

# ISN

## ISN PROGRAMS

### One global mission

Build kidney health equality  
worldwide through education,  
training and research



[www.theisn.org/programs](http://www.theisn.org/programs)

Advancing Nephrology Around the World



# GLOBAL COLLABORATION

In emerging countries, kidney disease accounts for over a million deaths a year. Lack of formal medical training, inadequate screening tools, limited funding and poor public awareness means that these populations are losing out on proper care. Focusing on prevention, education, collaboration and awareness, we believe there is hope.

Gathering the expertise of its members, ISN Programs are helping lead the way for better prevention and effective treatments - reducing the global impact of kidney disease and its associated diseases. Each program identifies educational and clinical needs in developing countries and offers valuable training for kidney specialists of all levels.

**The Fellowship Program** gives physicians from emerging countries hands-on training in a developed renal center. Returning home, they share what they have learned, improve local care and start more ISN Programs.

**The Sister Renal Centers Program** links renal centers in emerging countries with centers of excellence in the developing world. With educational support and guidance, the emerging centers become self-sufficient offering better care for patients.

**The Continuing Medical Education Program** offers essential teaching and training to developing medical communities. Expert speakers from both sides of the world share their knowledge and experience in clinical care and research.

**The Educational Ambassadors Program** sends experts to developing renal centers for one to four weeks to provide specific hands-on training or help develop new services, community-based research or screening programs.

**The Clinical Research Program** funds screening and prevention programs as well as clinical research projects addressing local needs about kidney disease in emerging countries.

**These and other ISN Programs work together to vastly improve standards of renal care in less developed countries.** ISN members also contribute to and lend support to the educational and humanitarian work needed to further advance kidney care worldwide.

## Make a difference

Let's advance kidney care together. As an ISN member, you can easily join any of the ISN Programs. In each program, wherever you are from, you can connect with doctors across borders, get the training you need and learn new skills, teach and experience first hand the challenges of nephrologists worldwide.

Sharing knowledge, skills and resources with others, you help improve the conditions and outcomes of patients living with kidney disease and raise awareness. Experiencing new and diverse cultures and different healthcare systems, you also gain real onsite understanding of worldwide nephrology issues.

Get started today and find out what you need to know to apply for each program.

# FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

## Sharing what we know

Are you looking to train in a renal center in the developed world and become a leading nephrologist in your region? The ISN Fellowship Program provides relevant and contemporary nephrological training to physicians from emerging countries, with the ultimate goal of improving the standards in the Fellows' home countries upon their return.

Through the ISN Fellowship Program, individuals from emerging countries get hands-on training in selected host institutions. They return home with new skills and knowledge in basic and clinical nephrology, dialysis, transplantation, and epidemiology. They improve treatment, teach and train others and become future leaders in the developing world.

### HOW TO APPLY

Applying fellows must identify a Home Mentor (a high-level nephrologist and ISN member). He or she will help locate a suitable Host Institution and Mentor (also an ISN member) to establish a strong relationship, match interests and develop a training plan. All graduated fellows agree to submit a report at the end of their fellowship, stating the benefits and outcome of their experience. They must also try to maintain ties with the Host Institution to set up a Sister Center partnership.

### WHEN TO APPLY

There are two application rounds every year. You can either submit your application before **June 15** or **December 15**.



#### More information

[www.theisn.org/fellowship](http://www.theisn.org/fellowship)

“I gained a more comprehensive understanding of the scientific, clinical and social role that modern kidney specialists play today.”

### Eligibility criteria

- At least 30 years of age (applicants over 40 can only apply for short-term fellowships)
- Live and work in a developing country (low or medium economy according to the World Bank criteria)
- Received basic training in nephrology in your home country
- Nominated by a Home Mentor and the Home Institution guarantees reemployment once training has been completed
- Have recommendations from two senior nephrologists in the home country
- Endorsed by the National Society of Nephrology in home country
- Identify an appropriate Host Mentor and Institution with whom a suitable training plan is agreed
- Training plan reflects the skills and knowledge that are required by the Home Institution and which can be implemented on return
- Understand and communicate in the Host Country's language
- Guarantee the return to the home country within three months of completing the training (otherwise all funds received from ISN must be refunded)

# SISTER RENAL CENTERS PROGRAM

## Building partnerships of excellence

Like us, do you believe working together is the way to better kidney care in the developing world? The ISN Sister Renal Centers (SRC) Program helps improve how nephrology is practiced in emerging countries by linking emerging renal centers or units with established centers of excellence in the developed world.

Over 6 years, they build long-lasting and stable partnerships between a center in the developing world and another in a developed country, training local staff in state-of-the-art clinical practice. These links become active hubs for implementing disease-preventive strategies within specific regions. A Trio Program can also encourage sister centers to grow further and potentially support other centers in their region once they have graduated.

The SRC Program nurtures a partnership between two centers by supplying a framework and list of benefits depending on their status level (C, B or A) within the program. Successful centers, which show documented accomplishments, progress within the program acquiring greater support and more benefits.



**More information**  
[www.theisn.org/src](http://www.theisn.org/src)

“In 12 years, we started kidney transplants, expanded HD and PD programs and carried out a study on endotoxins in dialysis water and CKD.”

### HOW TO APPLY

Any two renal centers or units can form a partnership if at least one center is in the developed world and the centers are chaired/run by an ISN member. They need to submit a detailed action and budget plan, and a clear description of how the collaboration will develop the services of the emerging center and positively reflect the supporting center.

New sister pairs apply to enter the program at level C. At each level, centers must submit progress reports stating their accomplishments to progress within the different stages of the program and acquire more support and benefits. Graduated centers can apply for the Trio Program, encouraging them to support a third emerging center within their region.

### WHEN TO APPLY

You can apply to enter the program for the first time or request an upgrade to the next level before **September 15**.

# CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

## Teaching across the developing world

Every year, the ISN Continuing Medical Education (CME) Program brings essential teaching and training to some 14,000 doctors and healthcare practitioners in the emerging world. Organized between the ISN Program Chair, the event organizers and the regional committees, these courses establish a suitable scientific program developed to meet the needs of the local nephrology community.

Over 200 speakers, including the world's leading authorities in the field, participate in this program on a voluntary basis. They are dedicated to sharing their knowledge with doctors, specialists and nurses in underserved parts of the world.

ISN selects and sponsors the travel of up to three expert nephrologists to give a minimum of two lectures each. Prevention, Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD), Acute Kidney Injury (AKI), dialysis and transplantation are among the most requested topics presented at CMEs. Virtually every national nephrology society worldwide has partnered with ISN to offer education programs on prevention, dialysis and/or transplantation.



### More information

[www.theisn.org/cme](http://www.theisn.org/cme)

“ISN CMEs explore ways of facilitating nephrology research to improve practice locally.”

### HOW TO APPLY

To be eligible for support, CME courses must have a formal scientific program and a national or inter-regional attendance of at least 70 to 100 expected participants.

In exchange for CME meeting support:

- You must fill in an application form and supply formal scientific program
- Speakers should be active ISN members
- Local meeting organizers must agree to display ISN banners at the meeting location and the ISN logo must appear on all meeting material distributed during the event
- Local organizers must submit a report at the end of the meeting, including a delegate list together with photos

### WHEN TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted **three to six months before** the start of the course.

# EDUCATIONAL AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

## Specific expert training

The ISN Educational Ambassadors Program was launched to increase ISN's educational services towards medical communities in developing countries. It gives ISN members, including young nephrologists, an invaluable opportunity to get personally involved in the ISN Programs.

Through this program, centers in the emerging world can request a teacher or an expert to join them onsite for the provision of very specific hands-on training (examples would include initiating acute and chronic dialysis programs, renal pathology, CKD management in a local setting and others) or to initiate and develop community based research and screening programs.

Educational Ambassadors deliver high-quality and relevant training for one to four weeks.

### WHEN AND HOW TO APPLY

#### Invite an Educational Ambassador

For emerging centers wishing to apply for an expert to deliver specific training, the deadlines for finalized and endorsed applications are **May 1 and October 1**.

You can either suggest someone you know already or ask the ISN to match your request with an available enrolled ISN Educational Ambassador who is qualified in the field of training required. A Matching Initiative has been launched in order to further encourage and support global nephrology training.

#### Become an Educational Ambassador

ISN members who wish to volunteer to become an Educational Ambassador can apply **all year round**. Applications are assessed by the EAP Committee based on the following criteria:

- You must be an ISN member
- You are an expert in a defined area of renal medicine documented by publications in peer-reviewed journals
- You have active faculty appointments at accredited institutions and are ready to teach for one to four weeks in a developing nephrology center
- You must adhere to the Declaration of Istanbul



**More information**

[www.theisn.org/eap](http://www.theisn.org/eap)

“These opportunities are interactive and hands-on. We wanted to generate interest in chronic ambulatory peritoneal dialysis and initiate work on a renal registry.”



# CLINICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

## Tailor-made research and early detection strategies

Do you need funds to raise awareness, increase research and screen members of your local community for kidney disease? Do you want kidney patients in your country or region to get better care and prevent the onset of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)?

The ISN Clinical Research Program supports research and education programs in low-to-middle income countries, involving local nephrologists, health workers and authorities. The program helps implement research projects to detect and manage non-communicable chronic diseases such as CKD, hypertension, diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

## Three eligible areas of research available

### **SCREENING AND INTERVENTION STUDIES**

Studies that identify individuals at high risk for or with chronic kidney disease by screening programs. These studies should be complemented by activation of follow-up programs of these patients through medical management including health education, lifestyle modification and pharmacological treatment in order to reduce end-stage kidney and cardiovascular disease and mortality.

### **CLINICAL LOCAL RESEARCH STUDIES ADDRESSING SPECIFIC LOCAL NEEDS**

Small clinical research projects aimed to address specific needs at the local regional/country level. Projects should be related to acute and chronic kidney disease.

### **ACUTE KIDNEY INJURY STUDIES**

Projects that focus on clinical aspects of Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) in low and middle income countries - especially studies on epidemiology, risk factors, prevention and treatment and this to be in line with the Oby25 ISN human rights initiative.

## **WHEN AND HOW TO APPLY**

There are two application rounds for submitting project proposals. Deadlines are **April 1 and October 1**.

Applications must be approved before submission by ISN's Regional Coordinators who survey the activities of the prevention programs on a regional level. The Regional Coordinators help applicants to prepare their applications before submission. Prospective applicants must contact their ISN Regional Coordinator a minimum of 1 month before the submission deadline. Members of the Clinical Research Committee evaluate proposals.

### **More information**

[www.theisn.org/cr](http://www.theisn.org/cr)



“The data from our study showed that screening for CKD is simple and inexpensive. We identified those at risk and motivated them to get the right treatment.”

# ABOUT ISN

The International Society of Nephrology (ISN) is a global not-for-profit membership-based society dedicated to improving kidney care and reducing the incidence and impact of kidney disease worldwide. Through its global network and programs, ISN brings together the developing and developed world in a collaborative effort to help fight and treat kidney disease on a global scale.

With 9,000 professional members from 129 countries, ISN represents a wide international network. It provides an efficient platform for timely scientific exchange, debate and communication between all healthcare professionals involved in preventing and treating kidney disease. By collaborating with over 70 national and regional societies, ISN represents about 20,000 professionals around the globe.

Since 1960, the ISN has been providing nephrologists worldwide with highly valuable services, such as publications, meetings, capacity-building programs, and has been spearheading concerted awareness-generating efforts such as World Kidney Day.

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