



Leading European Nephrology

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European Renal Association – European Dialysis and Transplant Association

Starting up Kidney Registries in Africa – Workshop in Cape Town

25 February 2015

The overall prevalence of chronic kidney disease (CKD) in the general population is estimated to be 10%, and in the age-group of 75 and over every third person in Europe is affected by this illness. In recent years, the number of patients on renal replacement therapy for end stage renal disease has continued to rise. Of course, kidney disease can affect people of all ages and races, but it is known that people of African, Hispanic, Aboriginal or Asian origin are at higher risk.

Taking into account that about three quarters of the world population are living in developing countries, the importance of kidney registries in these countries must not be underestimated. They are essential to assess the incidence, causes and risk factors of CKD and to plan health services as well as prevention strategies and programs. But currently such registries are lacking in most of these countries – and starting up a registry is not a trivial matter: researchers must be trained to collect correct and complete data for analysis and to use suitable disease coding systems.

For this purpose the ERA-EDTA Kidney Registry and the African Association of Nephrology (AFRAN) have organized a special workshop, hosted by the South African Renal Society, which includes lectures on a variety of relevant subjects and hands-on data analysis sessions. The program is based on the epidemiology and registry courses under the umbrella of ERA-EDTA. The workshop will be held on March 12, 2015 in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University, Cape Town, South Africa preceding the World Congress of Nephrology (WCN/<http://www.wcn2015.org>).

“So far 30 participants, mostly from Africa but also from Latin America and Asia, have registered for this particular workshop”, explains Professor Razeen Davids, co-chairperson of the South African Renal Registry and organizer of the workshop. “We are very happy about this”, adds Dr. Kitty Jager, head of the ERA-EDTA Kidney Registry. “The workshop might help to start up new kidney registries and, thus, help generate high quality data – an initial step to lowering CKD incidence in the developing world.”



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About ERA-EDTA

With more than 7,000 members, the ERA-EDTA ("European Renal Association – European Dialysis and Transplant Association") is one of the biggest nephrology associations worldwide and one of the most important and prestigious European Medical Associations. It supports basic and clinical research in the fields of clinical nephrology, dialysis, renal transplantation and related subjects. The ERA-EDTA supports a number of studies as well as research groups and has founded a special "Fellowship Programme" for young investigators as well as grant programmes. In order to involve young nephrologists in all activities of the ERA-EDTA the Council decided to create a Young Nephrologists' Platform (YNP). Besides, it has established various research networks and different working groups to promote the collaboration of nephrologists with other medical disciplines (e.g. cardiology, immunology). Furthermore, a "European Renal Best Practice" (ERBP) advisory board has been established by the ERA-EDTA to draw up and publish guidelines and position statements. Another important goal of the ERA-EDTA is education: several series of CME-courses as well as the annual congress offer an attractive scientific programme to cover the need of continuous medical education for doctors working in the fields of nephrology, dialysis and transplantation. The association's journals, NDT (Nephrology, Dialysis, Transplantation) and ckj (Clinical Kidney Journal), are currently the leading nephrology journals in Europe. The ERA-EDTA Registry is a large epidemiologic database comparing countries by assessing nephrology practice throughout Europe. Finally, ERA-EDTA is member of the European Kidney Health Alliance (EKHA), a consortium of renal societies that actively interacts with the European Parliament. For more information please visit www.era-edta.org