

Welcome Message



Message from Rajnish Mehrotra, President North American Chapter

The Council for the North American Chapter has been busy advocating for and advancing the mission of the International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis. I want to update you on the progress as we welcome Spring.

With the continued expansion in the use of peritoneal dialysis in North America, particularly the United States, educating nephrology providers remains one of the key activities of the organization. The Chapter hosted a day-long meeting at the recently concluded [Annual Dialysis Conference](#) in Seattle, WA (“NAC at ADC”).

This was the first year that the “NAC at ADC” was embedded within the main program of the conference and by all measures, was a huge success and very well attended. I want to express my sincere gratitude to Peter Blake and Fred Finkelstein for their effort in leading and developing such a stimulating program. We plan to continue this tradition – the next “NAC at ADC” will be held on [March 13, 2017 in Long Beach, CA](#) with Anjali Saxena and Matt Oliver as co-chairs for the program. Please mark your calendars to attend this exciting program designed to keep you abreast with advances in the care of patients undergoing peritoneal dialysis.

The [Home Dialysis University](#) remains another heavily subscribed program from the North American Chapter for educating nephrology providers. This year, there are three programs scheduled for [fellows](#) (Greensboro, NC, March 13-15; Costa Mesa, CA, April 17-19; and Rosemont, IL, May 22-24). Please be on the lookout for [CME programs for physicians](#) to be held in the second half of 2016. Finally, led by Joni Hansson and Jeff Perl, the chapter is working hard to update the [online curriculum on peritoneal dialysis](#).

In addition to advancing education, catalyzing [research in peritoneal dialysis in North America](#) is an important goal for the Chapter. To date, the Chapter has given two “seed” grants – the first focused on incorporating geriatric assessment for patients considering peritoneal dialysis for the treatment of end-stage renal disease (lead investigators: Vanita Jassal and Matt Oliver) and the second on establishing a North American research consortium (NARC; lead investigators: Matt Oliver and Rob Quinn). The NARC consortium is currently undertaking a pilot prospective cohort study to identify practice patterns associated with the best short- and long-term outcomes with peritoneal dialysis catheters. In addition, investigators in North America are leading the international Peritoneal Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns ([PDOPPS study](#); lead investigators: Jeff Perl and Bruce Robinson). This study has spawned several other studies, including [EPOCH-RRT](#), [Bio-PD](#), and support from CIHR. The updates on these initiatives can be found on the [Research tab](#) of the [ISPD NAC](#) website.

Last, but not least, it is important to celebrate the successes of our members. Please join me in congratulating Jeff Perl for being awarded the [John Maher Award](#), given bi-annually by the International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis every two years. Jeff is the fourth North American and second Canadian from among the 11 individuals who have received this [award to date](#) and we are immensely proud of his accomplishments. It is my hope to continue to engage the peritoneal dialysis enthusiasts in North America and please don't hesitate to reach out for any issues that you believe the Chapter should handle.

Warm regards,

Rajnish Mehrotra
President, North American Chapter
International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis