



International Society of Nephrology

Policy for Obituary Notices

Revised 15 January 2024

Introduction

ISN wishes to provide due recognition for nephrologists who have passed away and made major contributions to the specialty internationally, and particularly to the work of ISN. There are so many who do so much that it is necessary to have a policy which provides information on what ISN will do when a nephrologist dies, so our communication channels do not become overloaded with notices and appreciations.

Available means of communication for such notices are:

- ISN website news item
- ISN Insight
- Kidney International

A 4-level policy will apply, as follows:

1. We are informed of the death of an **ISN member** by the next of kin or the death of a member of another society who is **not an ISN member**, and we write a condolence letter to the informant.
2. We are informed of the death of an **ISN member with an ISN role not listed at points 3 or 4 below** – we make a simple standard announcement in an ISN website news item including name, present or former institution, any committee membership or other role in ISN.
3. A **past/present ISN leader** (Executive Committee or Council member or Supporting Group chair) or **winner of an ISN award or prize** dies; same policy as for point 2 applies but a bit more detail is provided. Max word length agreed.
4. A **past/present ISN officer** (President, Secretary/Treasurer etc.) or **KI editor** dies. A mini-obituary produced by current Secretary/Treasurer, President, or whoever knew the deceased leader best.

	Condolence Letter to Informant	Website News item	ISN Insight	Kidney International*
Past and present ISN Officers – President, Secretary/Treasurer	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Past and present editors of KI	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Past and present members of Executive Committee and Council	Yes	Yes	No	No
Past and present winners of ISN Prizes and Awards (whether or not ISN members)	Yes	Yes	No	No
Members with ISN role	Yes	only name, present or former institution, any committee membership or other role in ISN	No	No
Other ISN members	Yes	No	No	No
Members of other Societies with NO ISN role	Yes	No	No	No

* It is important that the Kidney International Editor approves this policy and agrees that this does not represent any restriction on editorial freedom.

The potential sensitivities of this issue are well understood, but such a policy is necessary to avoid overload or awkwardness. The Secretary/Treasurer will be responsible for routine oversight of this policy working with ISN staff.

At his/her discretion the Secretary/Treasurer will discuss with the President any specific circumstance where further clarification is needed.

Fergus Caskey

ISN Secretary/Treasurer 2021-2025