

July 20, 2015

Colleagues,

It is time for an update from ISPD NAC. There are a number of important items of news. First, however, I am this week handing over the position of President of ISPD NAC to my colleague, Dr Raj Mehrotra. Raj is based in Seattle where he is Section of Nephrology Head at Harborview and Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington. He has long been a wonderful advocate for PD and he is an accomplished researcher in PD also. He has previously served as Chair of our NAC Research Committee and will do a wonderful job as President. For me, it has been a privilege to serve as President for the past 2 years and I would like to thank all those who have helped me advance ISPD NAC. I am particularly pleased at the progress we have made with our 'NARC' PD Research Consortium and with our annual NAC at ADC meeting. It has also been an exciting 2 years for PD in North America with funding reform leading to dramatic PD growth in the U.S.

Now for other news:

- 1) Unfortunately the PD solution shortage in the United States is not going away as had previously been hoped. It now appears that there will be an ongoing shortage of solutions for a year or two to come. It has not been possible for Baxter to increase production sufficiently at their North Cove plant to meet demand and sustained importation of solutions from Europe may not continue. Fresenius cannot meet the demand either. CAPD solutions will be available but APD will continue to see have its growth limited. Total numbers on PD will likely continue to rise but to a lesser degree than would have happened if there was no shortage. This is disappointing and frustrating for patients and providers and for advocates of both free modality choice and of peritoneal dialysis.
- 2) The ISPD NAC Research Consortium continues to progress with its focus on the peritoneal catheter. A substantial amount of data has been collected and publications will soon appear. The full prospective study will hopefully be launched later this year.
- 3) In 2016, the ISPD NAC meeting will again occur as part of the Annual Dialysis Conference which will take place in Seattle between February 27 and March 1. Unfortunately the meeting clashes with the ISPD Congress in Melbourne so North American PD enthusiasts will have to choose! The full program for NAC at ADC 2016 will appear soon on this website

Finally, ISPD NAC notes the recent death of Jose Diaz Buxo, a long term ISPD member, a successful PD researcher and an advocate for automated PD throughout his career. A tribute to Jose appears on the NAC website

Thank you again for all your support for ISPD NAC

Peter Blake

President
ISPD NAC