



ISPD President's Message



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am honored to assume the role of President of the International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis.

I would like to thank my predecessor, Prof. Philip Li, for his excellent work and commitment shown during the last two years. Allow me to keep you apprised of the current status of the Society.

ISPD Council and Members

I would like to welcome the new members of the ISPD Executive and Council and the Chairs of the various ISPD Committees who have assumed new roles within the society after the last General Assembly meeting.

Please [click here](#) for more details.

World Congress of the ISPD

I would like to thank all those who contributed to making the 16th ISPD Congress in Melbourne a success. Congratulations to Dr Fiona Brown, Dr Robyn Langham, and the entire organizing committee for orchestrating a very successful meeting with an outstanding scientific program.

I am very pleased to announce that the 17th World Congress of the ISPD will be held in Vancouver, Canada on May 5-9, 2018. Sign up to be the first to learn more! www.ispdvancouver2018.org

Membership

As President, I will carry on the membership improvement project initiated over the past 2 years. I am pleased to report that the number of ISPD members is gradually increasing. We are actively promoting membership at various local and international meetings and I am optimistic that we will see more people joining our society.

Reminder: Access PDI online & keep your ISPD member account up to date

I would like to take this opportunity to remind ISPD members that PDI online can only be accessed via your ISPD member account.

To login to your ISPD member account please [click here](#).

While logged into your ISPD member account please also take a moment to check that your member profile is up to date. Please contact admin@ispd.org if you have any queries about your online ISPD membership account or membership in general.

Education

Education is one of the top priorities for the ISPD. We are working to make PD knowledge more accessible and to adapt it by taking into account the needs of the various segments of the PD community. Allow me to share with you information regarding a couple of our current initiatives.

1. Development of a Global PD Catheter Insertion Program

The aim of this program is to create more consistency in the insertion technique across centers by using best demonstrated practices.

This will help improve outcomes in centers with sub-optimal catheter insertion technique and will facilitate the growth of PD centers that previously had limited access to properly trained surgeons and interventionalists.

A group of European PD catheter insertion experts met in Vienna to work together on a standardized catheter insertion curriculum. Amongst other things, adaptations were discussed to accommodate regional needs and practice pattern.

The ISPD plans to organize meetings of this type in other regions of the world. I want to extend our thanks to our corporate sponsor, Baxter Healthcare, for its support in launching this initiative.

2. Educational content on our website

The ISPD is very keen to adapt new methods to disseminate knowledge about PD and will develop more online educational tools. We will continue working on improving our website to make it more relevant to the PD Community.

Feedback from our members is very important for us; if you have suggestions for improvements to our website please contact us at: admin@ispd.org

Broadening the PD community

One important role of the ISPD is to embrace the diversity of its community and broaden community representation. We rely upon the support of our regional chapters to help us do so and I look forward to continuing our successful collaboration with the representatives of each region. I encourage each of you to join your local chapter and to play an active role in it. Please [click here](#) for a list of chapters and their respective coordinators. For further information please contact us at admin@ispd.org.

Collaboration with other Nephrology Organizations

The ISPD collaborates with other societies that share common goals in the field of PD.

For the past several years ISPD has worked closely with the ISN on various activities including the [Saving Young Lives \(SYL\) Project](#). SYL is targeted at saving lives by expanding PD services in low resource settings. The ISPD has committed to providing financial support to SYL for five years.

In November 2015, ISPD signed a memorandum of understanding with ERA- EDTA to collaborate in the organization of joint sessions at respective congresses.

A joint session took place at the ERA-EDTA Congress in Vienna. The symposium was entitled “**Quality improvement in PD**”. Details regarding this symposium may be found below:

When: Tuesday 24 May, 2016

Where: Hall D - Austria Center Vienna IAKW

[ERA-EDTA Program](#)

The ISPD also had a booth at the ERA-EDTA Congress in Vienna. ISPD’s staff member at the booth was delighted to see so many existing members and new faces to discuss membership, the ISPD’s official journal *Peritoneal Dialysis International*, the upcoming ISPD Congress in Vancouver in May, 2018 and new and ongoing ISPD activities.

In addition, in line with our continuous efforts to expand the knowledge of PD in a harmonized manner, the ISPD and EuroPD have agreed to partner together such that every fourth World Congress of the ISPD will be held in conjunction with the EuroPD meetings. The next combined ISPD/EuroPD meeting will take place in 2020 at a location yet to be determined. Details will be posted on the ISPD website when available.

In conclusion, I envision two exciting years ahead and I look forward to working with all of you. Please feel free to contact me directly at isaac.teitelbaum@ucdenver.edu with any comments or suggestions.

Finally, I would like to thank you- our members, corporate sponsors and partners in industry- for your continued support, without which the Society could not fulfill its mission.

Best wishes,

Isaac Teitelbaum, MD
ISPD President