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## IPNA Currents #3/2021

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*Dear Members and Friends*

*In keeping with IPNA's vision to provide optimal care for all children with kidney disease, it is indeed heartening to see the multitude of collaborations with organizations across the globe that our IPNA committees have worked with to fulfil this goal.*

*To support fellowship training in China, IPNA has entered a partnership with the Chengmai Charity Foundation to sponsor young doctors for fellowship training in pediatric nephrology at the Children's Hospital of Fudan University in Shanghai. The HVO-IPNA-ASPN e-learning project at Angkor Hospital for Children in Siem Reap, Cambodia is yet another example of an important collaboration to help improve competencies in pediatric nephrology in a less resourced area where there are no trained pediatric nephrologists. IPNA continues to be involved with the Saving Young Lives Project, a collaboration with three international societies ISN, ISPD and EuroPD, to help low resource countries develop sustainable peritoneal dialysis programs to treat children with acute kidney injury and improve outcomes.*

*Finally, a congratulatory note to our Editors-in-Chief and Associate Editors, both*

*With Warm Regards,*

**Hui Kim Yap**  
**IPNA President**



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## [Pediatric Nephrology Journal's Amazing Success](#)

### **Impact factor**

The Editors-in-Chief and the editorial office have some exciting news - the Journal's newly-released impact factor is 3.714. This represents a significant increase from previous years. The most highly cited article types are invited reviews and educational reviews.

Kudos to the many people contributing to the Journal's success, and who achieved our higher impact factor. Of particular note are the Journal's Associate Editors, who identify topics, potential authors, and invite manuscript submissions.

### **New article type**

We are happy to announce that we have launched a new article type - Systematic Review/Meta-Analysis. A Systematic Review/Meta-Analysis identifies and synthesizes all published research on a particular topic. We require each Systematic Review/Meta-analysis to be registered through [PROSPERO](#). PRISMA guidelines should be followed when writing, and a completed PRISMA checklist should be included in the submission.

Each manuscript should include an abstract following PRISMA guidance and include the following sections as applicable: Background, Objectives, Data sources, Study eligibility criteria, Participants and interventions, Study appraisal and synthesis methods, Results, Limitations, Conclusions and implications of key findings, and Systematic review registration number. There is no abstract word limit.

Please refer to the author guidance [SRMA author guide](#) for detailed information about Systematic Review/Meta-Analysis manuscript guidelines and the submission process.

We look forward to publishing Systematic Reviews/Meta-Analyses in future volumes of the Journal.

*Bob Thompson*  
*Pediatric Nephrology Managing Editor*

## [Behind the Scene: Meet the IPNA Office](#)

It has been almost 3.5 years since the IPNA Association Management company has been transferred to C-IN, a Prague based company. With more than 1800 IPNA members, there is plenty of work to be done every day. Are you wondering who is behind the e-mail address that pops up in your inbox?

For the IPNA C-IN team, Lucie Semanska has been the core person from the very beginning. After she got familiar with all the IPNA programs and activities, she has become a great support system to all committee chairs and the IPNA leadership. *"She has helped all of us better address the health of kidney disease,"* agrees Dr. John Mahan, the Professional Education Committee Chair. Lucie keeps an eye on the IPNA daily management of various projects and supervises the smooth running of the IPNA programs, while the paperwork and administration is mostly done by her colleagues, Lenka, Natalie and Nhung.

*"I still enjoy my work, and this is especially because I can see the direct impact of IPNA's efforts in this crazy world. It is very rewarding to hear the positive feedback from the teaching courses, warm thanks from the IPNA fellows or even receiving the acknowledgement of our work in person, as it so happened during the congress in Venice, for example,"* says Lucie. *"Of course, sometimes it gets busy, but then you see the outcomes and you know that it is absolutely worth it."*

Lucie is supported by Lenka, who has recently replaced Natalie, and Nhung. Lenka is responsible for the membership agenda and her workload includes the communication with members, solving problems and inquiries, as well preparing reports and other membership related tasks. Together with Nhung she also manages the administrative part of the IPNA Programs, such as the applications, reports, notification e-mails etc. *"These days we enjoy coming to the office more regularly, it is much better to discuss any issues as a team in person, not just through Zoom or Teams as we did a lot over the last months,"* explains Lenka and hopes that events, including the upcoming IPNA Congress, will take place physically soon.



## [Interview with prof. Guignard](#)

The Ira Greifer Award of the IPNA, awarded every 3 years, recognizes individuals who exemplify IPNA's missions and goals and have demonstrated national/international leadership and have made significant contributions to IPNA.

In 2016, Professor Dr Jean-Pierre Guignard was awarded the Ira Greifer Award.



[Read the Full Interview Here](#)

## [IPNA Education](#)

### [IPNA Teams with Children's Hospital of Fudan University in Shanghai to Support Fellowship Training in Pediatric Nephrology](#)

This press release announces a special 3-year partnership for IPNA with the Chengmai Charity Foundation to support fellowships at The Children's Hospital of Fudan University.

[Read the Press Release Here](#)

The International Pediatric Nephrology Association (IPNA) is pleased to announce that the October 2021 Fellowship Program call is open to all those interested in applying for participation in the pediatric nephrology training program at The Children's Hospital of Fudan University. This special call has been possible thanks to the Chengmai Charity Foundation.

Applicants will follow the IPNA protocol for application submission, which includes the requirement for two years of training in Pediatrics at their respective home institution. Fellows will be selected by the IPNA Fellowship Committee. Application and criteria are available [here](#).

*Francisco Cano*  
*IPNA Fellowship Committee Chair*

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## [IPNA-ASPEN-HVO E-learning Project](#)

The HVO-IPNA-ASPEN pediatric nephrology e-learning project at Angkor Hospital for Children (AHC) in Siem Reap, Cambodia is the pilot project of the new collaboration among IPNA, ASPEN and HVO. This project has approved five pediatric nephrologists to give two biweekly lectures each. The topics being covered includes for example Hyponatremia, Nephrotic Syndrome, hypertension and Lupus Nephritis.

Below is a photo from the Hyponatremia lecture completed by Dr. Sudha Mannemuddhu and also a few quotes from lecturers and participants in the course.

*"Volunteering with HVO in pediatric nephrology e-learning project at Angkor Children's Hospital (ACH), Siem Reap, Cambodia was a great educational experience to me. I learned that a lot can be done with little resources if there are committed physicians and nursing staff. Teaching and aiding them in their mission was very rewarding." - Dr. Sudha Mannemuddhu, Volunteer*

*"E-learning with HVO is very useful because I can access it anywhere, at home or at work and because all the lectures are recorded I can review them whenever I need. Having them recorded also helps the doctors who are less confident with English as they don't have to worry about understanding everything the first time. I'm now more confident managing patients with nephropathy, especially using steroids in steroid sensitive nephrotic syndrome and cyclosporine in steroid resistant nephrotic syndrome. Hyper and hyponatremia are also helpful for treating our patients even though we have limited laboratory investigations. The lecture on hypertension was especially interesting, and I have changed my practice for how to take blood pressure properly and am thinking more about renal artery stenosis" - Dr. Bophal Chuop, On-site Coordinator*

*"Topics are all about diseases we see almost every day in our practice. They are interesting, well organized, and easy to understand. Speakers not only*

*management to sick children” - Dr. Daly Pen, Participant*



For the love of

Hyponatremia



Health Volunteers Overseas

Transforming Lives Through Education

HVO e-learning session 2021

ACH, Cambodia

S. Sudha Mannemuddhu, MD, FAAP  
Clinical Assistant professor

June 10, 2021



American Society of  
Pediatric Nephrology



IPNA  
International Pediatric Nephrology Association  
GREAT CARE FOR LITTLE KIDNEYS, EVERYWHERE

 @drM\_Sudha

## IPNA Sister Centers: Collaboration between Singapore and Bangladesh has commenced

At the beginning of July we received the wonderful e-mail from Dr. Saimul Hague (Bangladesh) informing us that the collaboration between two IPNA Sister Centers - Bangladesh and Singapore - has officially started. To celebrate this occasion properly, cakes were essential!

*"We have started our Sister Centre Program on 29 June 2021. We have observed lots of enthusiasm among our junior and senior colleagues. At the end of the teaching session, we all celebrated the opening session and welcomed IPNA for their support," wrote Dr. Hague.*

Dr. Ng Kar Nur, the project coordinator from the Singapore side, shared her surprise over the cake delivery: *"Dr. Saimul from the Bangladesh unit told me he is sending a parcel to me on 29 Jun. I initially thought it was blood samples for our research collaboration and hence redirected the delivery to our Research Labs. To my pleasant surprise, I was later told the parcel was actually a real cake!"* She also explained the focus of their first joint session. *We had a good tele-session lasting almost two hours discussing a case of Alport syndrome who was initiated on PD, had recurrent peritonitis, put on HD and had refractory hypertension. It was such a fruitful discussion. The most fulfilling part, to me, was the Q and A session. The doctors in BSMMU asked so many practical questions. Dr Saimul later told me the enthusiasm continued the next day when they had another in-house teaching session- the junior doctors continued to ask him many questions regarding dialysis!"*

Collaboration between Pediatric Nephrology Units in Singapore and Bangladesh was approved in April 2021 as a new IPNA Sister Centers Program. The program runs for 2 years with the possibility to apply for level B of the



## IPNA Journal Club is Here!

Following previous successful Twitter based IPNA Journal Club organised by Mia Le Page, social media group of the Communications committee has restarted this activity supported by a new group of keen volunteers and social media enthusiasts. We have had an inaugural journal club on 14 and 15 July on the topic of Alport syndrome that had showed great interest from the Twitter nephrology community getting over million impressions.

The next one is planned for October and we will send details of the topic soon. More information on how to join this activity and summary of the last journal club with great visual abstracts, free for educational purposes, can be found on <https://theipna.org/journalclub/>

Please follow Twitter account of the journal club [@ipnajc](https://twitter.com/ipnajc) on Twitter and hashtag #IPNAJC

Michal Malina (@DrMalinaM)

Sudha Mannemuddhu (@drM\_sudha)

Swasti Chaturvedi (@SwastiThinks)

Juan Kupferman (@kidnyhealth)

Abdul Qader (@md\_abdulqader83)

Maury Pinsk (@maurypinsk)

Shweta Shah (@nefron1310)

*IPNA Journal Club Working Group / IPNA Communication Committee*



## [Challenges in Providing Optimal Pediatric Renal Care in Low Resource Countries - Survey from the Priorities in Low Resource Countries Committee](#)

The International Pediatric Nephrology Association strives in many ways to provide great care to little kidneys everywhere. There is a huge disparity in pediatric nephrology services across various parts of the world, more so in the low resource countries. The challenges faced in these countries are many and varied. Keeping the goal of IPNA in mind, the members of the “Priorities in Low Resource Countries Committee” designed a survey to assess the challenges in providing optimal basic pediatric renal care in low resource settings. The survey explored the challenges in the areas of manpower, capacity building, diagnostic and therapeutic resources, including the availability of basic drugs, procedures, and dialysis. The survey was sent to more than 700 recipients from low resource countries and we received 187 responses from 50 countries across the world.

The committee is now planning to analyze the data derived from the survey to understand the challenges in providing basic pediatric nephrology services. It also hopes to use the information to liaise between the centers and various committees of IPNA and other regional societies to provide suitable solutions in the broad areas of capacity building, training, educational activities and providing opportunities to participate as members of IPNA.

*Nivedita Kamath and Melvin Bonilla-Felix,  
Priorities in low-resource countries committee, IPNA*

## [Saving Young Lives: First Interactive Online Workshop](#)

The [Saving Young Lives](#) (SYL) Project hosted its first online acute kidney injury (AKI) workshop on May 4 with 45 attendees from across Africa and Asia.

The SYL Project plans to organize additional virtual workshops in the future to continue facilitating AKI care in low-income countries during the pandemic. The two-hour workshop began with lectures on AKI pathogenesis and non-dialytic management and peritoneal dialysis for AKI in children and adults. Participants then engaged in interactive AKI case-study sessions in smaller groups led by SYL facilitators. (Resource: The ISN)

The SYL aims to develop sustainable peritoneal dialysis (PD) programs to treat patients with Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) in low resource settings. From its inception in 2012, the plan has been to provide basic support in terms of supplies procurement, education and training of physicians and nurses and funding for supplies to start PD programs for patients with AKI needing renal replacement therapy with the programs becoming fiscally sustainable after 2 to 3 years. The project is now in its second phase and is self-financed through an agreement of the four international societies: ISN, IPNA, ISPD and EuroPD.

[Access the SYL Workshop Recording](#)



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**IPNA ENDORSED VIRTUAL TEACHING COURSE**

**PERITONEAL DIALYSIS IN PEDIATRIC AKI**

**PDKIDS 2021**

**PDKIDS2021**

**Eminent national and international faculty will speak in this meeting**

**Date:**  
25-26  
September, 2021

**Time:**  
6pm-10pm  
BD Time (GMT+6)

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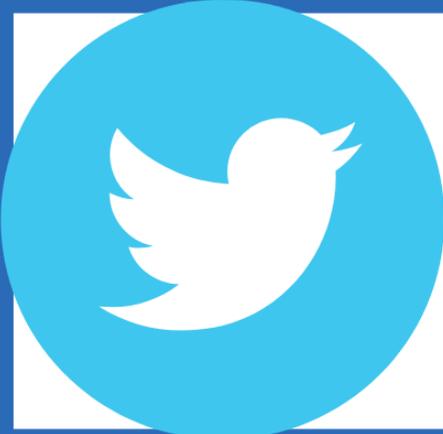
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Call for Abstracts  
opens in  
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**Calgary, Canada, 7-11 September 2022**  
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### Become an IPNA contributor!

Do you have any interesting news in the field of Pediatric Nephrology? Have you participated in an IPNA Teaching Course, are you doing the fellowship programme or have you recently visited an interesting workshop or congress? Contact Lucie from the IPNA Office at [office@theipna.org](mailto:office@theipna.org)

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