Fueled by passion and urgency, NKF is a lifeline for all people affected by kidney disease. As pioneers of scientific research and innovation, NKF focuses on the whole patient through the lens of kidney health. Relentless in our work, we enhance lives through action, education and accelerating change.
HOW CAN CONGRESS HELP FIGHT KIDNEY DISEASE?

Living Donor Protection Act (S. 511/H.R. 1224)
Co-sponsor legislation that would prohibit discrimination in life, disability, or long-term care insurance for living donors. The bill also adds living organ donation to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

Extending Medicare coverage for Immunosuppressive Medication
Transplant recipients need these drugs to maintain their kidney and lower risk of rejection. Medicare covers immunosuppressants for only 36 months post-transplant, leaving many recipients struggling to find affordable coverage. Extending Medicare coverage for immunosuppressive medications indefinitely ensures patients have access to these lifesaving medications.

Appropriations
Increase funding in Fiscal Year 2020 for: CDC’s Division of Diabetes Translation’s (DDT) CKD Surveillance Project; the Health Resources and Services Administration’s (HRSA) Division of Transplantation and Bureau of Primary Care; the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK); and KidneyX, the Kidney Innovation Accelerator.

For additional information, contact NKFadvocacy@kidney.org

KIDNEY DISEASE IN VERMONT

Medicare patients with CKD diagnosed................. 9,240
Medicare patients on dialysis................................. 430
Kidney transplants performed since 1988 ............ 692
Patients on the transplant waitlist......................... 67
Transplants in 2018........................................ 10
Patients who died while on waitlist in 2018 .......... 3

Average Cost to Medicare

Dialysis patient .................................................. $89,367
Transplant after first year ................................... $34,752
Immunosuppressant medications .................... $2,303
Kidney disease test ........................................ $80-$143

KIDNEY FAILURE IN THE US

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