

Getting the word out

Jolanta Karpinski for the CSN ad-hoc implementation committee

The CSN position paper on the Care and Referral of Adult Patients with Reduced Renal Function was posted on the CSN website September 2006. As the Guideline Committee was completing its work, it was recognized that the target audience for this paper extended beyond the nephrology community to include primary care givers as well as clinical laboratories and their funding bodies. An implementation group was formed to guide and oversee a communications and evaluation strategy.

The implementation group formed and met in September developing key messages and dissemination strategies for each of these identified target groups.

1) Clinical laboratories. The CSCC (Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists) has endorsed the CSN position paper. A mailing will be sent to provincial ministers of health and all Canadian hospital CEO's outlining the move to eGFR reporting. A summary of the CSN position paper will be sent to all Canadian lab directors. The prevalence of, as well as ongoing barriers to, laboratory implementation of eGFR reporting will be evaluated.

2) Primary care audience. Education materials are being developed including a slide set for use in CME presentations; a one-page summary of the paper's key messages; a laminated sheet featuring a patient care algorithm and an eGFR estimator. Some of these materials will be available for distribution at the annual CSN meeting. Nephrologists willing to provide CME presentations have been identified and "train the trainer" sessions are planned to discuss how to effectively change physicians practice behaviors. A mailing to various primary care organizations and CME providers is planned to raise their awareness of this topic and to offer a list of speakers as well as the educational materials.

3) Nephrologists. The CSN's implementation strategy was discussed at the Amgen sponsored meeting in Banff Feb 8-10th as well as at the SQN's annual meeting. Thanks for all your great ideas! A fax-back form to help us all gather the information needed to appropriately triage eGFR referrals will be posted on the CSN website. We are also working on a patient information letter you may find useful to distribute to your patients with non-progressive CKD.

Thanks to Jim Barton, Kevin Burns, Christine Collier, Bruce Culleton, Christine Dipchand, Daniel Froment, Marshall Godwin, Bill Hogg, Sameena Iqbal, Adeera Levin and David Mendelssohn for all their hard work.

We welcome your ideas and feedback. Please check out the educational materials at our table during the CSN annual meeting as well as on the CSN website. If you are interested in attending one of the "Train the Trainers" sessions and/or joining the "speaker" list contact Jolanta at jkarpinski@ottawahospital.on.ca