12 Recommendations to Global Kidney Health

In 2017, the first ISN Global Kidney Policy Forum produced a 12-points set of measurable recommendations to curb the burden of kidney disease worldwide. Supported by government representatives, policy makers, nephrologists, researchers, patients and other key stakeholders, the 12 recommendations to Global Kidney Health provide a strong basis for the development of comprehensive national kidney care strategies.

On the occasion of the second ISN Global Kidney Policy Forum at World Congress of Nephrology in Melbourne on 12 April 2019, ISN is asking stakeholders committed to addressing the growing burden of kidney disease to reinvigorate their commitment and widely share the recommendations to guide ongoing actions to reduce the burden of kidney disease worldwide. The 12 Recommendations to Global Kidney Health are listed below:


2. Develop and implement public health policies to prevent or reduce risk factors for chronic kidney disease in adults and children, including strategies to promote maternal and child health and nutrition, to reduce the burdens of diabetes, hypertension, obesity and tobacco consumption, to promote safe work environments and prevent infectious diseases.

3. Implement and support ongoing surveillance mechanisms to better understand and quantitate the burdens of acute and chronic kidney disease within and outside the context of non-communicable diseases, specifically by developing robust national and regional registries for AKI, CKD and ESKD.

4. Educate the public and people at risk about kidney disease within non-communicable disease education campaigns.

5. Improve awareness of kidney disease among health care workers at all levels and ensure appropriate access to essential tools and medications required for diagnosis and treatment.

6. Work towards universal health coverage to permit sustainable access to effective and affordable medication (for hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular disease) to treat risk factors for kidney disease and delay kidney disease progression.

7. Support education for a skilled nephrology workforce to implement prevention and treatment of kidney disease at all stages.

8. Implement early detection, preventive and treatment strategies for AKI.

9. Integrate early evidence-based treatment for CKD acknowledging the important synergies with diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular disease.

10. Develop and implement transparent policies governing just and equitable access to kidney disease care including dialysis and transplantation, according to international standards, and to support, safe, ethical, affordable and sustainable programs.

11. Promote and expand kidney transplantation programs within countries and across the region.

12. Support local, regional and transnational research on kidney disease to further understanding of prevention and treatment strategies.