PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

This is the last newsletter of 2012.

We have been very active in presenting IFKF worldwide, including ERA EDTA in Paris, the Regional Meeting in Bulgaria, and ASN in San Diego. In collaboration with our partners, particularly Fresenius Medical Care, IFKF has created exposure to several projects in sub-Saharan Africa and Australia. We create awareness through the European Kidney Health Alliance, of which IFKF is a leading partner, with, for example, the WKD event in the European Parliament. We create exposure through World Hypertension League: IFKF is one of the endorsing partners of HYPERTENSION ISTANBUL 2013, June 27-30, 2013.

Of course your help in presenting IFKF is crucial. Many of you show the IFKF logo during events, conferences and on your websites. The above-mentioned African projects are an example; support has been provided by NKF South Africa and NKF Kenya. The COREP conference in Mumbai is also an excellent example. The many local events during World Kidney Day support our worldwide presence. Please make sure that the new IFKF logo is on your website, which Els de Weerd (elsdeweerd@ifkfms.com) will be happy to provide to you.

2012 has been a tough financial year for IFKF; the cancellations of important Merck/MSD and Shire projects are important reasons. 2013 will be even tougher; the industry is worldwide decreasing and reallocating budgets.

With your help we will make it a good year, with the Annual Meeting in Mexico and a range of other activities.

If you celebrate Christmas: Merry Christmas - and a Happy New Year to all of you!

Timur Erk, President

Topics in This Newsletter:
- 2013 Annual Meeting in Guadalajara, Mexico
- SPOTLIGHT: Fundacion Renal del Nordeste Argentino
- IFKF: Mission, Positioning and short term actions
- IFKF at ASN, San Diego
- 2013 financially: sponsors are riding a tight ship
- Membership: positive response to last reminder
- IFKF Group on LinkedIn
- WKD 2013: Latest News

You will also find latest news on our new website www.ifkf.org

1. 2013 ANNUAL MEETING IN GUADALAJARA, MEXICO

The dates for the 2013 Annual Meeting are set: October 6th – 9th in Guadalajara, Mexico, hometown of Guillermo’s University. Guillermo will organize the meeting in collaboration with the 4 most active kidney foundations in Mexico. We will keep you informed about venue, program, travel opportunities and more.

Next Annual Meetings are planned in France (2014, Lyon) and Japan (2015, location to be determined).
MISSION STATEMENT

1.1 Vision
Improvement in the quality of life and quality of care for all at risk of, or suffering from, kidney disease regardless of race, colour, sex or sexuality, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

1.2 Mission
To foster international collaboration and exchange of ideas between local kidney foundations and not-for-profit organisations so as to enable and help empower foundations’ local memberships to improve health, wellbeing and the quality of life of all individuals threatened by kidney disease.

1.3 Scope
• Advocacy of improved healthcare delivery.
• Promoting best possible outcomes of care.
• Facilitating educational programs for and by member organisations.
• Promotion of research into kidney disease.
• Fostering an environment of open communication and exchange of ideas among organisations.
• Creating a forum for collaborative fund raising.
• Fostering improvement within local kidney foundations.
• Assisting with the establishment of new kidney foundations where they do not currently exist; and
• Acting as a global voice for issues of kidney health.

IFKF’s Positioning
In recent months the Board has discussed a new positioning, that makes IFKF more distinctive and more interesting for different stakeholders: existing and new foundations, industry partners, other organisations with whom IFKF is seeking collaboration. The text will also be used as copy for occasional advertising, like the European Medical Journal in April 2013. An example of the ad can be obtained by email to Els de Weerd, elsdeweerd@ifkfms.com

3. SPOTLIGHT: FUNDACIÓN RENAL DEL NORDESTE ARGENTINA

Dr. Maria Bianchi, well known to many of you is the President of Fundación Renal del Nordeste Argentino. (www.fundacionrenal.org.ar)

Maria is a very active person and she does lead a very active organization. One of the recent successful initiatives by Maria (left on the photo below) is the formal introduction of the Standardizing Creatinine Program in every lab in the Chaco province by the healthcare department of the province.
This standardized program is part of larger program that focuses on detection and the relationship between CKD and CVD. (Illustration copied from the website).

The Fundación has systematic approaches to many important healthcare and business matters. One example is the impressive Synergy scheme for building and maintaining institutional relations.

This kind of networking is also important for fundraising. Maria is—and must be—very active in these very difficult economic times. One success is the support by the Rotary Club of a training program for aborigine healthcare professionals.

The program itself is aimed at Aboriginal health professionals of Wichi Pintado, Chaco. They were trained in detection of renal and cardiovascular risk factors. The Ministry of Public Health of the province of Chaco provided sphingomaometers, glucometers, and urine test strips. More than 6000 Wichi Aborigines were evaluated. Other supporting partners are UNICEF and UNNE School of Medicine.

For more information please visit the website www.fundacionrenal.org.ar or email to Dr Maria Bianchi: mariabianchi777@hotmail.com

Thank you Maria, for the many initiatives and programmes for patients and for citizens in general is this north-eastern province of Argentina.

4. IFKF: EXPOSURE AT ASN SAN DIEGO

Most important conclusions for IFKF’s future development were:

• Industry is increasingly reluctant to sponsor an organisation like IFKF on a global level. Focus is definitively on regional and local support.
• Some well known sponsors in the renal world tend to withdraw from the field because of changes in business focus.
• The more explicit positioning (multidisciplinary approach to integrated renal health care) as discussed during the Annual Meeting in Budapest is very well received, as Paul Beerkens has experienced during meetings in San Diego.

Other matters to be followed up:

• Contacts with existing, former and potentially new partners to secure funding for 2013 and beyond.
• Potential new members in Africa, India and the US. The small booth was a effective way to distribute promotion materials, and talk to potential members.
• Renewed contacts with NKF US, after the reorganization that took place last and this year.
• The possible support by the industry of the building of a web based data collection program as next stage in IFKF’s SeeKD® programme for prevention and detection of CKD.
Joel D Kopple Award to Bill Couser, Past President of ISN.
The short celebration to present the 2012 Joel D Kopple Award to Bill Couser, past President of ISN and member of the World Kidney Day Steering Committee, took place during the official reception and dinner of the American Doctors of Indian Origin, with 1,500 nephrologists one of the largest specialist communities in the US. Sudhir Shah, Past President of IFKF took the initiative for this special venue. Joel, Miguel and Guillermo presented the Award to Bill (2nd from left).

5. 2013 FINANCIALLY: SPONSORS ARE RIDING A TIGHT SHIP, WHICH WILL AFFECT IFKF
The Forecast for the full year 2012 remains approximately the same as that presented to council members at Budapest and shows a small surplus of $5,000. However, we are negotiating the level of recoverable tax and this may reduce our total operating costs if successfully agreed upon with tax authorities. It is, however, too early to confirm at this time of the year. Indeed, this small positive uplift may be negated by some additional costs at the latter end of the year, hence us choosing to keep the forecast at the same level as previously reported.

6. MEMBERSHIP
We are happy that some foundations responded positively to our email about membership and membership fees. Those organizations who did not respond after several reminders will by Board decision be removed from the Inventory of Members and Resources.

Partners and Sponsors: Some Latest News

FRESENIUS MEDICAL CARE

In 2013 FMC will together with IFKF support local WKD events, and special events in some countries in sub Saharan Africa. One important event that has been announced before is the AFRAN congress in Ghana in February 2013, with the theme ‘Working towards Healthy Kidneys’

For more information go to www/aftran2013.com, or write an email to Jan Lantink janlantink@ifkfms.com
KidneyHealth for Life
After cancelling the Bardoloxon project we expect an evaluation of the Kidney Health for Life programme. We will inform you as soon as more is known about the next stages of the programme.

International Challenge
In Budapest we have introduced this project, which has been developed in close collaboration with Abbott. We are now writing the guidelines. After approval we will tell you more about the International Challenge and how you can participate.

After the cancellation of the SHARP project, we are now discussing a possible partnership with Merck/MSD for 2013. We will keep you informed.

7. IFKF GROUP AT LinkedIn

IFKF Group at LinkedIn
Els de Weerd has created an IFKF LinkedIn group. Connected members can easily and for free exchange ideas, ask questions, give answers and many more.

If you are not yet connected: here are the steps you have to take:
When you already have an account please visit the LinkedIn IFKF profile and you will be connected!
If you are not yet having a LinkedIn account, please create one!
For instructions visit http://www.wikihow.com/Create-an-Account-on-LinkedIn.

If you have questions, do not hesitate to contact Els at: elsdeweerd@ifkfms.com
Hope to meet you soon on LinkedIn!
In discussions with IFKF partners about World Kidney Day it has become evident that we need more data about the activities of IFKF members during WKD 2012 and the intentions for 2013. Els de Weerd has therefore distributed an easy-to-complete questionnaire. First completed questionnaires have been returned. Have you not done so: please do it as soon as possible. The results are important for discussions and negotiations with (potential) industry partners.

WKD 2013: STOP Kidney Attack! Protect your kidneys, find out how.

In recent years the global kidney community has recognised the urgent need to increase awareness of Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) amongst physicians and hospital staff, but also the need for a public awareness campaign to demystify this dangerous condition and make ‘kidney attack’ recognisable to the public in a similar way that heart attack and stroke campaigns have done.

Currently AKI is inadequately addressed in clinical education and training, and largely neglected in public awareness and research. The consequences are missed opportunities to reduce risk, delayed diagnosis, poor management and increased lengths of hospital stay which all contribute to spiralling health care costs.

By focusing on ‘kidney attack’, World Kidney Day seeks to raise awareness of AKI and stimulate discussion, education and policy development leading to improved prevention and treatment of this major kidney disease across the globe.

March 14th, 2013 will mark the eighth World Kidney Day – a day of global action jointly organized by the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) and the International Federation of Kidney Foundations (IFKF). For more information, please see www.worldkidneyday.org

At this stage the website is renewed and will become more interactive.

WKD 2013: STOP Kidney Attack! Protect your kidneys, find out how.

Below you see one of the visuals to be used in promotion materials.