

CSN-SNAP Committee Videoconference MINUTES

March 9, 2022: 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. EDT

<p>Present</p> <p>Caroline Stigant, (Chair) Keefe Davis, SK Dan Martinusen, BC Kristen Pederson, MB Tasleem Rajan, BC Ratna Samanta, QC Ahmad Tarakji, ON</p>	<p>Regrets</p> <p>Syed Obaid Amin, SK Neil Finkle, NS Naomi Glick, BC Bhavneet Kahlon, AB</p> <p>Administration</p> <p>Filomena Picciano, Director of Operations</p> <p>Minutes</p> <p>Diane Perazzo, Wordsmith Writing and Editing</p>
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AGENDA ITEM / KEY DISCUSSION POINTS / DECISIONS	ACTION ITEMS
1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement	
Dr. Stigant welcomed the group and called the meeting to order. She offered a territorial acknowledgement stating that she was on the unceded traditional territories of the Coast Salish Nations.	
2. New Member Introductions	
Dr. Stigant introduced the following new members: Dr. Kristen Pederson, a pediatric nephrologist practicing in Winnipeg Manitoba and Dr. Keefe Davis, also a pediatric nephrologist from Saskatchewan. Dr. Davis stated that he was interested in variability of practice from a climate perspective across nephrology, particularly between pediatric and adult treatment modalities. Dr. Rajan provided an update on a foundational project that she and Dr. Stigant were working on related to carbon foot printing across the entire	A1. New Committee Members will send Mr. Verissimo a brief bio and photo by ASAP to be posted on the CSN website.

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<p>life-cycle of kidney health and disease. This work will be done in collaboration with the UBC Planetary Health and BC Renal and will consider hemodialysis, ambulatory prescriptions, etc.</p> <p>Similar work is also being done regarding transplants, e.g. pre and post transplant (the ultimate in recycling), living donors, etc. They are also looking at developing a shared decision-making tool with patients to assist in making treatment decisions based on optimal care and environmental sustainability.</p> <p>Dr. Martinuson raised concerns about the impact of fluorocarbon accelerants used in metered dose asthma inhalers, which are potent greenhouse gases, on the ozone and environment. Dry powdered asthma inhalers were mentioned as a non-nephrology but high impact practice changing prescribing update that could be profiled through SNAP correspondence.</p>	
3. General Membership / Network Building Follow Up	
<p>Canadian Networking</p> <p>Dr. Stigant expressed her hopes that the SNAP Committee would build a cross-Canada network that would flow information both ways, i.e. receiving sustainability ideas and developing the expertise to relay information back to nephrology programs. She hoped that members can develop their own networks and operate within a strategy of communications and means to share advances.</p> <p>She stated that she will be providing a Grand Rounds presentation regarding sustainability around kidney care for Earth Day 2022 (April 22) and would be happy to share her slides with others for their use. Members please stay tuned for e-mail invite to sign up for the talk to attend virtually.</p> <p>Dr. Samanta reported that she had checked with some colleagues with the SQN (Quebec) and would also be in touch with the Administrator of the SQN regarding representation on SNAP from Quebec.</p> <p>Dr. Tarakji reported that he is making connections in Ontario and seeking a nephrologist for the committee.</p> <p>Drs. Pederson and Davis are both on the CAPN Executive and will relay information regarding SNAP.</p> <p>International Networking</p> <p>Dr. Stigant noted that the ISN World Congress had included presentations and discussions regarding sustainability, and she had also been in contact with the Centre for Sustainable Health Care in the UK (one also exists in Australia). There has been interest in working together with these groups.</p> <p>The international collaboration is looking at launching a zero waste dialysis / end stage system for vendors.</p>	<p>A2. Drs. Samanta and Tarakji will continue to seek connections in Ontario and Quebec.</p> <p>A3. Dr. Stigant will continue outreach internationally.</p>
4. Review contributions to planetary health approach to kidney care article	

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<p><i>Inviting general discussion about sustainability themes, ideas and approach and review of timeline / process for publication</i></p> <p>Dr. Stigant thanked those who had reviewed the paper which is available on SharePoint. She mentioned that it still needs a little more wordsmithing which she will do once all comments are in.</p> <p>The deadline for initial comments was extended to Monday March 14. Reminder to use track changes.</p> <p>It was agreed that all SNAP members would be cited as authors. Once finalized, the paper will be recirculated to members for final review, and if no objection stated to name being on publication, SNAP members will be co-authors.</p> <p>The group discussed the issues related to pediatric treatment, e.g. DKA risk and SGLT2 inhibitors which are not yet approved in pediatric populations.</p> <p>Dr. Rajan offered to help with references for the paper.</p>	<p>A4. Mr. Verissimo will send new SNAP members the link to Sharepoint.</p> <p>A5. SNAP members will review the paper and provide comments by Monday March 14.</p> <p>A6. Dr. Stigant will update the article and send for final review.</p>
<p>4. Future Activities</p>	
<p>Green industry innovations fair</p> <p>Dr. Martinusen provided a brief description of this project. Noting that when we ask companies pointed questions about what they are doing regarding environmental sustainability it may give them a platform to ‘green wash’, but it also encourages them to work more in this area and provides insight into what improvements are needed. This work signals industry that we are interested in their processes and knowing about their improvements and also educate them about where we are coming from.</p> <p>Two dialysis vendors, two pharma companies and a wastewater management company will be interviewed.</p> <p>Dr. Stigant noted that a list of questions had been drafted would be sent to the companies ahead of time.</p> <p>This project is awaiting CSN exec approval and ideally, will take place mid April.</p> <p>The data from the results of the survey and meetings will be synthesized and reported as a possible publication / executive summary for distribution via the CSN. The names of the companies will not be reported. Volunteers will be needed to review the responses.</p> <p>It was noted that many of these companies are international and would likely have been asked similar questions by other countries.</p>	<p>A7. SNAP members will consider volunteering to support the data analysis regarding industry practices.</p>
<p>Tangible recommendations for immediate uptake</p> <p>Ideally SNAP members should communicate regarding “simple” sustainable health care practices within the broader community of their health care institutions regarding issues such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anesthetic gases 	<p>A8. Dr. Stigant will include a slide in her presentation regarding broader sustainable health care practices.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate use of recycling bins (this practice has backslid during the pandemic) • Excess use of plastic • Lower carbon transportation of patients including helicopter transportation of multiple patients, electric ambulances, etc. • Improvements to dialysis practice, especially water savings. • Use of powdered concentrates rather than plastic jugs. <p>Dr. Rajan suggested a possible research project regarding differences in outcomes when reducing dialysate flow. First step: literature review.</p> <p>Dr. Samanta suggested organizing concerns into broad headings (e.g., transportation, waste management, etc.) similar to the Canadian Coalition for Green Health Care website.</p>	<p>A9. Members will share their ideas for “quick win” actions for immediate update.</p> <p>A10. Dr. Rajan will investigate a research project regarding outcomes when reducing dialysate flow.</p>
<p>Project manager consultancy proposal</p> <p>The Committee agreed that there are many different projects to be done and it would be helpful to hire a project manager who could also support knowledge translation.</p>	
<p>5. Framework for Sustainable Kidney Care (future partnership with CASCADES)</p>	
<p>This project would involve a description of what the ideal environmentally supportive kidney program would look like including prevention and healthy lifestyle, optimal drug use, timely discussion of transplants, etc. It would be a foundational / aspirational document.</p> <p>The Committee agreed that one of the primary goals should be “one-stop-shop” visits for kidney patients at one clinic. Conservative kidney care was also suggested.</p> <p>This discussion will continue at the next meeting.</p>	
<p>6. Wrap-up and Next Meeting Date / Time</p>	
<p>The group agreed that meeting every 4 - 6 weeks was ideal.</p> <p>Dr. Tarakji suggested using “What’s App” to communicate informally between meetings and when applicable regarding next steps, etc. Documents will be sent by email.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>A11. Mr. Verissimo will send a Doodle Poll regarding the date of the next SNAP Meeting, acknowledging this might be for the Green Industry Fair.</p>