

NKF 2026 Spring Clinical Meetings

Pre-Conference Courses & Lunch Workshops – Available for Separate Purchase

Important: All times for SCM are provided in Central Standard Time (CST).

Schedule details are subject to change. For the most accurate and up-to-date information, please refer to the SCM website.

Questions? Visit: <https://www.kidney.org/spring-clinical> (OR) Contact Us: clinicalmeetings@kidney.org

Pre-Conference Courses – Wednesday, May 6

(Includes continental breakfast & boxed lunch. Not recorded or On-Demand.)

Pricing: Pre-Conference Courses: \$275 – NKF Member | \$350 – Non-Member | \$125 – Fellows/Residents/Students

POCUS pricing: \$425 Member | \$550 Non-Member | \$125 Fellows/Residents/Students

Kidney Transplantation in 2026 (Session #220)

8:00am – 4:00pm | Capacity: 75

Kidney transplantation remains the optimal treatment for patients with kidney failure. Although kidney transplantation has rapidly grown in the United States over the past 2 decades, access to transplant, early post-transplant complications, and long-term allograft management after transplantation each remain targets to improve outcomes in kidney disease. This full day pre-conference course will provide learners with updates on kidney transplantation in 2026 by reviewing evidence-based strategies to improve management in each of these phases of care.

Hands-On Home Dialysis (Session #221)

7:45am – 4:00pm | Capacity: 50

This preconference course is designed to provide learners with a comprehensive overview of home dialysis through simulated patient experiences and interactive participation. Combining hands-on activities with expert-led lectures, the course will explore both the technical and clinical aspects of peritoneal dialysis (PD) and home hemodialysis (HHD). Learners will gain practical experience by performing continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (CAPD) exchanges, setting up and connecting a PD catheter to a PD cycler, managing contamination scenarios, setting up a HHD circuit and troubleshooting basic alarms in both PD and HHD systems. Complementing these experiential sessions, expert faculty will present on how to build a successful home dialysis program, managing the medical needs of PD and HHD patients, developing effective dialysis prescriptions, and addressing common complications encountered in home therapies. Learners will leave this course with enhanced knowledge, practical skills, and greater confidence in managing patients on home dialysis.

Critical Care Nephrology, Electrolyte Disorders, and AKI (Session #222)

8:00am – 4:45pm | Capacity: 75

Acutely ill patients with kidney disease are among the most complex and challenging patient populations to manage. This preconference course will provide learners with the most up to date information on high-impact topics in the areas of critical care nephrology, electrolyte disorders, and acute kidney injury (AKI). Faculty will present to and engage learners in topics including, but not limited to, dialytic and non-dialytic management of AKI, common and challenging electrolyte/acid-base abnormalities and intoxications, cross-organ syndromes (e.g., cardio-/hepatorenal), and emerging areas such as onco- and palliative-care nephrology and post-AKI care.

Updates in Glomerular Disease Management (Session #223)

8:00am – 5:00pm | Capacity: 125

This full day exploration of the exciting world of glomerular disease will include in depth discussion of the newest therapeutic options. Faculty will focus on the pathophysiology behind therapeutic approaches in disease modification, and how to mitigate the risks of those therapies. With so many new treatments in the pipeline, clinicians will want to know how to offer clinical trials to their patients. The preconference course will conclude with an in-depth breakdown of how to approach individual disease states through interactive case discussions.

POCUS Essentials for Nephrologists (Session #224)

8:00am – 5:00pm | Capacity: 60

Point-of-care ultrasonography (POCUS) is designed to answer focused clinical questions at the bedside and enhance real-time clinical decision-making. In recent years, it has become an essential extension of the physical examination, with many medical schools incorporating POCUS training into their curricula. However, structured training opportunities remain limited for practicing nephrologists, advanced practice providers, and nephrology fellows.

This day-long course is designed to introduce learners to basic POCUS applications relevant to nephrology and provide hands-on scanning experience to build foundational skills and confidence. Please note that advanced applications such as Doppler echocardiography and the VExUS (Venous Excess Ultrasound) will not be covered, as mastering fundamental techniques is a prerequisite for these more complex assessments.

Clinical Excellence in Dialysis: A Course for Service Providers (Session #620)

8:00am – 5:00pm | Capacity: 75

Designed for healthcare providers, this course delivers an evidence-based update on best practices in dialysis management within nephrology. Topics include dialysis modalities, patient selection, vascular access, fluid and electrolyte balance, and complication management. Designed for providers in both inpatient and outpatient settings, the course combines case-based learning with clinical application to enhance patient care and outcomes.

Renal Nutrition Expert Exam Prep (Session #520)

8:00am – 5:00pm | Capacity: 75

This NKF-sponsored one-day intensive review is designed to help renal dietitians prepare for the renal nutrition expert certification exam. The session offers a focused review of key exam topics, test-taking strategies, and confidence-building techniques. Presenters include seasoned renal dietitians who have CSR certification or contributed expertise in the specialty areas covered. Attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of core content and practical tools to support exam success. Whether you are considering sitting for the exam for the first time, need to renew your certification or are an experienced renal dietitian, this session is for you. Please note: This event is not affiliated with the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR), and presenters have no role in exam development.

Lunch Workshops – Thursday, May 7 & Saturday, May 9

(Includes boxed lunch. Not recorded or On-Demand.)

Pricing: \$60 | Fellows/Residents/Students - \$30

Hot Topics in the Nephrology Literature: 2026 Edition (Session #230)

Thursday, May 7, 2026 | 11:30am – 1:30pm | Capacity: 75

Following the success of the sold out workshops in 2024 and 2025, the Hot Topics in the Nephrology Literature lunch workshop will return in the 2026 program! Learners will hear about high-impact articles published in the past year to remain on the cutting-edge of the field. NKF's premiere journals, including AJKD, Kidney Medicine and the Journal of Renal Nutrition, will feature key articles presented and discussed by representatives of their editorial teams. Additional key nephrology literature in general medical journals will also be reviewed.

Nephrogenetic Essentials for Nephrology Providers (Session #231)

Thursday, May 7, 2026 | 11:30am – 1:30pm | Capacity: 75

Nephrogenetics is a rapidly growing field, playing a critical role in disease diagnosis and classification, risk stratification, cascade screening, family planning, and personalized treatment. Improving comfort of nephrologists and the kidney care team with genetic nomenclature, testing, and indications can improve implementation of nephrogenetics in modern nephrology practice. This session will provide an overview of genetic terminology and testing options, as well as in depth discussion of some common clinical scenarios in which genetic tests may be indicated in nephrology. Led by international experts in the field, this workshop will provide practical updates in genetic innovations and an opportunity to get your questions answered.

Transplant Care for the General Nephrologist (Session #232)

Thursday, May 7, 2026 | 11:30am – 1:30pm | Capacity: 75

What happens after your patient is referred for transplant and turned down? This case-based, interactive lunch workshop follows one patient through the full transplant journey: from initial referral and denial, to eventual listing, transplant, and long-term post-transplant care, ending with chronic allograft dysfunction and re-listing. Along the way, we'll focus on what the general nephrologist can and should manage. This includes navigating the referral process, interpreting allograft surveillance data, managing side effects of immunosuppression, and deciding when referral back to transplant is truly needed. With real-world decision points, audience polling, and practical strategies, this session will help general nephrologists confidently take ownership of transplant patient care across the continuum.

From the Clinic to the Capitol: How YOU Can Shape Kidney Health Policy (Session #233)

Saturday, May 9, 2025 | 12:15pm – 1:45pm | Capacity: 75

Federal, state, local, and institutional policies have a large influence on the care of kidney patients, from deciding what kinds of treatments will be covered to supporting kidney science to setting policies that impact access. Kidney patients and their care teams can play a key role in helping set kidney policies that will best serve patients' interests, but many of them do not know how policies are influenced or how to best advocate for changes in kidney policy. This workshop will provide the knowledge and basic skills needed to become an active advocate for policies that you wish to support, or against policies that you wish to oppose. Learners will understand the legislative landscape at key levels of the government, learn how to leverage their roles in professional societies and medical centers to advocate for broader change, and learn how to advocate outside of these structures.

Real-World Applications of AI in Nephrology (Session #234)

Saturday, May 9, 2025 | 12:15pm – 1:45pm | Capacity: 75

Join this exciting lunch workshop exploring the cutting edge of Artificial Intelligence in Nephrology. Discover how AI is transforming clinician workflows, enhancing diagnostic reasoning, and revolutionizing nephrology education.

The Skinny on GLP1-RAs: Practical Considerations (Session #235)

Saturday, May 9, 2025 | 12:15pm – 1:45pm | Capacity: 75

GLP-1 receptor agonists are transforming care for patients with diabetes, obesity, and chronic kidney disease, but prescribing them in our complex patients requires nuance. This session offers practical, evidence-based guidance on dosing, contraindications, and monitoring strategies tailored to kidney function and co-morbid conditions. Through real-world case examples, we'll explore how to optimize benefits while minimizing risks and side effects, including muscle loss. Participants will complete this session with actionable tips to confidently incorporate GLP-1 RAs into your prescribing toolkit for even the most challenging patients.

Breaking Bread, Not Breaking Bad: Finding Peace as a Kidney Care Provider (Session #430)

Thursday, May 7, 2026 | 11:30am – 1:30pm | Capacity: 75

Take a break from the daily demands of kidney care and invest in yourself. This session explores the unique challenges kidney professionals face that contribute to stress and poor outcomes at work and home. In this hands-on, interactive workshop, you'll learn practical self-care techniques and practice them in real time with peers, walking away with actionable strategies to reduce stress, build resilience, and boost overall well-being.

Maximizing APPs in Nephrology: Roles, Revenue, and Retention Session (#630)

Thursday, May 7, 2026 | 11:30am – 1:30pm | Capacity: 75

Advanced Practice Providers (APPs) are central to the future of nephrology but successfully growing APP programs require both strategic and financial planning. This interactive workshop will explore how APPs can be maximized across inpatient, outpatient, dialysis, and value-based care settings. Participants will learn best practices for integrating APPs into clinical workflows, aligning services with organizational priorities, and strengthening retention through leadership strategies. Faculty will also review financial considerations and revenue opportunities to help practices build a compelling case for APP investment and long-term sustainability.