

Notes from Editor

Dear members and volunteers,

In our last newsletter from 2023, we wish to acknowledge the recent conference in Vilnius. It is also crucial to recognize the persistent challenges confronting our colleagues in Israel amid the ongoing war, and our heartfelt thoughts are with them in these difficult times. Despite these hurdles, the conference served as a testament to our shared strength and unwavering dedication.

In this newsletter, we are thrilled to share news about the next international conference in Athens in 2024. Athens, with its rich history, promises to be an exceptional backdrop for our discussions and shared experiences. We will also cover various projects, collaborations, and publications within our community, highlighting the impactful work being done globally. Additionally, we will feature the latest activities of our Brand Ambassadors in their respective countries.

To conclude this edition, we are honored to include a holiday message from our EDTNA/ERCA President, Dr. Ilaria de Barbieri. We deeply appreciate your ongoing commitment to our community, and together, we will continue making significant strides in Nephrology Care.

Best regards



Maria Arminda Tavares
maria.tavares@edtnerca.org
Newsletter Editor

2023 EDTNA/ERCA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE in Vilnius

The 51st EDTNA/ERCA International Conference in Vilnius, Lithuania, has been a success and we would like to share with you some statistics of the Attendance and Scientific Programme.

Attendance

- **562** Delegates in total
- **266** First time attendees
- **43** Countries in total. Top 6 countries by delegates:
 - Lithuania (National Day event)
 - Croatia
 - Greece
 - United Kingdom
 - Portugal
 - Slovenia

Scientific Programme

- **6** GS lectures
- **3** CESs & **1** Lunch Symposium
- **7** Workshops
- **6** Special sessions
- **32** Sessions in total
- **5** E-Poster Sessions - **36** e-Posters
- **17,25** ICNEC Credit points

E-Poster award winners:

1st prize - Zülfünaz Özer

The Effects of Mandala Colouring on Fatigue, Coping with Stress and Psychological Well-being

Co-authors: Gülcan Bahçecioğlu Turan, Mine Uyman, Mukadder Mollooğlu

2nd prize - Mirjana Mihalic

Hunt on a Silent Killer – Continuous Public Health Action of the Croatian Hypertension League

Co-author: Bojan Jelakovic

3rd prize - Stavroula Vovlianou

Quality of Life in Family Caregivers of Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease: Longitudinal Study

Co-authors: Vasilios Koutlas, George Tsigaras, Haralampos Milionis, Petros Skapinakis, Evangelia Dounousi

Best Presentation award:

Kristine Pold Nielsen

Let's Talk About Sex

Co-authors: Lotte Løntoft Mathiesen, Jeanette Finderup

We also received 2 New and 4 Re-Accreditation Applications this year, all of which were successful.

Nipro

Vascular Access in Hemodialysis

Accredited – *Highly Commended*, 4 years; Awarded 13 EDTNA/ERCA Learning Hours

Escola Superior de Saúde Atlântica

Postgraduate Course in Dialysis for Nurses

Accredited – *Commended*, 2 years

Diaverum

Competence in Practice. Diaverum Nursing Programme

Re-Accredited – *Highly Commended*, 4 years; Awarded 25 EDTNA/ERCA Learning Hours

Fresenius Medical Care Portugal

Renal Care for Nurses Programme

Re-Accredited – *Highly Commended*, 4 years

Fresenius Medical Care Middle East

FME Middle East Peritoneal Dialysis Nephrology Nursing Course

Re-Accredited – *Commended*, 4 years; Awarded 20 EDTNA/ERCA Learning Hours

University of Nicosia & Educational Sector, Nursing Services, Cyprus Ministry of Health

Nephrology Nursing Specialty Programme

Re-Accredited – *Commended*, 4 years



Thank you to all participants for joining us in Vilnius, Lithuania. We can't wait to see you all once again in 2024 in Athens, Greece!

2024 EDTNA/ERCA International Conference in Athens



Mark your calendars for the NEXT EDTNA/ERCA International Conference **2024 in Athens**, where innovative advancements in nephrology care await!

Key Dates:

- Abstract Submission Open: January 2, 2024
- Abstract Submission Deadline: February 18, 2024
- Acceptance Decision for Authors: April 1, 2024
- Registration Open: May 2, 2024
- e-Poster Submission Deadline: August 19, 2024
- Conference Opening: September 21, 2024

Join global leaders, researchers, and experts at this exceptional event. Submit your abstract, secure your registration, and share insights at the forefront of nephrology care.

Don't miss out—be part of the future of healthcare. See you in Athens!

EDTNA/ERCA EC Meeting in Athens

During the recent Executive Committee Meeting in the beautiful city of Athens, held from November 23 to 25, 2023, we engaged in a comprehensive agenda aimed at shaping the future of EDTNA/ERCA:

- Our initial focus was on a thorough evaluation of the 2023 conference. This reflection allowed us to identify both successes and areas for improvement, ensuring that future events will be even more impactful.
- Looking ahead to the much-anticipated International Conference in 2024, our committee dedicated time to crafting an innovative and insightful scientific program. The goal is to lead the conversation in Kidney care, presenting leading-edge topics and promotion of meaningful discussions.

- On the financial front, transparency and sustainability were key themes. We delved into an update on our finances, emphasizing our commitment to responsible fiscal management in support of our mission.
- To maximize our impact in the nephrology community, we explored new initiatives and potential collaborations during the meeting. These efforts are geared towards elevating the reach and influence of EDTNA/ERCA in 2024 and beyond.
- Additionally, we discussed plans for expanding our knowledge-sharing endeavors through engaging webinars. This platform will serve as an avenue for broader outreach and continuous education to all our members.

A heartfelt thank you is extended to our gracious hostesses, Vicky Zoi and Anastasia Liossatu, for their warm hospitality in Athens. Their dedication and support during the meeting added a special touch to our discussions, fueling our enthusiasm for the upcoming conference.

As we diligently work towards bringing you an unforgettable International Conference in 2024, we encourage you to **save the date, stay tuned for updates**, and prepare for an enriching experience in Athens! Your ongoing support is helpful in our shared journey.



EDTNA/ERCA & Collaborations

Collaborative efforts are essential in healthcare. Together, we can share knowledge, identify challenges, and find solutions. **Collaborations create a network where each professional's expertise contributes to a broader understanding of problems.** By working together, we enhance our impact, fostering innovation and advancements in patient care. Let's break down barriers, connect, and cultivate a culture of **shared learning**. Your participation is key in shaping the future of nephrology and making a **positive impact on patient well-being**.

- EDTNA/ERCA & EKHA



In a collaborative effort, our collaboration with EKHA is to continue on developing effective prevention strategies and enhancing the efficiency of the care pathway. The shared objective is to ensure the equitable provision of appropriate and affordable treatments to all Europeans, while concurrently promoting the highest standards of care.

To gain a deeper understanding of this initiative, we encourage all readers of our newsletter to explore the provided links. These resources offer valuable insights into how EKHA and EDTNA are collaboratively addressing the complexities of CKD, striving to shape a

healthier future for kidney care in Europe. Your active engagement and awareness play a vital role in supporting this mission, benefiting individuals across the continent.

For more information, visit:

<https://ekha.eu/blog/inequities-in-kidney-health-and-kidney-care/>

<https://ekha.eu/blog/a-policy-call-to-address-rare-kidney-disease-in-healthcare-plans/>

- EDTNA/ERCA & KDIGO

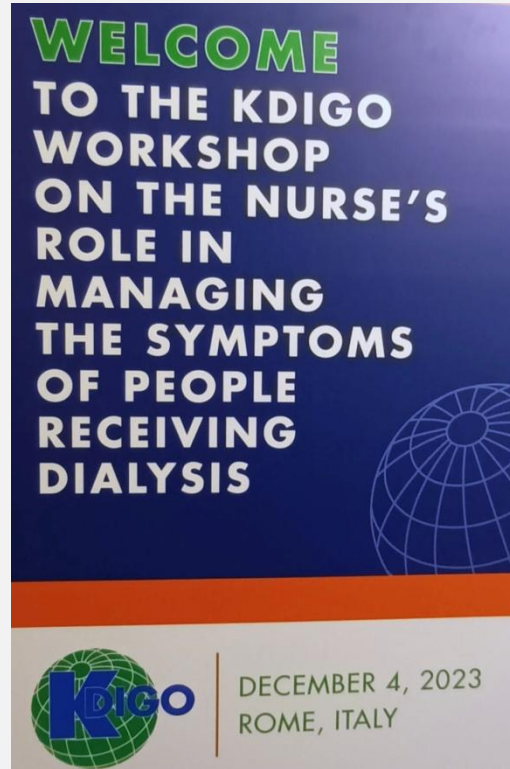


In an international collaboration aimed at enhancing the care of patients receiving Haemodialysis, four distinguished members of EDTNA/ERCA made a significant impact at the Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) Workshop in Rome, Italy, on December 4th. Anastasia Liossatu, Edita Norușiene, Afra Masià-Plana, and Jeanette Funderup actively participated in discussions centered around the crucial role of nurses in managing the symptoms of individuals undergoing Haemodialysis.

This groundbreaking workshop brought together Nephrology nurses, patients, and nephrologists from across the globe, including the USA, Japan, Australia, and Europe. The participants engaged in comprehensive deliberations on effective strategies and approaches for assessing symptoms in individuals on Haemodialysis. The aim was to explore ways in which these assessment methodologies can be seamlessly integrated into nursing care, ultimately improving the overall quality of life for patients undergoing this critical medical treatment.

The event fostered a spirit of international collaboration and knowledge exchange, emphasizing the importance of a unified approach to symptom management in Haemodialysis. As the EDTNA/ERCA

members contributed their expertise, the workshop proved to be a valuable platform for advancing the field and elevating standards in nephrology nursing.



- EDTNA/ERCA & ESNO



As we embark on this journey of collaboration, EDTNA/ERCA and ESNO invite all Specialist Nurses and interest groups to actively participate and contribute to the collective strength of our shared mission. Together, we can create a dynamic and inclusive platform that empowers specialist nurses, fosters professional growth, and ensures the highest standards of care for patients throughout Europe. Anastasia Liossistou, EDTNA/ERCA EC Member & ESNO link attended the on-line ESNO General Assembly which was taken place on the 2nd of December. Interesting discussions took place in relation to the Campaign on ESNO Declaration.

Please check the following links for more information:

<https://esno.us20.listmanage.com/track/click?u=a4f67382bb9a27ba62e2cf63c&id=2c4f04c0cc&e=51f3e94cbb>

<https://www.esno.org/>



- EDTNA/ERCA & European Kidney Patients' Federation



www.ekpf.eu

We are thrilled to announce the release of the **Santander Statement**. This document is the culmination of the Global Convergence in Transplantation Summit, which took place in Santander, Spain, on November 9 and 10, 2023.

The Santander Statement represents a significant milestone in the collaborative efforts of experts and stakeholders dedicated to advancing transplantation practices. This is an invaluable resource for healthcare professionals, researchers, and anyone passionate about contributing to the progress of transplantation. We invite you to join us in disseminating the

Santander Statement within your networks. Share this news with your colleagues, present it to government representatives, and extend its reach to patients and other key stakeholders in the healthcare community. By doing so, we collectively contribute to the wider adoption of best practices and advancements in transplantation.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to the field of healthcare. Stay tuned for more updates and breakthroughs in transplantation research.

To access the Santander Statement and delve into the forefront of transplantation advancements, please visit:

<https://ekpf.eu/towards-global-convergence-in-transplantation-sufficiency-transparency-oversight/>



TOWARDS GLOBAL CONVERGENCE IN TRANSPLANTATION: SUFFICIENCY, TRANSPARENCY & OVERSIGHT

09-10/NOV/2023
High Level Meeting

SANTANDER STATEMENT

Daniel Gallego

President
European Kidney Patients' Federation

2024 EDTNA/ERCA Webinars

EDTNA/ERCA mission is to provide continuous education to our members and we are preparing the next webinars following these topics.

Stay tuned and don't miss the opportunity to increase your knowledge and share your own experiences!

The upcoming webinar:

- **Are we over-restricting dietary potassium and leading to an unhealthy diet?**

26th January 2024 at 15 - 16:15 pm CET

Guest Speaker: Deepa Kariyawasam, Senior Renal Dietitian, King's College Hospital, UK
Moderator: Kalliopi Anna (Liana) Poulia, Nutrition Consultant for EDTNA/ERCA, Greece

EDTNA/ERCA Webinar

European Dialysis and Transplant Nurses Association/
European Renal Care Association



Are we over-restricting dietary potassium and leading to an unhealthy diet?



Speaker:
Deepa Kariyawasam
Senior Renal Dietitian, King's
College Hospital, UK



Moderator:
Kalliopi Anna (Liana) Poulia
Nutrition Consultant for
EDTNA/ERCA, Greece

Registration:
Free of charge
for ALL

- More webinars to come in March and June.

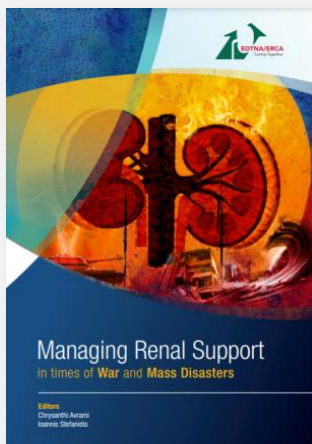
If you want to make suggestions about some topics that you would like to have more education, please contact us:
secretariat@edtnaerca.org

We want to announce that all upcoming EDTNA/ERCA webinars will be *free of charge for ALL*.

EDTNA/ERCA Publications

Explore the Latest Publications from EDTNA/ERCA!

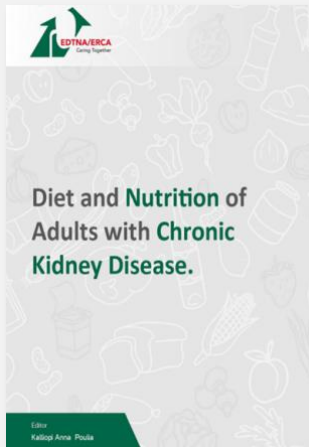
Embark on a journey of knowledge and excellence with the newest publications and translations brought to you by the European Dialysis and Transplant Nurses Association/European Renal Care Association (EDTNA/ERCA). Our commitment to advancing the field of nephrology nursing is reflected in these cutting-edge resources that cater to professionals, educators, and healthcare enthusiasts alike.



Managing Renal Support in Times of War and Mass Disasters

Authors: Chrysanthi Avrami & Ioannis Stefanidis

Unveil the complexities of renal support in challenging times with our innovative book. Authored by Chrysanthi Avrami and Ioannis Stefanidis, this essential resource crosses the intricate landscape of managing renal care during war and mass disasters. Providing insights into crisis response strategies and the unique challenges faced by healthcare professionals, this book is an indispensable guide for all health care professionals in kidney care.

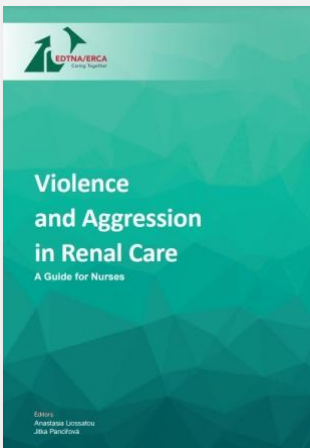


Diet and Nutrition in Adults with Chronic Kidney Disease

Author: Kalliopi Anna Poulia

Delve into the crucial intersection of diet and chronic kidney disease with the latest work by Kalliopi Anna Poulia. This comprehensive guide explores the intricate relationship between nutrition and renal health in adults. Backed by evidence-based practices, the book equips healthcare professionals and nutritionists with practical insights to optimize dietary interventions for individuals with chronic kidney disease.

Explore the **Latest Translation** from EDTNA/ERCA! **Now in Czech**



We are excited to announce the release of the **Czech translation** of the impactful book, "**Violence and Aggression in Renal Care: A Guide for Nurses.**" This guide, edited by valued professionals Anastasia Liossatos and Jitka Pancířová, delves into the critical issue of violence and aggression within the realm of renal care.

This helpful resource not only provides a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by nurses in renal care but also offers practical insights and solutions to address violence and aggression. All authors of the book bring a wealth of experience and expertise to this guide, ensuring that it is a must-read for nurses, healthcare professionals, and anyone involved in renal care.

All available languages: English, Croatian, Czech, Dutch, German, Hungarian, Italian, Lithuanian, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish.

How to Get Your Copy:

Visit our website to order your copies of these insightful publications. Stay ahead in Kidney health care by incorporating the latest knowledge and best practices from these authoritative resources. Please visit our website: <https://www.edtnerca.org/education/publications>



Anastasia Liossatos RN, Dip(Edu), MSc (Nurs), PhD(c)
EDTNA/ERCA Executive Committee Member
Publications Coordinator & ESNO EC Link
anastasia.liossatos@edtnerca.org

EDTNA/ERCA Brand Ambassadors Activities Be ONE! See the open Vacancies and Apply!



At EDTNA/ERCA, we are thrilled to announce the exciting opportunity to become a **Brand Ambassador in your country!** The Brand Ambassador (BA) Programme serves as a vital link between EDTNA/ERCA and National Associations, fostering a strong local presence and supporting our valued members at the national level.

Presently, we are on the lookout for enthusiastic individuals to take up the role of Brand Ambassador in the following countries:

- Belgium
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Russia
- Serbia
- Sweden
- Spain
- Romania

If you're passionate about making a difference in renal care and aspire to play a significant role in your country, we encourage you to apply for the Brand Ambassador position. Stay informed about our Brand Ambassadors' local activities on our website. For specific inquiries or to express your interest, kindly contact the Brand Ambassador in your country directly or reach out to our *Secretariat* for more information – secretariat@edtnerca.org

• Inspiration from Portugal

We draw inspiration from our dedicated Brand Ambassador in Portugal, who has been a true leader in promoting EDTNA/ERCA among Portuguese members. Her outstanding efforts include organizing and conducting Portuguese-language webinars known as the **"Nephrology Monday Talks."** These sessions invite Portuguese nurses in nephrology to attend, fostering group discussions to enhance and share knowledge among professionals.

Maria Eulália Novais, the Brand Ambassador from Portugal, represented EDTNA/ERCA at the Portuguese Renal Meeting, which took place from November 16th to 18th concurrently with the XXXVII APEDT Congress. The event featured three intense days of presentations and discussions, showcasing excellent communications and posters on various topics, including AVF and dialytic induction, cannulation techniques, knowledge translation, the psychosocial impact of CKD from different perspectives, artificial intelligence, peritoneal dialysis, and management in nephrology.

During the training-focused session, Maria Eulália Novais presented on the topic of "**Dissemination of Knowledge in Nephrology: A Perspective of the Academy.**" The presentation was based on the principle that the dissemination of knowledge, using well-defined methodologies, facilitates access to information and knowledge, with clear implications in many care provision contexts. The focus was on the idea that knowledge production encourages reflection on research results and existing theories, as well as methods of disseminating them. It emphasized the rapid obsolescence of information and the significant gap between research and clinical practice. The presentation stressed the importance of nurses participating in conferences and webinars, with a special emphasis on those organized by EDTNA/ERCA and the Journal of Renal Care as valuable sources for disseminating knowledge in Kidney care.



Maria Eulália Novais
EDTNA/ERCA Brand Ambassador from Portugal
novaismel@gmail.com

EDTNA/ERCA Journal of Renal Care - Impact factor 1.9 in 2022

Journal of Renal Care

To access the Journal of Renal Care - Become a member!
If you are already a member you have free access to all articles, present and past issues.



Who can write about the Journal of Renal Care?

Have you developed a research project at your unit, hospital or university? Do you know you can publish it in the EDTNA/ERCA Journal?

The Journal of Renal Care (JORC), formally the EDTNA/ERCA Journal, is the official publication of the European Dialysis and Transplant Nursing Association/European Renal Care Association (EDTNA/ERCA). It publishes a broad range of peer-reviewed clinical, research and educational papers for health care professionals working in kidney care.

The JORC seeks to provide content that is relevant to, and reflective of, the growing diversity of the renal care community.

[Link to contact the team to publish](#)

RENALPRO FORUM

RenalPro is an email forum, supported by the NKF and the EDTNA/ERCA. RenalPro is a moderated, multidisciplinary email list for healthcare professionals (nurses, technicians, dietitians, social workers, administrators, physicians, engineers, etc.) interested in topics related to nephrology, dialysis and transplantation. Its purpose is an electronic communication tool for the exchange of ideas, concerns or questions related to renal care.

Topics discussed during 2022 included minimal ultrafiltration rates, venous needle displacement, dialyser reuse, machine disinfection, heparin use, and staffing practices in PD units.

In January 2023, RenalPro had over 750 subscribers from around the world. The RenalPro forum is co-moderated by:



Sabine Nipshagen
(Germany)

and



Chava Kurtz
(Israel).

Subscribe here: <https://www.mailman.srv.ualberta.ca/mailman/listinfo/renalpro>

Holiday's Message from EDTNA/ERCA President Dr. Ilaria de Barbieri



Dear Members & Friends,

As we gather to celebrate the joyous occasion of the Season Greetings, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude and admiration for each one of you. This festive season serves as a poignant reminder of the power of unity, compassion, and the indomitable human spirit.

In our roles as members of the EDTNA/ERCA community, we are bound together by a common purpose—to advance the field of renal care, enhance patient care, and promote excellence in our profession. As we reflect on the challenges and triumphs of the past year, let us draw strength from our collective dedication and resilience. These holidays are a time for reflection, a time to appreciate the bonds that connect us, and a time to renew our commitment to making a positive impact in the lives of those we serve. Let the spirit of this season inspire us to be beacons of hope and agents of change in the renal care community.

In the face of uncertainties, your unwavering commitment to excellence shines brightly. Your passion for advancing healthcare, improving patient outcomes, and fostering a sense of community within our association is truly admirable.

As we exchange gifts and share moments of joy with our loved ones, let us also remember the gift of service and the profound impact we can have on the lives of those affected by kidney disease. May the coming year bring forth new opportunities for growth, collaboration, and success.

Thank you for your dedication to the mission and vision of EDTNA/ERCA. Together, we are creating a legacy of compassion and excellence in renal care. Wishing you and your loved ones Happy Winter Holidays and a New Year filled with health, happiness, and continued success.



Warmest regards,

Ilaria de Barbieri
EDTNA/ERCA President

Become a Member, Today!



 **Outseta** is our new Membership system Partner.

Our Members confirmed – the system is very easy to use. If you would like to become a Member as well, please click the link below, select SUBSCRIPTION PLAN (Member) and sign up to EDTNA/ERCA. You will be asked to enter your email address and other detailed information. Then you will need to pay your subscription which is 60 €.

To learn more about Membership categories and benefits, please click [HERE](#).

As an EDTNA/ERCA MEMBER you may:


- Apply for a **volunteer position** and to stand for election
- Be a part of the decision making in EDTNA/ERCA: file motions and to vote
- Have **access to the Journal of Renal Care in E-Version** and printed version per request
- Have access to all **available publications** in E-Version and printed version
- Get all information available for Members
- Register at reduced member fee for all available events

[Link to become a MEMBER](#)

Follow us on Social media

 <https://www.facebook.com/EDTNAERCA-100284888279250>

 <https://twitter.com/home?lang=en>

 <https://www.instagram.com/edtnaerca/>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/company/5201961/>

Webpage: <https://www.edtnaerca.org/>