Jose Diaz-Buxo

I am sad to report that Jose Diaz-Buxo, another of the founder generation of modern peritoneal dialysis has died. Jose passed away recently in Charlotte where he spent most of his nephrology career.

Jose made an enormous contribution to the development of peritoneal dialysis (PD). Most notably he was an early proponent of automated PD and played a major role in making this the primary PD modality in North America in the modern era. He designed the AMP 80/2 cycler which was dominant in the 1980s. He made key observations on the greater efficacy of PD carried out in the supine position and he originated the strategy of using 2 day dwells in association with cycler PD for which he coined the term “PD Plus”. He was also a founder member of ISPD in 1978.

Jose grew up and went to medical school in Puerto Rico and did his Nephrology training at the Mayo Clinic in the 1970s. He then settled in Charlotte, North Carolina where he practiced for many years. For decades he was an innovative advocate for PD in his role as a Medical Director of Fresenius Medical Care. He has been a ‘fixture’ at all major Nephrology and Dialysis meetings in North America and elsewhere for the past 3 decades. During his career, he published over 300 papers and he combined his passion for cycler PD with a profound interest in basic renal physiology.

Jose was a charming and highly educated man. He was wonderful company and could expound on almost any topic late into the night. He always seemed to be smiling. He will be missed by his colleagues and friends and also by the whole PD community. Commiserations to his family, colleagues and friends from ISPD.

Peter G Blake

President ISPD NAC

May 28, 2015