Dear IPNA members,

Your IPNA Newsletter will now be issued four times a year, approximately every three months. It will include important messages from the council but also from each member who wants to share any kind of relevant issue! Therefore feel free to send any comments/documents to Joseph Flynn from the USA (joseph.flynn@seattlechildrens.org) who is chairing the Newsletter committee together with Anna Bjerre from Norway (Anna.Bjerre@rikshospitalet.no) and Zhu Wen Yi from China (yizhuwen@163.com). I sincerely thank all committee members for their involvement!

IPNA is your association and is a link between all regional pediatric nephrology societies, but also with ISN and other international associations.

Over the last year, all committees started working so that many actions were achieved or are in progress:
- Both the Fellowship Program and the Teaching Course Program are running quite well. IPNA wants to grow these actions by stimulating people from countries where pediatric nephrology is very limited or even absent, and the budget for those two major actions were revised. In this Newsletter you will read the report of Sonia Sharma, one of our recent IPNA fellows.
- Junior Classes will start with ESPN at the forthcoming meeting in Porto, September 17-21. Around 40 applicants were accepted!
- Many projects are running with the International Society of Nephrology (education, sister centers, meetings, projects with SKF and SYL, ‘0 by 25’ initiative, fellowship program, etc.) and we also plan to collaborate with the Renal Pathology Society.
- The Registry Committee will propose new development for international databases.
- Material for patient education will become available soon on our website.
- The current constitution will be slightly modified in order to best fit our moving world but this will take time.
- Our new administrative officer (Europa) is now very active in IPNA administration and daily life.
- Guidelines for Congress applications and organization are now available.
- Finally, the organization of the next IPNA meeting in Iguacu (2016) is in progress. There will be two specific IPNA awards: Ira Greifer Prize for seniors and Renée Habib Award for juniors!
- Pediatric nephrology is therefore very active worldwide, and this might be the reason why we have received seven applications for hosting the 2019 meeting (Calgary, Dubai, Durban, Istanbul, Ljubljana, Marrakech and Venice)! The final selection will be done in December in Delhi.

Keeping in touch with all of you!

Warmest regards,

Pierre Cochat, IPNA Secretary General
The IPNA Fellowship Program is one of the most important functions of the Association. Over the years that the program has been in existence, dozens of IPNA fellows have been trained, resulting in increased pediatric nephrology expertise throughout many parts of the developing world.

IPNA members rarely get to hear about the program from the fellow’s perspective. Below is an unsolicited report that we received early this year from Dr. Sonia Sharma, who completed her training in New Delhi at the end of 2013.

A IPNA Fellow’s Report
By Sonia Sharma, India

Respected Sir

First of all I would like to say thanks to IPNA for providing this fellowship and giving me the great opportunity to learn nephrology under Professor Arvind Bagga in All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. I shall complete my training today on 31st December 2013. I am summarizing below the work done by me and experience during this one year period.

During this training period I got the opportunity to manage both outpatients as well as admitted patients. In OPD, although all kind of nephrology patients were seen and managed but Nephrotic syndrome took the maximum percentage. I have gained confidence in managing difficult Nephrotic patients and tubular disorders and their follow up. Also did CKD patient’s evaluation, treatment and their counselling regarding dialysis and transplantation depending upon their social scenario. Renal metabolic clinic, one day in a week, for file making of chronic patients and discussion with consultants was very useful. Detailed history and evaluation was done on this day which was useful not only in making the diagnosis but also to assess the patients in the their compliance to therapy and also assessing social and financial concerns as in chronic diseases it is plays very important role, otherwise prescribing only costly therapy shall play no role. Cases with lower urinary tract were also managed in consultation with paediatrics urology department. Complete intermittent catheterization was taught to patients with significant post-void residue, recurrent urinary tract infections with neurogenic bladder. Also their proper technique was assured.

This fellowship helped me in learning both haemodialysis as well as peritoneal dialysis techniques in acute as well as chronic patients. This facility is not available in peripheral hospitals. I got to learn each basic aspect of haemodialysis, which shall help me in utilizing this knowledge in running dialysis unit outside the institute. Whole dialysis unit was cooperative. I got to see and manage patients on CAPD therapy also. Monthly visits were scheduled for them and thus every week one or two patients were seen. During their visits not only the treatment part but their overall growth and nutrition were also assessed. I am grateful to my professor for asking us to organise the meeting on nutrition along with the dietician and Baxter team for patients on dialysis and their parents twice this year for increasing their awareness. This also helped them to put forward their queries regarding avoiding unnecessary restriction on food and worries about dialysis and transplantation. I understood that although CAPD therapy is a convenient form of therapy than haemodialysis for those who are not going for immediate transplantation and willing for continuing schooling but it is costly and also sometimes compliance is an issue as they were requiring admissions for controlling parameters like severe hypertension. Social and financial concerns were major drawbacks which affect the decision of initiation of dialysis and renal transplantation in children. We were also having weekly discussions on topics of dialysis in dialysis classes, which shall be of great help in future.

We were able to do ten renal transplants in this year, two including cadaveric transplantation. Follow up was done through renal clinic. I am thankful to my professor for starting CRRT therapy in the institute this year and got opportunity to do this therapy in eight patients. Though it is costly therapy for poor patients, but we were able to do in the institute as our nephrology department was providing circuit and dialyzers free of cost to such patients and also substitution and replacement fluid in some patients. It did really wonders for those who were having AKI along with septic shock. I got the confidence in dialyzing patients below one year of age. Lowest age of child we dialyzed was 7 month on CRRT as well on haemodialysis. I hope I shall get to do it outside the institute also but cost of therapy shall be of concern. In acute cases we have dialyzed patients with haemolytic uraemic syndrome and vasculitis other than sepsis with AKI and Nephrotic syndrome with AKI. Also we did plasma exchange in patients with haemolytic uraemic syndrome according to the unit protocol. We were able to know the factor H and antibody status early as department is having facility of testing through research project. I am really thankful to my consultants for providing exposure in all aspect of dialysis and discussing the decisions of initiating and continuing invasive therapy like plasma exchange. We also did tandem pheresis in one patient.

In our nephrology ward, we were having almost 17-18 patients admitted at a time. We were starting our routine daily in the morning with the detailed round in the morning and got the advantage of discussing each patient with consultants on round. Indeed it was very useful and helped me in learning from mistakes and also taking right decisions for initiating any therapy.

I was also able to discuss the nuclear radio-images like DTPA and DMSA and also images like MCU, renal ultrasonography and Doppler and CT/ MRI angiography of admitted as well outpatients with the experts in their field and learned to read and interpret them. It helped in acquiring more knowledge and skills and shall definitely help in clinic after fellowship when I shall be alone outside the institute. Also during this fellowship period I was able to learn and do ambulatory blood pressure monitoring with the ABPM machine in our department. I was able to do it in almost 10 patients.

In procedures, I got the chance to learn ultrasound guided central venous catheter insertion, renal biopsies and peritoneal dialysis catheter insertion. We got to do soft tenckhoff single or double cuff catheter insertion also. But considering the cost of soft PD catheter, in many patients who were not afford
catheter insertion was done. I also did enough renal biopsies during this year and shall be able to do with confidence outside the institute also. Not only the procedure part but also we were able to see and discuss the biopsies with our nephro-pathologist that helped us in learning the interpretation of biopsy slides. Apart from this we were having alternate weekly nephro-path classes in which difficult cases were presented and discussed among pathologists and nephrologists.

In academics we were having weekly discussions on dialysis files and one topic of nephrology which included power point presentation of given topic. Criticism and discussion during these meetings actually helped me in remembering my mistakes and also cleared thoughts and encouraged me to improve further. During this year our department has organised academics meetings on topics like nephrotic syndrome, compliments role in nephrology and haemolytic uremic syndrome and we were able to receive lectures not only from our own faculty but also from renowned guest faculty like Prof. Dr. D. Gibson, Prof. Dr. M. Saleem and Dr. D. Duray in their respective expertise. We were able to interact with them also. Apart from these, nephrologies meeting for postgraduates were held this year of which I got the chance to organize one of the two meetings. These were one day capsule course of nephrology and covered all important topics of nephrology. Faculty in nephrology from India were called to deliver their topics. It was very useful learning experience.

Apart from clinical and academic work, I am thankful to Prof. Bagga sir for allowing me to send the data for poster presentation in world IPNA conference. He gave me topic to collect data on calcineurin inhibitor therapy in steroid resistant Nephrotic syndrome. Data of patients who took therapy for two year or more than two year with at least one year of follow up was collected and then we compared the duration of two year versus prolonged therapy in term of time to first relapse and number of relapses. I am grateful to Professor Pankaj Hari and Dr. Aditi Sinha for teachings and applying statistics in the data. I was fortunate to get best poster award which would not be possible without our nephrology unit in AIIMS. I am thankful to IPNA also for providing travel grants for attending meeting in Shanghai held this year by IPNA. It was indeed was very useful and very well organised. I got to listened important topics from experts in their field and helped me in having a look on such a vast horizon of paediatrics nephrology. I sincerely thank IPNA for organising a meeting for IPNA fellows and allowing them to put forward and share their problems and their experiences. Difficulties and growth of fellows after IPNA fellowship by previous fellows and their learning experiences were discussed in one of the meeting, shall help in establishing outside the institute. I sincerely thank IPNA for doing all the favours to fellows.

Overall it was a great year: I am grateful to my teachers in the institute for covering not only the vast nephrology but also allowing us to learn the associated fields. I shall do my best to apply this experience and knowledge in my place, where the facility is lacking need services. I hope I shall utilize the work done here to the needed patients.

I am thankful again to IPNA for providing me this fellowship which allowed me to work under Prof. Bagga and whole nephrology team of All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

I shall be grateful for issuing the completion certificate.

Thanking You

Sincerely

Sonia Sharma

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**Ode to IPNA 2013**

**By Alan R. Watson**

September 1, 2013

The 16th Congress of IPNA is almost at an end
And what a treat it has been for all delegates to attend
It has combined great talks, great science and great friendship
And hopefully the younger doctors have also found good mentorship
IPNA hopes to expand pediatric nephrology worldwide
And we know in many countries the ideal is difficult to provide
But with advocacy and support and great energy from all who serve
We will endeavour to provide children and families the treatment which they deserve
Fellowships have been expanded and sister unit links are to follow
And new leadership at Council will ensure these promises aren’t hollow
But we thank Isidro for all his leadership and charisma over the past 6 years
And I know many retirees like Isidro were close to tears
IPNA has grown and there are new transitions
But like the subject itself people need to know their positions
However there is no doubt Hong Xu and her excellent Shanghai team
Have organised an almost faultless meeting to enhance the IPNA dream

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**IPNA fellowship program**

Already 200 fellows!

To apply for IPNA fellowship program: [www.ipna-online.org](http://www.ipna-online.org) page Education

Submission deadline for the current session: October 1, 2014
Ode to Isidro
By Alan R. Watson
August 30, 2013 - Shanghai

We say farewell to our Secretary General Isidro
Who throughout his term of office has been a tyro
He has guided us through issues thick and thin
And no doubt if not of use it’s straight into the bin
We know Veronique has been the organiser behind the throne
Sending us those last minute documents that made you groan
But read them we did and the council debated
And led by Isidro our appetite was sated
His humour, his energy, his vision we admire
And many on council have great memories as they retire
Personally I shall miss the opportunity to meet and question again
Partnership, sustainability, education are a constant refrain
But like you we believe that child and family are the priority
So thank you Isidro for leadership, friendship and your wise authority

Announcements

Save the dates for IPNA 2016!
September 20-24, 2016

As you know Brazil will host the 17th Congress of the International Pediatric Nephrology Association, IPNA 2016, from September 20 to 24, 2016.

The congress venue will be located in one of the most amazing cities in the country, Foz de Iguazu, world famous for its dramatic waterfalls.

The Scientific Committee is developing a program that meets the needs of participants from across the world. The Congress will be preceded by concurrent meetings on Critical care nephrology, Nephropathology, Rare diseases and Research methodology. These sessions are intended to update current knowledge and skills in specific areas and should be extremely useful for fellows-in-training and practicing pediatric nephrologists.

Practical pediatric nephrology would be emphasized through 12 early morning master classes. It would also be our endeavor to provide current knowledge and research directions through state of art lectures, plenary sessions and 30 concurrent symposia during the three days of the Congress. There would be enough opportunities for free papers, either as oral communications or poster presentations.

Mark your calendar and come to Brazil to share with us the very best in pediatric nephrology, immersed in the atmosphere of one of the most beautiful and welcoming countries of the world!

IPNA 2016 Organizing and Scientific Committee

Call for applications for the ISN-TTS STC program
Deadline: September 15, 2014

Dear Colleagues,

The International Society of Nephrology (ISN) and The Transplantation Society (TTS) are pleased to inform you that next application deadline for the Sister Transplant Center Program is September 15, 2014.
Call for applications for the ISN-TTS STC program continues

The Sister Transplant Center Program is a partnership between the ISN and TTS designed to help establish new kidney transplant center or assist existing kidney transplant programs in developing countries. This exciting opportunity will foster partnerships between experienced transplant centers in the developed world (‘Supporting Centers or SCs’) and emerging transplant centers (‘Emerging Centers or ECs’) in the developing world.

The Program offers step-wise funding from ISN-TTS to help facilitate vital multidisciplinary training and exchange of knowledge and expertise from the dedicated programs in developing countries. This exciting opportunity will be designed to help establish new kidney transplant center or assist existing kidney transplant center programs.

Detailed information on the Sister Transplant Center Program may be found on either the ISN or TTS websites.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with the ISN-TTS Sister Center Program offices at: crugurika@theisn.org and exd@tts.org.

Applications are now open for 3 new pairs to enter the Program.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,
Dr. Paul Harden ISN Sister Transplant Center Program Chair
Prof. Dirk R.J. Kuypers TTS Sister Transplant Center Program Chair

Calendar

2014

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 10-13</td>
<td>8th Congress of ALANEPE</td>
<td>Cartagena, Colombia</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 16-17</td>
<td>First IPNA - ESPN Master for Junior Classes</td>
<td>Porto, Portugal</td>
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<td>September 18-20</td>
<td>47th ESPN Annual Meeting</td>
<td>Porto, Portugal</td>
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<td>October 4</td>
<td>Jamaica Kidney Kids Foundation</td>
<td>Kingston, Jamaica</td>
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<td>October 17-21</td>
<td>5th Congress of the European Academy of Paediatric Societies (EAPS)</td>
<td>Barcelona, Spain</td>
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<td>November 11-16</td>
<td>Kidney Week 2014</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA, USA</td>
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<td>November 13-16</td>
<td>16th Chinese Society of Pediatric Nephrology Congress</td>
<td>Guangzhou, China</td>
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<td>December 4-6</td>
<td>XII Asian Congress of Pediatric Nephrology</td>
<td>New Delhi, India</td>
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<td>December 5-8</td>
<td>46th Course on Advances in Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation</td>
<td>Milan, Italy</td>
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2015

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 28 - Feb 3</td>
<td>35th Annual Dialysis Conference</td>
<td>New Orleans, LA, USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 5 - 6</td>
<td>Miami Pediatric Nephrology Seminar And Renal Pathology Course</td>
<td>Miami, FL, USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 13 - 17</td>
<td>ISN World Congress of Nephrology 2015</td>
<td>Cape Town, South Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 28 - 31</td>
<td>8th Congress on Pediatric Transplantation (IPTA)</td>
<td>San Francisco, CA, USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 28-31</td>
<td>52nd ERA-EDTA Congress</td>
<td>London, United Kingdom</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 18 - 20</td>
<td>50th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Pediatric Nephrology</td>
<td>Kobe, Japan</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 12-16</td>
<td>13th International Workshop on Developmental Nephrology (IWDN)</td>
<td>Snowbird, UT, USA</td>
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