

Welcome Message



Message from Rajnish Mehrotra, President North American Chapter

It is my distinct pleasure and honor to assume the leadership of the North American Chapter of the International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis. I want to thank my predecessor, Peter Blake for his inspirational leadership of the organization where the Chapter embarked on a path of greater visibility and role. This is an important time for peritoneal dialysis as there is currently an unprecedented expansion in the use of peritoneal dialysis for the treatment of end-stage renal disease particularly in the United States. In light of this rapid increase in use of PD, the need for education, innovation in care delivery, and research in the field. These needs align with the mission of the Society and it is important that the North American Chapter continues to lead the way in each of the areas.

Educating nephrology providers is an important goal of the ISPD. In North America, the Society has three different platforms for disseminating knowledge about PD. First, the Home Dialysis University is a highly acclaimed course focused initially only on PD and now on both PD and home HD. Led by John Burkart it has trained countless trainees and practicing nephrologists since its inception in 1998. It remains heavily over-subscribed and popular. Second, for the last three years we have been holding a NAC-day comprising sessions organized by the North American chapter in conjunction with the Annual Dialysis Conference. Up until now, NAC day was held on Saturday – the day prior to the start of the conference. Starting in 2016, the NAC day is integrated with the main conference and will be held on Mondays of the meeting. An outstanding treat awaits you on the 2016 NAC day on Monday, February 29 organized by Fred Finkelstein and Peter Blake, in Seattle. I strongly encourage you to attend the NAC sessions. Finally, the chapter has made available an online curriculum on important topics related to peritoneal dialysis. Part of the curriculum is also available through the Virtual Dialysis Mentor hosted by the American Society of Nephrology. It is a dynamic resource that is periodically updated as the knowledge of different aspects of peritoneal dialysis changes and we will be going through another round of updates in the next 12 months.

Supporting innovation in care delivery, quality improvement, and therapy are equally important parts of the mission of the International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis. Led by Matt Oliver and Rob Quinn, the North American Research Consortium (NARC) is on the threshold of launching the first multi-center study on identifying determinants of outcomes with peritoneal dialysis catheters at four sites in United States and Canada. I am confident that under their able leadership, we will be able to plant the seed for a collaborative approach to finding solutions to some of the most vexing problems with peritoneal dialysis and that North America will lead the way.

This is also the time for us to renew our commitment to the ISPD and I would urge you all to renew your membership of the Society if you have not already done so.

Warm regards,

Rajnish Mehrotra

President, North American Chapter
International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis