



**EXECUTIVE BOARD EB144/17
Agenda item 11.7**

Access to medicines and vaccines

STATEMENT BY THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF NEPHROLOGY

Honorable chair, distinguished delegates,

The ISN welcomes the roadmap to guarantee access to medicines, vaccines and other health products.

About 850 million people in the world are living with kidney disease (KD) today. CKD is projected to become the 5th most common cause of years of life lost globally, by 2040. AKI is estimated to affect more than 13 million people worldwide per year. Underreporting in low and middle-income countries leads to under recognition and poor patient outcomes. Delivery of dialysis and transplantation consumes a disproportionate 2–3% of the annual health-care budget in high-income countries, and induces catastrophic expenditure in over 90% of patients in lower income settings. Between 2 and 5 million people with kidney disease die every year because of lack of access to treatment.

KD can be prevented or diminished in severity through equitable and affordable access to through early diagnosis and treatment. Strong evidence supports effective treatments for KD and risk factors with the use of integrated care and inexpensive generic medicines, but access remains highly inequitable within and across countries. A majority of patients don't have access to these essential medicines and as a result develop advanced KD or its complications.

ISN calls on member states to ensure:

- Promotion of a rational selection of essential medicines, implementation of evidence-based clinical practice guidelines, and equitable access to the WHO list of essential medicines at all levels of the health system and in all countries.
- Fair and transparent pricing and reliable quality of medications.
- Promotion of integrated care to rationalize medication access and use.
- Universal access to essential early diagnostics and optimal management of NCDs including KD, which are often asymptomatic and under recognized in their early stages.
- Capacity building amongst health workers in the health system to promote awareness and appropriate NCD management.

Thank you