

A Closer Look at the Nephrology PRN

Founded in 1993, the Nephrology Practice and Research Network (PRN) is composed of pharmacists, residents, fellows, and students with a specific interest in nephrology. Its members practice in a variety of settings such as dialysis units, inpatient and outpatient nephrology services and clinics, transplant units and clinics, intensive care units, and internal medicine units. The PRN's mission is to advocate the scope of nephrology pharmacotherapy through excellence in education, clinical practice, research, and involvement in professional nephrology organizations and to ensure optimal patient outcomes.

The Nephrology PRN fosters the professional development and involvement of its members through a variety of exciting opportunities. Current PRN activities include fostering a growing relationship with the National Kidney Foundation with respect to pharmacist membership, programming and committee involvement, and communicating the role of pharmacists in the care of dialysis patients to those working with the ESRD program at the Health Care Financing Administration. The PRN also advocates providing a network for research collaboration between its members and establishing a communication link among pharmacists working in this area.

The Nephrology PRN also has various committees tasked with enhancing the PRN's goals and charges. These committees provide opportunities for members wishing to expand their involvement in the PRN.

Communications Committee

- *Mission: To maintain and enhance communication through the Nephrology PRN e-mail list and social media as well as establish communication with other PRNs or groups.*

Membership Committee

- *Mission: To create and maintain a cohesive group of pharmacists who are committed to learning, education, practice, and research in the area of kidney disease.*

Nominations Committee

- *Mission: To encourage the development of PRN members through leadership and service positions. To enhance the visibility of PRN members within the PRN as well as within ACCP.*

Programming Committee

- *Mission: To generate and solicit ideas for programming for the Annual Meeting focus sessions and any presymposia. To coordinate all presentations and submit synopses and programs to ACCP.*

Research Committee

- *Mission: To enhance collaborative and translational research, strengthen collegiate relationships, and increase members' ability to continue research initiatives in a time of economic decline.*

The Nephrology PRN continues to grow and encourage membership involvement in research, teaching, and service. Recently, the PRN hosted its first online e-Journal Club on the CANVAS trial published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. This effort, led by pharmacy residents/fellows and their mentors, will continue throughout the year. If you wish to find out

more and get involved with the Nephrology PRN, feel free to contact the Membership Committee. The PRN also supports an active online platform through its website, its Facebook page, and Twitter. Follow/like us!

ACCP Nephrology PRN website: <http://nephprn.accp.com/index.aspx>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100013959914327>

Twitter: @accpnephprn

Submitted by:

Ayesha M. Khan, Pharm.D., BCPS