (KPT), also known as swap transplant. The process implied that the wife of each patient gave her kidney to the other patient, and thus both recipients received the transplants. In the Transplant ICU, all the donors and recipients - were reported to be doing well after they underwent the surgery.

According to the Health Ministry, swap transplants can boost the total number of transplants by 15%. National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) has proposed this to all the states. AIIMS Raipur has become a prime institution in the matter of renal transplantation in the region. In the last two years, the institute has performed 54 kidney transplants with 95% graft survival and 97% patient survival. The institute has also initiated deceased donor transplantation and paediatric kidney transplantation in the state.

To cite : Sharma P, Suriyamoorthi S. AIIMS Raipur Carried out the Landmark-First-ever Swap Kidney Transplant in Chhattisgarh. In the news. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p3.

Tamil Nadu Records 109 Deceased Donations in First Five Months of 2025

According to the Transplant Authority of Tamil Nadu (TRANSTAN), Tamil Nadu has again reigned its momentum in deceased organ donation with 109 donors in the first five months of 2025. Of the 109 donors so far this year, 47 donations are from government hospitals.

In 2024, the State of Tamil Nadu set a national record with 268 deceased donors - thereby facilitating the retrieval and transplant of over 1,500 organs and tissues, said Dr. N. Gopalakrishnan, TRANSTAN's Member Secretary. Though the majority of donors have suffered brain death due to road accidents, there is a growing focus on donations following medical causes like intracranial bleeding.

Though the state's deceased donation rate has been increasing over the years, long waiting lists - particularly for kidneys - remain a significant concern. To support the awareness campaign, TRANSTAN launched a student charter at Madras Medical College, aiming to create young organ donation ambassadors, early in their career journey. "Organ donation is a collective responsibility. Everyone in the society has a role to play," Dr. Gopalakrishnan said.

To cite : Sharma P, Suriyamoorthi S. Tamil Nadu Records 109 Deceased Donations in First Five Months of 2025. In the news. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p3.

Invited Article

End-of-Life Care in India



Raj Kumar Mani,
Director Clinical Services
Intensivist and Pulmonologist
Yashoda Hospital, Kaushambi Ghaziabad, UP

Introduction: It has come to be a norm for terminally ill patients to spend their dying days in hospitals and ICUs. Aggressive interventions when applied inappropriately in this situation impose enormous physical, emotional and economic burdens on the patient and the family. The quality of dying, therefore needs as much attention as other measures of quality in the ICU. End-of-life care (EOLC) is about the human-centric care of the dying and the grieving, unlike the challenges of resuscitation, rescue and cure in those with a realistic chance of survival. In the West, efforts to integrate end of life and palliative care in ICUs started in the early 1990s. In India, this conceptual shift has been slow to evolve in ICU and hospital practice.

What are the barriers to EOLC in India?

The most formidable barrier is the lack of "death literacy" among both physicians and the lay public. Death is a taboo subject that both balk at discussing candidly. With the result that the recognition of oncoming death and focus on the needs of the dying get neglected. Death is profoundly difficult to face, although it is widely acknowledged as an inescapable truth. The physicians must skilfully recognize the terminal trajectory of illness and candidly but sensitively share the status with the family. The physician must compassionately support the family through the process of acceptance and appropriate care.

Secondly, there is a lack of ethical awareness and training among healthcare providers. The medical code of ethics is archaic and does not include the ethics of caring for the terminally ill. The medical curricula also fail to address the care of the dying. The entire training is oriented towards curative efforts aiming to "fight till the end", no matter the phase of the illness or disease trajectory.

Thirdly, the lack of public discourse on the issues around the futility of technologically intensive care in the terminally or incurably ill patients. There is a lack of discussion on how to ensure a good death so far as is possible both in and outside hospitals.

Lastly, there is inadequate direction in National health policy. Although the national policy recognizes the value of palliative care, it is silent about the needs and care of the dying. There is no well-developed national culture that nurtures humane care of the dying except in the state of Kerala that has pioneered community palliative care.

Evolution of end-of-life care in India

At the turn of the millennium, there was little awareness of EOLC in the country. The Indian Society of Critical Care Medicine (ISCCM) published its first position paper in 2005, suggesting an end of life decision-making pathway in the ICU integrating clinical and ethical principles. There was a legal vacuum with only a handful of case laws turning down request for permission to commit suicide for burdensome terminal illness. There was no reference to Do-Not-Attempt-Resuscitation (DNAR) or withdrawal and withholding decisions. The ISCCM approached the Law Commission of India for its opinion on the legal position of foregoing of life support treatment (FLST) decisions in India. The Commission published the 196th draft bill "for the medical treatment of terminally ill patients". The Bill in its opening lines stated unambiguously that FLST decisions do not constitute active euthanasia, that they do not violate suicide Laws and are legally valid when specific requirements are met. The Bill also disallowed Advance Will believing it to be subject to "misuse". It proposed decisions to be validated by the High Court which was not practically feasible. Therefore, in a handful of institutions across India the ISCCM pathway was followed for ethical decision-making.

The next milestone on this journey was the Aruna Shanbaug judgement in 2012, where the term of reference was removal of feeding tube from a chronically vegetative patient. For the first time for India, the judgement held "passive euthanasia" or FLST as constitutionally valid. However, it prescribed validation by the high court for withdrawal of artificial feeding in a vegetative patient. The judgement did not address the other scenarios in which FLST was applicable.

In 2015, a professional advocacy was formed called End of Life Care in India Task force (ELICIT) having members from 3 societies- ISCCM, IAPC (Indian Association of Palliative Care) and IAN (Indian Academy of Neurology). It embarked on a vigorous campaign reaching out to other professional group and the lay public to spread awareness. It engaged with legal experts to influence legal developments. It also worked with Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to publish the definition of terms relating to EOLC and a Do-not-attempt Resuscitation (DNAR) guidelines. Many publications in scientific journals and op-eds in major newspapers on EOLC have resulted through ELICIT.

Institutional guidelines and standard operating procedures for EOLC and palliative care were developed by the Manipal Group of Hospitals (The BLUE MAPLE, 2017) and by AIIMS, New Delhi (2020).

The ground breaking judgement was in 2018, Common Cause vs The UOI. Based on the rights of autonomy and privacy enshrined in Article 21 of the constitution, it held FLST to be legally valid when certain conditions are fulfilled. On the same basis, the right to

execute a Living Will or Advance Directive (AD) was also held to be valid. What the judgement promoted in principle, it undid in the FLST procedure put forth. It mandated a 3-tier decision-making process involving, apart from 2 medical panels, the District Collector and the judicial magistrate of first class. The procedure was clearly unworkable for the everyday situations in the ICU.

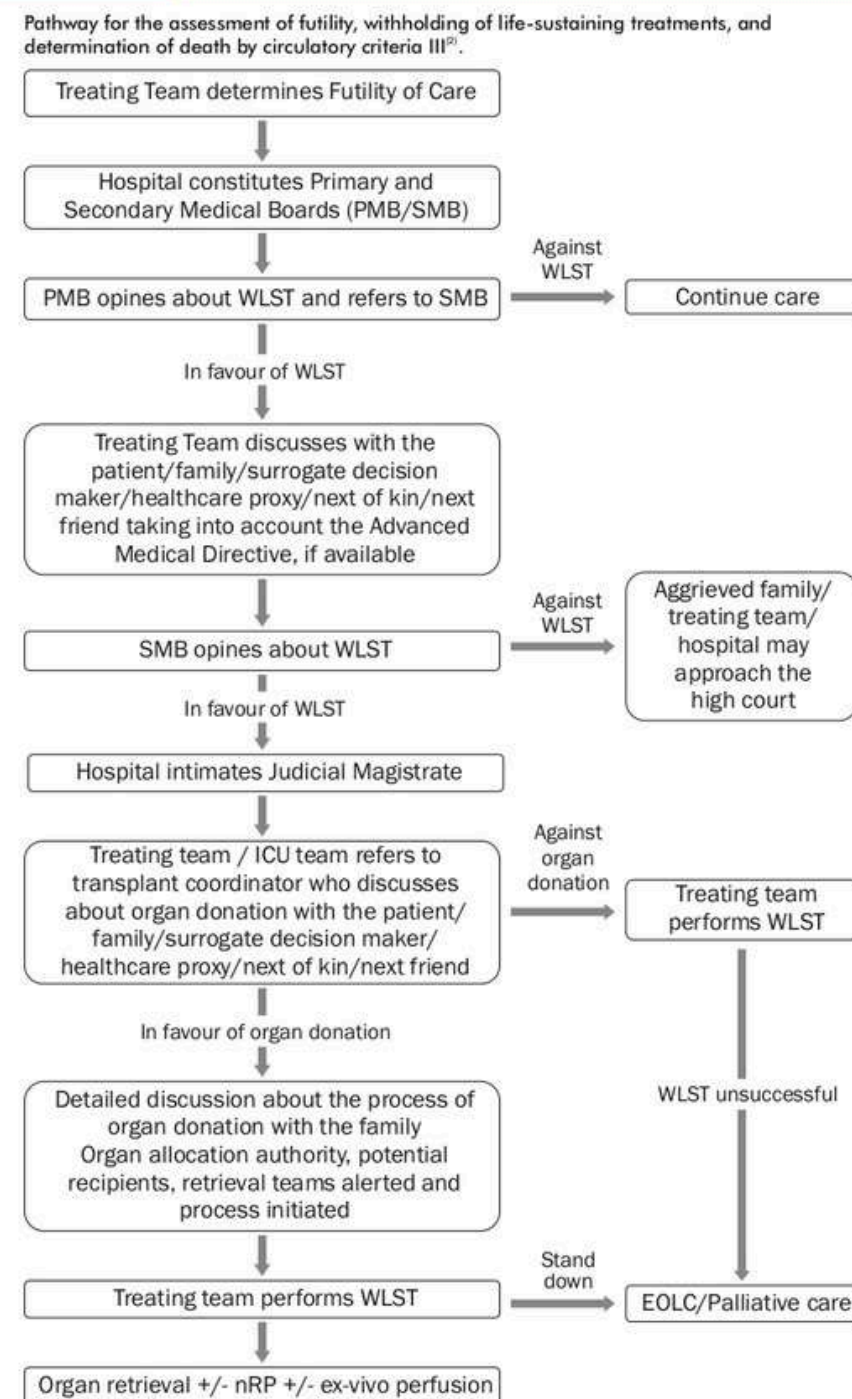
The ISCCM, represented by the Vidhi Center for Legal Policy and supported by EUCIT appealed to the Supreme Court for procedural simplification. In a momentous decision in Jan 2023, the SC allowed simplification of both AD execution and FLST decisions⁽¹⁾. The pathway is similar whether there is a valid AD in existence. A two-tier process was prescribed: a primary medical board in the hospital makes a shared decision with either the legal proxy (where a valid AD exists) or the next of kin. This preliminary step must be validated by a secondary board which includes 3 other physicians, one of whom must be a nominee of the District Health Officer (DHO). All physicians on the boards must have at least 5 years of subject experience. There is nothing in the judgement against having a standing panel of secondary board or having the hospital's physicians nominated by the DHO.

Following this development the ISCCM and IAPC published a position paper on end-of-life and palliative care in Indian ICUs in March 2024. It integrates the latest ethical and clinical principles with the current legal requirements into a 10-step pathway. The pathway emphasises the need for skilful and empathetic communication as central to effective EOL decision-making.

The way forward

Several state health ministries have taken steps to implement the Supreme Court Judgement - Jan 2023. They include Maharashtra, Karnataka, Goa and Haryana. There is a rapidly growing physician and public awareness of the need to promote dignified death. Campaigns to facilitate execution of Living Wills are also underway. What is needed is for physicians to champion the cause of ethical decision-making on the ground in every healthcare environment.

To cite : Mani R K. End-of-Life Care in India, Indian Transplant Newsletter, 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p4-5.



WLST: Withholding of life-sustaining treatments, SMB: Secondary medical board, PMB: Primary medical board, ICU: Intensive care unit, nRP: Normothermic regional perfusion

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Invited Article

Conference

**International Transplant Congress Hosted
by ESOT | 29 June – 2 July 2025 | London**

The International Transplant Congress, hosted by the European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT), took place in London from 29 June to 2 July 2025. Centered around the theme 'Nurturing a Sustainable Transplantation Journey,' the congress emphasized on innovation, equity, long-term graft survival, and environmentally responsible practices in transplantation.



Highlights from ESOT 2025:

The congress brought together experts from across the globe and showcased cutting-edge advancements in transplantation science, clinical practice, and policy.

- **Personalised Transplant Medicine** - Advances in genomics, biomarkers, and AI-driven predictive tools aimed at tailoring immunosuppression and improving graft longevity.
- **Sustainable Transplantation** - Conversations around reducing the environmental footprint of transplantation, with practical solutions addressing hospital operations and organ transport logistics.
- **Equity and Access** - Addressing disparities in access to transplant, especially for migrants, ethnic minorities, and low-income populations in both high- and low-resource settings.
- **Xenotransplantation and Regenerative Medicine** - Updates on breakthroughs in organ bioengineering, including 3D-printed tissues and xenograft models that may address future organ shortages.

Jaya Jairam, Project Director - MOHAN Foundation delivered an oral presentation on *"Technology in Organ Donation and Transplantation - From Enabler to Predictor"*. She presented a novel AI-powered innovation developed in India that enables precise kidney donor-recipient matching and predicts long-term organ survival. This tool is designed to support clinical decision-making and improve transplant outcomes, particularly in resource-constrained settings.

She also contributed several posters that showcased MOHAN Foundation's diverse and inclusive approach to strengthening the transplant ecosystem:

- Printed poster - 'Successful deployment of Drone-based transport systems for delivering organs'
- E-Posters -
 - Enabling transplants for the non-affording using crowdfunding
 - Impact of organ donation ambassador training
 - Empowering transplant professionals through an innovative E-Learning training programme
 - Equity through public-private partnership in underserved Northeastern India

To cite : Jairam J. International Transplant Congress Hosted by ESOT | 29 June–2 July 2025 | London. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p6.

19th IFKF-WKA Conference
13 - 15 June, 2025 | Rome

The 19th IFKF-WKA Conference was held in Rome from June 13-15, 2025, jointly hosted by International Federation of Kidney Foundations - World Kidney Alliance and Italian Kidney Foundation (Fondazione Italiana del Rene).



The International Federation of Kidney Foundations (IFKF) is a global alliance committed to fostering international collaboration and the exchange of ideas to enhance the health, well-being, and quality of life of individuals living with kidney disease. IFKF advocates for the improvement of healthcare delivery systems and promotes the adoption and dissemination of best practices in treatment and care. Through education programs, communication with partner organizations, and knowledge-sharing-particularly in areas such as fundraising-the Federation supports its member organizations in their mission to improve kidney health worldwide.

Ms. Pallavi Kumar, Executive Director was invited to present the work of MOHAN Foundation during the session titled *"Building Effective Kidney Foundations - Regional and National Impact: Sharing Experiences from Different Countries."* She highlighted the Foundation's multifaceted approach to supporting patients with end-stage renal failure, focusing on creating an ecosystem conducive to initiating transplants in government hospitals. She elaborated on the Foundation's efforts in capacity building for organ donation, and its initiative "Anudaan," which provides financial support for underprivileged patients undergoing transplants. Additionally, she spoke about the Foundation's advocacy work through its patient support group, TRIOMPH, which amplifies patient voices and promotes awareness and empowerment within the transplant community.

Other significant sessions in the conference were:

- Closing the gaps in CKD: Nutritional care
 - From awareness to action: Mobilising communities
 - The fine line of incentives in organ donation
 - Fundraising and social media support for kidney disease research
- 







To cite : Kumar P. 19th IFKF-WKA Conference 13 - 15 June, 2025 | Rome. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p6.

editorial continued from page 1...

Global donation and transplantation activities from 2021 to 2023

	2021	2022	2023	% Variation 2023 vs 2022
Deceased donors	38,156 (6.4)	41,792 (7.0)	45,861 (7.6)	10
DBD donors	29,611 (4.9)	32,248 (5.4)	34,466 (5.7)	7
DCD donors	8,545 (1.4)	9,544 (1.6)	11,395 (1.9)	19
Kidney Tx	92,532 (15.4)	102,090 (17.1)	111,135 (18.5)	9
DD Kidney Tx	57,365 (9.6)	62,489 (10.5)	68,034 (11.3)	9
LD Kidney Tx	35,167 (5.9)	39,601 (6.6)	43,101 (7.2)	9
Liver Tx	34,694 (5.8)	37,436 (6.3)	41,111 (6.8)	10
DD Liver Tx	26,739 (4.5)	28,343 (4.8)	30,977 (5.1)	9
LD Liver Tx	7,930 (1.3)	9,061 (1.5)	10,093 (1.7)	11
Heart Tx	8,409 (1.4)	8,988 (1.5)	10,121 (1.7)	13
Lung Tx	6,470 (1.1)	6,784 (1.1)	7,811 (1.3)	15
Pancreas Tx	2,025 (0.3)	2,026 (0.3)	2,054 (0.3)	1
Small bowel Tx	172 (0.03)	170 (0.0)	177 (0.0)	4
Total organ Tx	144,302 (24.1)	157,494 (26.4)	172,409 (28.6)	9

*Rate (pmp) are calculated by applying the population of the responding countries

Liver Transplants per million population (pmp) 2023  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 41,111 liver transplants 10% increase vs 2022 25% from living donors 41 domino liver transplants 	Lung Transplants per million population (pmp) 2023  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7,811 lung transplants 15% increase vs 2022 10 living transplants (0.1%) 	Heart Transplants per million population (pmp) 2023  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10,121 heart transplants 13% increase vs 2022 1,075 pediatric heart transplants (<18 years) 	Kidney Transplants per million population (pmp) 2023  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 111,135 kidney transplants 9% increase vs 2022 39% from living donors
71/93 countries reported liver transplant activities in 2023	49/93 countries reported lung transplant activities in 2023	58/93 countries reported heart transplant activities in 2023	91/93 countries reported kidney transplant activities in 2023
Global - Patients transplanted by sex (%) 2023 97,938 (64%) male recipients 54,636 (36%) female recipients N=76 countries provided information on the sex of recipients	Global - Transplants from living donors per type of organ (pmp) 2023 43,101 Kidney transplants 10,081 Liver transplants 10 Lung transplants Living transplants performed in 92/93 countries *Additionally, living donor pancreas transplants were reported by India (n=1) and China (n=7)	India - Transplants from living donors per type of organ (pmp) 2023 11,791 Kidney transplants 3,643 Liver transplants 1 Pancreas transplants	

Honouring Umang Galada



Master Umang Galada
18 March 2013 - 20 May 2025

Only 12, yet Umang Galada from Kolkata left a mark far beyond his years - a legacy that will live on forever. Battling end-stage renal failure, Umang underwent a kidney transplant - with his mother selflessly donating her kidney in the hope of giving him a new beginning. But life had other plans. Just hours after the surgery, Umang suffered a cardiac arrest that led to irreversible brain damage. He was declared brain dead on May 21, 2025.

In their darkest hours, his family chose to turn tragedy into hope - donating Umang's organs. His liver gave a second chance at life to a patient in need, and his corneas helped giving the gift of sight to two others.

This tribute honours Umang, whose short life left a lasting legacy, and his family, whose selfless act gave hope to others. It was penned by his parents, **Ujjawal Galada** (Head, Partnerships & Fundraising, India Autism Center) and **Jyoti Galada** (journalist, writer, and kidney donor).



As his name suggests, Umang was full of enthusiasm, intelligence, curiosity, and creativity. He was a keen learner, always eager to try new things, whether it was cooking, coding, or playing the tabla. Whatever he did, he gave it his 100%. Maths and science were his favourite subjects, but his love for them went beyond textbooks. He enjoyed building models, conducting science experiments, and playing with numbers.

Another memory that stays with me is from a tabla competition. He had to submit a 7-minute performance video. He recorded three versions and sent them to his tabla teacher, who replied saying they were "okay." But Umang wasn't satisfied. He said, "I'll keep sending more until sir says 'good', not just 'okay'." He recorded two more, seeking perfection.

He also learned how to operate the dialysis machine, check blood pressure, and even give injections. The nurses used to joke that he could do his own dialysis!

There are so many memories... I could go on and on.

The journey of loss and the decision to donate

Even during his final days, Umang remained his usual energetic and curious self. While admitted for his transplant, he kept asking the nurses, technicians, and doctors endless questions about plasmapheresis, the transplant procedure, and how the machines in the transplant unit worked. He was deeply interested in the roles of all the medical staff.

He was also making plans with his friends and teachers over the phone, excited to return to the school he loved. He even tried to get permission to use his laptop in the transplant unit so he could complete the coding for a game he had started creating. Umang was looking forward to living a normal life after the transplant.

The strength behind saying 'Yes' in the face of heartbreak

Organ donation was not a new concept to us. We had been aware of its importance and process long before Umang was born. It's something we had openly discussed within our family, and many of our elders had already pledged their organs.

And of course, we had personally experienced the emotional toll of waiting for an organ for a loved one. We knew what it meant to be on the other side to be desperately hoping for a donor.

He was deeply loved by everyone for his simplicity, his infectious smile, and his zest for life. Even after being diagnosed with End-Stage Kidney Disease (ESKD), his smile never faded. Despite the exhausting routine of dialysis, he remained positive and full of life. He had a beautiful way of connecting with people, always making an effort to understand others and ensure they were happy in his company.

The reflections of Umang that time cannot erase

Umang had a big heart, especially for those in need. He would always notice and care about people who were sad or struggling. If he saw a street child begging or someone in trouble, he would try to help or ask me to help them.

I remember one moment during dialysis, after it was confirmed that I would be his kidney donor. He saw a six-year-old girl in the unit who was also undergoing dialysis but hadn't found a donor. He asked me to speak to the doctor and see if his own kidneys, which had little function, could be donated to her. I later explained that it wasn't medically possible, but his willingness to help even in his condition, showed the depth of his generous heart.

Hospital experience & reflections

In our case, organ donation wasn't brought up by the hospital, we were the ones who offered to donate Umang's organs and tissues. Once we expressed our wish, the hospital quickly acted and began the process of finding suitable recipients across India.

In our moment of profound grief, that decision brought a sense of pride and purpose. When Umang was given a 'Guard of Honour' for his donation, it felt like his death wasn't in vain and that his life, though short, was full and meaningful.

From waiting to giving - walking the journey firsthand

During the year he was on dialysis, we experienced firsthand the stress and urgency of finding a suitable donor. My husband's kidney, though of the same blood group, was not found suitable. Eventually, we had to opt for an ABO-incompatible transplant, with me as the donor despite having a different blood type.

We met many families during this time especially parents of young children desperately waiting for a deceased organ donor. The waiting list is tragically long, and the number of actual donations still fall short. That reality strengthened our resolve.

Unlocking the potential of informed families

With the right awareness and support, many more families would be willing to donate. There are too many myths and misunderstandings surrounding organ donation that need to be addressed.

Because the final decision lies with the family, it's crucial that people discuss their wish to donate with their loved ones in advance. If a family has already talked about it and agreed, there's a much higher chance they'll say 'Yes' in that critical moment.

FORM - IV

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I, Sunil Shroff, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sd/-

Sunil Shroff

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Hospitals, government and private, must have trained counselors or staff to guide families sensitively when the opportunity for donation arises. It's a small effort that can save countless lives.

Your message to other families

Life and death are not in our hands but how we choose to live and respond to death can be. Organ donation is one of the most powerful acts of kindness and service, and I believe it brings peace to the departed soul.

Knowing that your loved one has saved or transformed someone else's life brings not just comfort, but a deep, lasting pride. It's a legacy of love that lives on long after we're gone.



To cite : Galada U, Galada J. Honouring Umang Galada. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p8-9.



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Donor Story

Interview

Organ Donations from Bhopal: An Emerging Trend



Dr. Rakesh Bhargava
Secretary, Kiran Foundation, Bhopal
<https://thekiranfoundation.in>

AIIMS Bhopal recently witnessed its first deceased organ donation. Could you share more details about this significant milestone?

Yes, AIIMS Bhopal recently achieved a significant milestone by conducting its first deceased organ donation. The donor was a young 37-year-old man who had suffered a traumatic brain injury and was declared brain dead after all medical protocols were followed. The family, with great courage and compassion, agreed to donate organs that gave a new lease of life to multiple recipients. This event marks a turning point in AIIMS Bhopal's journey in organ donation, reflecting the hospital's readiness, coordination, and commitment to life-saving work.

While this marks the first donation at AIIMS Bhopal, the city has seen other cases of organ donation. How many deceased donations have taken place in Bhopal so far, and could you tell us more about them?

So far, Bhopal has seen about 25 deceased organ donations in the past couple of years, across different hospitals including private and government settings. Each case has had a unique story, some initiated by families coming forward on their own, others through sensitive counselling at the right time. What's encouraging is that Bhopal is now appearing more frequently on the national organ donation registry, which shows the growing trust and awareness among people.

What organs have been retrieved in these donations? Were any of them transplanted at AIIMS Bhopal?

In recent donations, organs such as hearts, kidneys, liver, corneas, and occasionally heart valves have been retrieved. So far, 54 kidneys, 23 livers and 7 hearts have been retrieved through deceased donations in Bhopal.

In AIIMS Bhopal's case, kidneys were retrieved and one of them was successfully transplanted within the institute itself. The others were allocated as per NOTTO and SOTTO guidelines to other registered transplant centers.

AIIMS Bhopal has also successfully performed two heart transplants.

You are associated with two organisations working in the field of organ donation. Could you tell us more about these NGOs and the role they've played in facilitating these donations?

Yes, I am associated with Kiran Foundation and another community outreach initiative (GMC Alumni Association). Kiran Foundation has been working extensively to spread awareness about organ donation, support donor families, and conduct sensitization programs in schools, colleges, and hospitals. During these recent cases, the NGO helped in donor family counselling, coordination with SOTTO officials and post-donation emotional support to families. We believe in not just enabling donation, but also celebrating the legacy of donors and giving strength to their families.

What is the current status of organ transplantation in Bhopal? What are some of the hospitals performing transplants?

Organ transplantation in Bhopal is steadily progressing. Kidney transplants are being performed in both public and private hospitals. Liver transplants are being carried out by a private hospital. AIIMS Bhopal has conducted two heart transplants till date.

The infrastructure has evolved significantly over the last few years - transplant teams have been trained, green corridors are operational, and coordination with SOTTO/NOTTO has improved. However, there is still a long way to go in terms of building a robust, city-wide transplant ecosystem.

Some of the hospitals which perform Transplants are AIIMS Bhopal, Bansal Hospital, Sidhanta Red Cross and Apollo Sage.

Are there plans to expand into other types of organ transplants in the near future?

Yes, definitely. The vision is to eventually move towards performing liver and heart transplants more extensively, especially in tertiary centers like AIIMS. Some private hospitals have already started liver transplants with support from teams outside Bhopal. The need of the hour is to invest in capacity-building - training, ICU readiness, donor maintenance protocols - and simultaneously building public confidence in deceased organ donation.



Mohan Foundation

What are some of the key initiatives being undertaken to raise awareness and promote organ donation across Madhya Pradesh?

We are working on a multi-pronged approach:

- Awareness sessions in schools and colleges with help from the district administration.
- Donor family felicitation programs to honour their courage.
- Public campaigns like organ donation walks, rallies, and street plays.
- Regular media engagement and myth-busting series via digital platforms.
- Collaboration with medical colleges and hospitals to train doctors and paramedics on brain death identification and donor counselling.
- The support from SOTTO MP and local authorities has also been instrumental in amplifying these efforts.

From your perspective, what are the main challenges and opportunities when it comes to organ donation and transplantation in Bhopal?

The biggest challenges are:

- Lack of public awareness and myths around organ donation.
- Emotional difficulty in consent, especially in grief situations.
- Limited transplant-ready infrastructure in most hospitals.
- Shortage of trained transplant coordinators and ICU teams.

To cite : Bhargava R. Organ Donations from Bhopal: An Emerging Trend. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p10-11.

Transplant Coordinators' Training Conducted by ZTCC, Pune

The Zonal Transplant Coordination Centre (ZTCC), Pune organized its 10th Transplant Coordinators' Training Program at KEM Hospital, Pune, in association with ROTTO/SOTTO West (Mumbai), under the aegis of NOTTO. Held from 23rd to 27th June 2025, the program aimed to equip participants with practical knowledge and updated guidelines to streamline and strengthen the organ donation and transplantation process. Participants from multiple states attended, facilitating the exchange of experiences and best practices. The event commenced with the official release of a comprehensive "Transplant Coordinator Manual," designed as a valuable reference guide for upcoming coordinators.

The training covered key topics including:

- Introduction to organ donation
- The Transplantation of Human Organs Act, Rules and Amendments
- Roles and functions of NOTTO, ROTTO, SOTTO and ZTCC
- Brain death diagnosis and declaration

Further sessions focused on donor identification and maintenance, legal aspects in medico-legal cases (MLC), family counseling, documentation, and organ sharing and allocation protocols. Specialized lectures explored transplant outcomes in kidney, liver, heart, and lung transplants, along with emerging areas such as Donation after Cardiac Death (DCD), hand and skin

On the other hand, the opportunities are immense:

- High potential donor pool in trauma and neuro ICUs.
- Presence of institutions like AIIMS and HAMIDIA that can lead the movement.
- Growing interest among youth and community leaders to become advocates for the cause.
- Policy support and evolving ecosystem through SOTTO and NOTTO.

Is there anything else you'd like to add before we close?

Yes, I would just like to highlight that organ donation is the highest form of human compassion - where death gives rise to life. Behind every successful transplant is a grieving family that chose hope over despair. As a society, it's our responsibility to create systems and sentiments that honour these decisions. We're hopeful that Bhopal can emerge as a model city in central India for ethical, timely, and life-affirming organ donation and transplant services.

**Interviewed by Ms. Pallavi Kumar
Executive Director - MOHAN Foundation
Delhi - NCR**



To cite : Gokhale A. Transplant Coordinators' Training Conducted by ZTCC, Pune. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p11.

Interview

Recipient Speaks



**Ms. Poonam Sharma
Curriculum Coordinator
MOHAN Foundation**

While working on my doctoral studies at IIT Kanpur what started off as mild exhaustion and dismissed as anaemia in 2006, escalated making routine tasks impossible, and later progressed to stage 3 chronic kidney disease (CKD) by 2008. CKD however, isn't something you can outwalk with willpower alone. Despite my efforts, I had to drop out just short of completion in 2012.

After my diagnosis, my family did everything they could. My parents offered to donate their kidneys, but were found ineligible. Unlike the many stories I'd heard of relationships collapsing under pressure, one person stood by me unwaveringly from day one - my long-time friend who later became my life partner. At that time, we had no idea, deceased organ donation was even an option - until a family friend, a urologist introduced me to it and helped me get registered on the waiting list.

Each day became a test of patience as my health declined and uncertainty grew. The physical exhaustion was tough, but the emotional toll was worse. After more than 2 years of waiting and four unsuccessful calls, I finally received a transplant in 2014. I nearly missed my chance-not due to lack of donors, but because I didn't know such a path existed. That gap in awareness, and the unethical shortcuts I was offered, still haunt me-but they also drive me to speak up and help others find the right way forward.

Guided by my nephrologist, I turned to MOHAN Foundation and I found my window of opportunity- their online Post Graduate Diploma in Transplant Coordination. I enrolled and trained to become a transplant coordinator but couldn't start at the hospital due to COVID restrictions. Today, I have been employed with MOHAN Foundation since 2022 as a Curriculum Coordinator. From being a student to now guiding others - it feels like life has come full circle. Now, I utilize my journey - from diagnosis to cure - to guide others through theirs. Words of my Nephrologist lingered with me, "After transplant, don't live in a shell - spread your wings." I took those words to heart. What began as simple travel became a deep passion for the Himalayas. From treks at altitude above 10,000 feet, visiting remote lakes (above 4500m) and high altitude passes (above 5300m), I've explored the country from Ladakh to Kanyakumari, Rann of Kutch to the Bay of Bengal. These experiences have taught the reality that life after transplant, is an opportunity to do what seemed impossible before. This second chance at life - granted by a generosity of a donor family - is truly a life worth living and is frequently a lot more verdant than the first.

This poem, written by me, is my small tribute to "The Life"

जीने की कितनी पुरजोर खड़ाहिया है
हर साँस उम्मीद से लबरेज
उमंगों भरा मन
आशा के तरंगों को उलूक हृदय
आई थी देखे पवित्र दारवाज़े पर
पर देख मेरे जीने की चाह सड़नी सी से सौट गई
जीने की लम्बा, हर बार मौत से दो कदम आगे निकल गई
मौत भी तो जिंदगी की तरह बरहक है, अजब नहीं तो कल मिलेगी मुझसे।।
इतना है वादा खुदसे
मौत के अगोचर से पहले
जिंदगी से मेरी दोस्ती ना खत्म हो पाएगी
उदास लम्हों में भी आभार खेगा तेरा ए जिंदगी
तूने हर पल इसे खीरने जीवन को रोशन रखा है।।

To cite : Sharma P. Recipient Speaks. Indian Transplant Newsletter. 2025 Apr-Jun; 24(2):p12.

How Fierce is This Desire to Live
Every breath brims with hope,
A heart full of joy,
A soul eager to sing songs of aspiration.
Death came quietly, tiptoeing to my door-
But seeing my yearning to live,
It shrank back and left in silence.
This desire to live,
Each time, stepped two paces ahead of death.
And death-like life itself-is certain,
If not today, then someday, it will come to meet me.
I've made this promise to myself:
Before I surrender to death's embrace,
My friendship with life will not be broken.
Even in my saddest moments,
I will remain grateful to you, O Life-
You've kept this desolate soul alight, every single moment.
- Translated with the help of ChatGPT



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Tamilnad
Kidney
Research
Foundation

Tamilnad Kidney Research Foundation

ACTIVITIES OF TANKER FOUNDATION FROM APRIL 2025 TO JUNE 2025

STRENGTHENING TANKER HANDS

Rotary Club of Chennai Capital, in collaboration with Madras West Round Table 10 (MWRT-10), inaugurated the second phase of a 19-bed dialysis centre at Porur, Chennai. The facility, located within the Sathyalok Shanti Lulla MWRT-10 RCC TANKER Foundation Dialysis Center, now houses 19 state-of-the-art dialysis machines, capable of treating over 126 patients on rotation.

Tamil Nadu Health and Family Welfare Minister, Mr. Ma. Subramanian, inaugurated the centre in May in the presence of Round Table India, Area 2, Area Chairman, Mr. Kunal Chowdhari.

TANKER Foundation was represented by TANKER Foundation Founder Trustee, Dr. Georgi Abraham, Head Admin, Mrs. Vasanthi Ravichander, and Head Purchase, Mr. T.S. Venkatesan.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Subramanian praised TANKER Foundation for the wonderful service it was doing and promised to make dialysis in the Sathyalok centre free – not just subsidised – for the patients, and said he was willing to sanction it if TANKER Foundation applied for it.

TANKER Foundation operates the centre with technical expertise and compassionate care. Major contribution was received from Mr. Sanjay Lulla in memory of his mother, the late Smt. Shanti Lulla. Other substantial contributions were received from Raj Charitable Trust and Raj Petro Specialities (P) Ltd, through Foundation Chairman, Mr. Satya Rao.



Sathylok Phase 2 by **GROWING CIRCLE**

TANKER Foundation Founder Trustee, Dr. Georgi Abraham, in April participated in a function at the N. Krishnasami Memorial Hospital, Dindigul, from where the Deivathiru Balamani Krishnasami Memorial – TANKER Foundation Dialysis Center will function.

Constructed by Mr. Jaikumar Krishnasami, MD of Saravana Mills, Dindigul, it was inaugurated by Tamil Nadu Rural Development Minister I. Periyasamy, with Dr. Georgi Abraham and Mr. P.S. Velusami, Founder, Sri Shanmugavel Mills Group, Dindigul, presiding over the function.

The dialysis centre is part of the memorial hospital at Pitalampatti, Vathalagundu Road, Dindigul, and was declared open by Palani MLA I.P. Senthil Kumar.



Tamil Nadu Health and Family Welfare Minister, Mr. Ma. Subramanian, inaugurated the centre





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BLESSED MEETING

TANKER Foundation Co-Founder and Managing Trustee, Mrs. Latha A. Kumaraswami, had the privilege of meeting His Holiness Pope Leo XIV at Rome on June 11, 2025, while she was there to attend the International Federation of Kidney Foundations–World Kidney Alliance (IFKF–WKA) conference as its immediate past president.

She says, “I had the extraordinary privilege and blessing of meeting His Holiness Pope Leo XIV. It was a deeply humbling, surreal and almost unbelievable experience — one that I will cherish for the rest of my life.”

She was among the few members of the public who had a personal audience with the Pope Leo XIV. She presented His Holiness with a shawl and kissed his hand. She spoke to him briefly about TANKER Foundation and the vital work done in supporting patients with kidney disease across Tamil Nadu, India, and even globally.

She also presented His Holiness with a cap bearing the logos of both IFKF–WKA and the Italian Kidney Foundation and the TANKER memento cup and a book by TANKER Foundation Founder Trustee, Dr. Georgi Abraham, ‘My Patients My God’.

She humbly requested His Holiness for his blessings for the TANKER Foundation, for all patients and staff, and for the continued work of IFKF–WKA in raising kidney health awareness and supporting the formation of kidney foundations around the world.



Latha Kumaraswami presenting the TANKER FOUNDATION Mug and the book by the Founder Dr.Georgi Abraham – “My Patients My God” to His Holiness.

She also presented His Holiness with a cap bearing the logos of both IFKF–WKA and the Italian Kidney Foundation and the TANKER memento cup and a book by TANKER Foundation Founder Trustee, Dr. Georgi Abraham, ‘My Patients My God’.

She humbly requested His Holiness for his blessings for the TANKER Foundation, for all patients and staff, and for the continued work of IFKF–WKA in raising kidney health awareness and supporting the formation of kidney foundations around the world.



Latha Kumaraswami draping a shawl over the shoulders of His Holiness



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Latha Kumaraswami presenting the Cap with IFKF-WKA, TANKER and Italy logos to His Holiness

Mrs.Vasanthi Ravichander, Head – Admin, TANKER FOUNDATION participated in the 19th Annual Conference of IFKF-WKA at Hotel Roma Aurelia Antica, Rome Italy. She presented a PowerPoint about the Genesis of TANKER Foundation, its 14 dialysis units, sponsors, well-wishers, awareness and screening programmes and the various other good work done by TANKER Foundation. Caps with IFKF-WKA and WKD LOGO printed was sponsored by TANKER Foundation and was distributed at the Venue.



Vasanthi presenting at the Rome Conference




ABOUT US

Our Vision & Mission

A World that ensures good healthcare and medical facilities to all.

To provide quality, affordable treatment to underprivileged people, to create awareness, to detect and prevent kidney ailments.



DR. GEORGI ABRAHAM
MD, FRCP (UK)

TANKER (Tamilnad Kidney Research) Foundation is a registered non-profit charitable trust founded in 1993 by Dr. Georgi Abraham, Mrs. Latha A. Kumaraswami and like minded people to reach out to the needy with kidney disease.

Subsidized & Free Hemodialysis

Public Awareness Screening Programme

Lectures & Seminars

Research Grants & Awards

Fund Raising




OUR DIALYSIS UNITS

14 Dialysis Units in Tamil Nadu, India

- 10 units in Chennai
- 4 units in Madurai, Tirupur, Vellore, Dindigul
- Upcoming 1 each in Coimbatore and Chennai


The units are in collaboration with Greater Chennai Corporation, Rotary Club, Roundtable, Freemasons, Corporate and Individual donors





AWARENESS & SCREENING PROGRAMS

TANKER Foundation adopts a layered approach to kidney disease by not only providing subsidized/ free dialysis to the underprivileged patients, but also conducting awareness programmes and holding screening camps.



AWARENESS & SCREENING TEAM HEADED BY MRS. RAJALAKSHMI RAY, ADVISORY MEMBER

We have conducted 627 screening camps. We have screened 48,403 people.

Awareness Programme	Schools	Colleges	Self Help Group	General Public	Corporate	Other Activity	Total
Programmes	611	153	305	96	116	213	1494
People	1,04,367	19674	17707	8269	26531	36974	2,13,522

Genesis of TANKER Foundation

CROSSING SEAS

TANKER Foundation Founder Trustee, Dr. Georgi Abraham, was recently in Osaka, Japan, to participate in a dialysis therapy conference.

Dr. Georgi Abraham participated in the three-day, Japanese Society for Dialysis Therapy 2025 (JSDT 2025) conference and spoke on the subject, ‘Dialysis Therapy in India – Challenges and Management’.

The Osaka meeting had a delegate strength of 16,000 and Dr. Georgi Abraham addressed the conference June 28, 2025.



LOOKING BACK, MARCHING AHEAD

TANKER Foundation celebrated its 32nd anniversary in June and rededicated itself to its core purposes: kidney disease awareness and screening, supporting the underprivileged affected by it through dialysis and financial support and advancing research in nephrology.

The journey has been possible with the support of the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme, Greater Chennai Corporation, Rotarians, Freemasons, Lions Club, Round Tablers, corporates, families, friends, individual donors, media and well-wishers.

GOING TO TOWN

The TANKER Awareness and Prevention Program (TAPP) team of TANKER Foundation spares no effort to accomplish its mission of spreading awareness on kidney health and holding regular screening camps in various parts of Tamil Nadu and across sections of people.

CAMPS	PROGRAMMES DONE	PEOPLE COVERED
AWARENESS	17	2950
SCREENING	27	1514

In May, the TAPP team participated in the screening camp organised and conducted by the Nagarathar Physicians of North America & International Nagarathar Health Club (NPNA & INHC) at Hosur. N.U. Hospitals of Bengaluru supported TANKER Foundation with a doctor and a paramedic, while the TAPP team consisted of Mrs. Rajalakshmi Ravi – TAPP Head, Mrs. Ramapriya, Mr. Hemeshwaran and Mrs. Deepa.

Later, in a letter, the NPNA executive committee thanked “all the entities for the magnificent collaborative efforts and conducting the cardiac and kidney mega camp in Hosur... very successfully”.





Tamilnad Kidney Research Foundation

TANKER Foundation was among the organisation leaders and teams NPNA thanked.



TANKER Awareness team at Hosur. N.U. Hospitals of Bengaluru, camp conducted by NPNA & INHC

Considering it an ideal time for intervention, the TAPP team from the Madurai TANKER Foundation, led by Mr. Venkatesan, created awareness during the Chithirai Thiruvizha in Madurai in May. They distributed pamphlets to educate the general public on kidney health and measures to be taken to prevent kidney disease. They were able to reach out to around 2,000 people during the festival.



Awareness – Distribution of Pamphlets during Chithirai Thiruvizha, Madurai



Distribution of plastic Hand fans with awareness messages to general public during Chithirai Thiruvizha, Madurai



Screening camp held at Madurai

The TAPP team conducted a series of roadshows in Chennai also in June: a roadshow was conducted in the area around the Thiruvottiur TANKER dialysis unit and the team distributed 850 leaflets to members of the public who showed great interest in learning more about kidney diseases. A roadshow was held at the TANKER dialysis unit at Perungudi. The staff of Perungudi dialysis unit helped distribute 450 leaflets to the general public in the area and create awareness on kidney health among them. At the Injambakkam roadshow, another 450 leaflets were distributed to the public.



Road show – Distributing Pamphlets to general public



Road show – Distributing Pamphlets to general public



The TAPP teams conduct their outreach programmes in churches, colleges, schools and even the shandy in Madurai, spreading awareness and conducting screening camps. These programmes were conducted at Chennai, Kanchipuram, Chengalpattu, Madurai, Erode and Hosur, covering towns and villages. Wherever these programmes are conducted there is good response from the participants, be they teaching staff, public, church-goers, school kids or even the retired engineers who attended an awareness programme in Madurai.

Road show – Distributing Pamphlets to general public

AWARENESS AND SCREENING CAMPS AT VILLAGES



Puliyanthope



Kancheepuram



Chengalput



Erode

Awareness and Screening camps at Schools, Colleges, General public



Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Hall, Government Arts
College for Men



Awareness at Church



**Awareness at Vidya Ratna PTS Matriculation
Higher Secondary School, Adyar**



**Screening and Awareness for teaching and non-teaching staff
at Shri JRET Girls High School, Paper Mills Road, Perambur**



Turkish Kidney
Foundation

2025 WKD – Turkish Kidney Foundation

The Turkish Kidney Foundation Organized A Culinary Event That Demonstrated How To Create Healthy, Practical Alternatives

August 12,2025 / İstanbul

At the event, held in a special industrial kitchen, Timur Erk, President of the Turkish Kidney Foundation, and renal dietitian Gökçen Efe Aydın demonstrated how to create healthy alternatives by comparing the portion sizes of packaged foods with traditional kitchen products.

Erk, who kneaded hamburger patties at the event, told reporters that hamburgers and similar new-style diets contain trans fats and high amounts of sugar, and that they are often accompanied by starch-based sodas.

Erk noted that people long for the old, natural diets and emphasized that if foods in this new-style diet are consumed, they should be as low in salt and fat as possible.

Erk explained that sauces should be used as minimally as possible and that ayran (a type of cold drink made out of Turkish yoghurt) can be enjoyed alongside. Erk also stated that homemade cookies could be consumed alongside these, saying, "If a meal is prepared free of chemicals and additives, both for cost and, more importantly, for health reasons, we will eat much healthier, just like my mother did in her time. Unfortunately, Turkey ranks third in the world and first in Europe for obesity. That's why the Turkish Kidney Foundation is fighting this issue. That's why we're here."

Dietitian Gökçen Efe Aydın noted that a hamburger purchased from a supermarket contains 20 cubes of sugar and nearly a cup of fat, and that the sauces that come with the burgers also contain a lot of sugar and fat.

Turkish Kidney Foundation

Aydın said, "Therefore, we unknowingly and involuntarily consume too much sugar, fat, and energy. We might get all the energy we need in a day in one moment. This can inevitably lead to illnesses in the future. Here's a typical meatball we make. We've adjusted the salt, oil, and spices in this meatball. We can see that it's much healthier. And when we add a little homemade, low-salt ayran, we end up with a much healthier meal."

