

January 2011

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Happy New Year!

It is now almost six months since I took up the position of presidency of ISPD – so it is time to update you all on what is happening and future events.

Plans are now well underway for the Asian, Latin American and North American Chapter meetings to be held in 2011 and the next International meeting of the society in Kuala Lumpur in 2012. Please put these dates in your diary and visit their websites:

Asian chapter, Pataya, Thailand, 6-8th October 2011: <http://acm-ispd2011.org/welcome.html>

North American Chapter, Yale, June 16th-18th, 2011: <http://www.ispd.org/NA/>

Latin American Chapter, Lima, Peru, 26-27th August 2011: <http://www.ispd-lac2011peru.org/>

ISPD Biannual meeting: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 9-12th September 2012:
<http://www.ispd2012.org.my/welcome-msg.html>

I feel fortunate to have become president of ISPD at what I think is a very exciting time for PD as a therapy. Registry data from across the world shows sustained improvement in the outcomes of patients treated by this modality – especially when used as a first choice; this is strong support for a PD first policy which where it has been adopted has resulted in unprecedented growth in the therapy. I was especially impressed when I heard about the developments in Thailand at a recent meeting in Guangzhou – so hear about it for yourself at the next Asian Chapter meeting. There is also a renewed interest in 'Home Therapies' in many countries for reasons of patient autonomy as well as financial incentive. PD specialists are also the experts in supporting patients in the home environment so this development is very much to be welcomed. Since becoming president I have become much more aware of the considerable activity, supported by ISPD, in the use of PD in countries where developing sustainable programmes for treatment of acute and well as chronic kidney disease remains a challenge.

These exciting developments create welcome opportunities for ISPD in its continued mission to support excellence in PD through education, development and dissemination of evidence of best practice and availability of the therapy to all who might benefit. To meet these growing challenges ISPD Council is currently undertaking a strategic review, including discussions with existing or new partners so as to develop a number of achievable objectives for the years ahead. An example of this will be a closer working relationship with the International Society of Nephrology and the International Society of Paediatric Nephrology to develop some common goals in the use of PD to treat AKI in those parts of the world where this is needed.

Another important strategic role for the Society is in creating direction for the development of our evidence base for best clinical practice. To this end there is a definite possibility that there will be a P-DOPPS in the future and ISPD will have an important role in defining this. To help us with this important task – and to help ISPD to get a better understanding of what matters to you working at

the grass roots – PLEASE take a few minutes to undertake the brief survey that can be accessed using this URL: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2XJBHVC>

Do it NOW! The more answers we get the more ISPD will be able to represent your concerns!

With kind regards and all best wishes for 2011,

Simon Davies

President, ISPD