

Health Policy Agenda

for Choice, Competition, Empowerment, and Transparency

CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE

Increase patient empowerment & improve transparency through early CKD diagnosis:

- Reinstatement of President Trump's Memorandum of Understanding on kidney disease awareness –*Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)*
- Recommend CKD screening for adults at risk through the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force –*HHS/Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)*
- Develop and implement a suite of CKD quality measures and achieve alignment across health programs to improve health system efficiency –*HHS/Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)*

Empower local governments to address chronic disease burden:

- Build Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) focus on CKD –*HHS/CDC*
- Deploy evidence-based interventions to reduce the burden of CKD in states with rural populations –*HHS/CDC*

Implement CKD value-based care initiatives to facilitate competition

between traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage to improve early CKD detection and management –*HHS/CMS/Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI)*

Increase attention to non-pharmacologic, lifestyle interventions for chronic disease prevention and management by improving beneficiary access to cost-effective Kidney Disease (KDE) and Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) –*HHS/CMS*

DIALYSIS

Build robust pathways for bringing innovation to American dialysis patients –*HHS/NIH/ARPA-H/CMS*

Improve competition and transparency in dialysis by reducing regulatory barriers to new market entrants and enhancing transparency into financial relationships that may impact patient choice –*HHS/CMS*

Support patient choice in treatment modality by continuing to invest in home dialysis and innovative approaches to care delivery –*HHS/CMMI*

Provide wrap-around care for dialysis patients to improve patient quality of life while reducing the burden of ESRD expenditures on the Medicare Trust Fund –*HHS/CMS*

KIDNEY TRANSPLANTATION

Improve transplant access through the Increasing Organ Transplant Access (IOTA) Model so all Americans can achieve optimal health through kidney transplantation –*HHS/CMS/CMMI*

Increase transparency and empowerment in the transplant process:

- Share information about the decisions organ procurement organizations (OPOs) and transplant centers make on a patient's behalf –*HHS/CMS/CMMI/Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)*
- Reduce variation in OPO and transplant center practice by implementing data collection initiatives under the Organ Procurement and Transplant Network (OPTN) –*HHS/HRSA*

Galvanize competition, transparency, and accountability in the transplant system by continuing to modernize the OPTN and improve oversight over the transplant process –*HHS/HRSA/CMS*

For questions on these or other health policy priorities, please reach out to Miriam Godwin, Vice President of Health Policy, at Miriam.godwin@kidney.org

Legislative Agenda

for the 119th Congress

The National Kidney Foundation is proud to spearhead the following legislation our three key areas of focus:

PREVENTION, SCREENING, EARLY DETECTION

Kidney Disease Education Access Expansion Act

- Empowers patients with knowledge through targeted kidney disease education programs and removing regulatory barriers to accessing this education to enable individual health management and reduce long-term healthcare costs by promoting early intervention.

KIDNEY FAILURE AND DIALYSIS

Improving Access to Home Dialysis Act

- Expands patient choice and personal autonomy by removing regulatory barriers and providing supports to allow individuals more flexibility in managing their medical treatment in a way that fits their lifestyle.

ORGAN DONATION AND TRANSPLANTATION

Living Donor Protection Act

- Protects living donors from insurance discrimination and safeguards their individual choice to donate by preventing workplace discrimination and ensuring job protection for those choosing to donate organs.

IMPROVING TRANSPLANTATION EDUCATION AND NAVIGATION TO INCREASE PATIENT ACCESS ACT

- Improves organ transplantation accessibility for patients from rural and other underserved areas, ensuring that low-income and rural patients are not barred from transplant due to geographic and socio-economic factors.

The National Kidney Foundation is also proud to work with other stakeholders on legislation important to kidney patients, including but not limited to

- Honor Our Living Donors Act
- Expanding Support for Living Donors Act
- Treat and Reduce Obesity Act
- Medical Nutrition Therapy Act
- Organ Donation Referral Improvement Act

For questions on these or other legislative priorities, please reach out to Lauren Drew, Senior Director of Congressional Relations, at lauren.drew@kidney.org