



NATIONAL KIDNEY
FOUNDATION®

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE
1634 Eye Street NW
Suite 1050
Washington, DC 20001

July 9, 2026

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Merkel and Members of the White House Domestic Policy Council:

On behalf of the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) and the millions of Americans living with kidney disease, we write to urge the Administration to take immediate action to improve access to home dialysis for people with kidney failure. During his first term, President Trump's Advancing American Kidney Health initiative set the expectation that by 2030, dialysis at home or a kidney transplant would be the dominant treatment modalities for kidney failure. Progress has been made, but there is more work to do to achieve the President's goal.

The United States leads the world in several domains of kidney care. The U.S. is at the forefront of kidney research and clinical medicine, for example, pioneering the gene edited pig kidney that may one day replace the need for human organs for transplant. Yet, we lag comparable nations in access to dialysis at home as the in-center dialysis model persists at the expense of other care delivery models.

For many patients, dialysis at home can offer greater independence, flexibility, continuity of work and family life, and the ability to receive treatment in a setting that better reflects their goals and preferences. Too many people who could safely and successfully dialyze at home never receive meaningful education about their options, never get connected to a home dialysis program, or encounter practical barriers that make home treatment impossible.

The need for renewed federal leadership is essential as the policies initiated by the first Trump Administration to grow access to home dialysis conclude. Taken together, the End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Treatment Choices (ETC) and Kidney Care Choices (KCC) Models, both implemented by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Innovation Center, drove modest gains in home dialysis access but fell short of the dialysis delivery transformation American kidney patients want to see. The lesson should not be that home dialysis is out of reach; rather, it is that a resolute vision combined with a commitment to policymaking can result in change.

NKF respectfully requests that the White House commit to advancing the President's vision for transforming how dialysis care is delivered to better serve American kidney patients, their families, and our nation's healthcare system. The President's vision will be a function of the White House lending its voice to the issue of home dialysis, supplemented by tactical policy work by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to modernize ESRD Medicare payment and quality programs to enable true reforms in how dialysis is delivered.

Every American kidney patient deserves the opportunity to make an informed choice of dialysis modality, supported by a care system that makes that choice real.



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The NKF stands ready to work with the White House, HHS, CMS, and Congress to advance a transformative kidney care agenda. The recently promulgated proposed ESRD payment rule includes a Request for Information (RFI) on system-level changes to support home dialysis that we see as an important step forward. We respectfully request the opportunity to meet with the Domestic Policy Council and relevant White House leadership to discuss these recommendations and identify immediate steps the Administration can take.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent issue and for your commitment to improving the lives of people living with kidney disease.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Roach", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr. Jesse Roach
Senior Vice President, National Kidney Foundation