

Ashot Sarkissian



Short Bio/CV

Ashot Sarkissian, MD, PhD, Professor

Head of Division of Nephrology and Director of Pediatric Programs, Arabkir Medical Center in Yerevan

Chairman of Paediatric Department of Yerevan State Medical University

Ashot has graduated from Yerevan State Medical Institute and completed his residency in Pediatrics at the Children's University Hospital in Yerevan followed by fellowship in the field of Pediatric Nephrology at the Institute of Pediatrics in Moscow, Russia.

Starting from 1993 Dr. Sarkissian had numerous professional trainings at the University Children's Hospital of Zurich (Switzerland). He is the one of main active persons who constituted the basis of long-term partnership program between Arabkir Medical Centre in Yerevan and University Children's Hospital of Zurich, that is running up to present time. Since 2001 he had trainings in Nephrology, Hypertension, Dialysis and Kidney Transplantation at the University Hospital of Antwerp (Belgium). As a result, living kidney donor transplantation regular program has been established in Armenia.

Dr. Sarkissian started his teaching activity in 1995 at the National Institute of Health (Yerevan, Armenia). In 2006 he has become a full professor of Paediatrics and a Chairman of Paediatric Department at the Yerevan State Medical University and significantly contributed to the reformation of pediatric education in Armenia.

Dr. Sarkissian has a large international teaching experience including Lviv and Kiev (Ukraine), Chisinau (Moldova), Tbilisi (Georgia), Moscow and Krasnoyarsk (Russia). Within the frame of Swiss COPES/Institutional Partnership program 2005-2008 "Implementation of a new teaching concept in Lviv and Chisinau via Yerevan for selected paediatric disciplines" he visited several times Ukraine and Moldova having lectures, seminars and consultations. In addition, joint teaching course has been organized in Yerevan (Armenia). As a result, pediatric nephrology services in Lviv and Chisinau markedly improved (e.g. kidney biopsy was established in Chisinau, etc.).

Dr. Sarkissian is a member of European Society on Pediatric Nephrology, International Pediatric Nephrology Association, International Society of Nephrology (ISN), Swiss Society of Nephrology, Armenian Physician Association of Nephrology, Hemodialysis and Transplantation (President), Armenian Pediatric Association (President).

He has 78 full papers (14 in international journals) and co-editor of the Textbook on Pediatric Nephrology (in Russian).

He and his collaborators are very active in Sister Renal and Transplant Center programs of ISN having permanent partners including Antwerp University Hospital (Belgium), Guy's Hospital (London, UK), Bern University Hospital (Switzerland).

Candidate's Statement

Statement on Main Goals as an ISN Regional Board Leader and Councilor

One of important goals I consider is a keeping good tradition gained since establishment of the Board, primarily an excellent professional and personal relationships. It has become of great importance in light of present disasters and challenges in the world, especially within NIS. I think the Board should serve a stable platform not only for continuation, but also for strengthening of our professional contacts, thus showing that a medicine stays above political problems.

It is obvious that nephrology not uniformly and evenly developed across NIS countries. Availability of medications, laboratory facilities, renal replacement therapy still different. Development of registries, centralized laboratories (e.g. for Complement panel, Genetics, Electron microscopy etc.), close contacts would greatly help in comprehensive and standardized management of patients with glomerular diseases.

Diversities are clearly seen even within countries. Traditionally starting from Soviet times, we still have a centralized medical system. This is obviously visible also from the list of members of the Board being all from Capitals (few from Nord Capital of Russia - Saint Petersburg). Shortcomings resulting from such a centralization are visible even in small countries like Armenia. Inclusion of nephrologists from regions would be a priority for me.