Att.n Ms. Anneke Schmider
(schmidera@who.int<mailto:schmidera@who.int>) and Mr. Robert Jakob
(jakobr@who.int<mailto:jakobr@who.int>) RE: ICD 11

Dear Ms. Schmider and Mr. Jakob,

We are writing to you on behalf of major international nephrological societies: ASN (American Society of Nephrology); ERA-EDTA (European Renal Association - European Dialysis and Transplant Association) and ISN (International Society of Nephrology) since we have recently been made aware of the fact that in October 2016 the ICD 11 statement will be published: we are very concerned about the most recent update due to a number of issues that we have identified.

We have been made aware that the classification of CKD (Chronic Kidney Disease) is not correct (and differs from the ICD 10 coding substantially in that there is no longer any ability to categorize by stage of CKD, using eGFR and or albuminuria categories) and that the classification of AKI (Acute Kidney Injury) is even missing. While there may be controversy around some of the specifics of these categories, the loss of the ability to capture granularity reflecting severity of disease we believe to be problematic. And we would like the opportunity to review this in more detail, and offer suggestions.

We were under the impression that the ICD 11 statements and coding would occur after careful analysis of all specific situations, especially where extensive changes were proposed. We had also anticipated that such changes would be only acted upon after intensive consultation with scientific societies involved in nephrology due to the very sensitive and important information that can be conveyed.

Our three Societies represent almost all nephrologists worldwide and for this reason we are asking you to postpone the new ICD 11 announcement, and to involve us directly in the process of modification of the codes pertinent to nephrology.

This is a formal request on behalf of the ASN, ERA-EDTA, and ISN, representatives of the entire nephrology community globally, to reconsider both the timing of the launch, and the content. We would be happy to make ourselves available on short notice to discuss this with you in detail.

We would very much desire a reply to this request at your earliest convenience.

Best wishes.

ASN President

ERA-EDTA President

ISN President