

CSN SNAP Committee Meeting MINUTES

Tuesday, May 30, 2023, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. EST

<p>Present Caroline Stigant, (Chair) Keefe Davis, SK Isabel Ethier, QC Neil Finkle, NS Naomi Glick, BC Tamara Glavinovic Bhavneet Kahlon, AB Tasleem Rajan, BC Ratna Samanta, QC Shafali Sandal, QC Ahmad Tarakji, ON</p>	<p>Regrets Syed Obaid Amin, SK Dan Martinusen, BC Kristen Pederson, MB</p> <p>Administration Filomena Picciano, Director of Operations</p> <p>Minutes Diane Perazzo, Wordsmith Writing and Editing</p>
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AGENDA ITEM / KEY DISCUSSION POINTS / DECISIONS	ACTION ITEMS
1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement	
Dr. Stigant welcomed the group and called the meeting to order. Dr. Glavinovic offered a land acknowledgement from where she was located on the unceded traditional territory inhabited and cared for by the Algonquin Anishinabe people. She expressed her gratitude to and respect for them and	

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<p>expressed her hope that the work of the SNAP Committee would benefit their lands and future generations.</p>	
<h2>2. Review of March 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes</h2>	
<p>The Committee reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting and there were no changes.</p> <p><i>Dr. Stigant</i> made a motion to approve the March 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes. This motion was seconded by <i>Dr. Glavanovic. All in favour.</i></p>	
<h2>3. CSN AGM Review</h2>	
<p>The Committee agreed that it was wonderful to meet in person at the CSN AGM in Halifax earlier in May and Dr. Stigant reported that she had had several productive conversations with other CSN Board members including those from the CSN QUIS Committee.</p> <p>She expressed her appreciation for the Green Nephrology Award and that it meant a lot to the recipient. Awarding the prize also provided an opportunity to speak to the CSN community about sustainable nephrology at the Gala and she was hopeful that there would be continued conversations about sustainability within the field of nephrology.</p> <p>Ms. Picciano mentioned that the CSN Education Committee would be following up the AGM with a needs assessment to determine next year's conference topics and encouraged the SNAP Committee members to complete this and to suggest pertinent topics.</p>	<p>A1. Members will complete the CSN AGM Needs Assessment.</p>
<h2>4. Green Industry Fair</h2>	
<p>The Committee reviewed Dr. Stigant's report regarding the Industry Engagement Sessions (see Appendix #1) and the Committee agreed that while much can be done internally within our publicly funded kidney services to reduce our collective carbon footprint, we need to explore how industry can partner to further this initiative.</p> <p>Dr. Stigant provided a brief review of the presentations by Glaxo Smith Kline, Canadian Water Technologies, Fresenius and Medtronic. Invitations were also issued to Baxter and Astra Zeneca, but they were unable to attend and hopefully, follow up sessions will take place. She noted that each presenter took a slightly different approach, but all conversations were productive and valuable.</p> <p>The Committee agreed that, given the variety in the quality and type of presentation, at this point it was not appropriate to publish a detailed report about the actual session, but that there were other ways to raise awareness about industry contributions to sustainable nephrology practice. Committee members suggested the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide basic information on the CSN Website to members only. • Recognize pharmaceutical companies that are providing outstanding contributions to sustainable nephrology via the CSN newsletter, etc. 	<p>A2. Ms. Picciano will the additional written submissions to the report of the Green Industry Fair.</p> <p>A3. Drs. Sandal and Stigant will further discuss the possibility of a grant application.</p> <p>A4. Drs. Ethier and Sandal will share ideas to profile industry contributions to sustainable nephrology with their ISN counterparts.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an atlas of industry providers across Canada relevant to sustainable nephrology, potentially by working with QUIS to perform a survey of medical supply contract vendors for kidney care across Canada • Development of a standard scoring system for corporate environmental reporting, &/or await expert development (in progress) of such reporting • Applying for a CIHR planning and dissemination grant of \$15,000. (Need a focused question) <p>Dr. Sandal shared the following research paper as an example of what could be replicated for Canadian medical supply companies with products benefiting kidney patients:</p> <p>Senay E, Landrigan PJ. Assessment of Environmental Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility Reporting by Large Health Care Organizations. <i>JAMA Netw Open</i>. 2018;1(4):e180975. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2018.0975</p> <p>Dr. Glavanovic suggested investigating B Corp certification which is a designation, based on a rigorous assessment that indicates business meets standards in a variety of areas including environmental performance.</p>	<p>A5. Dr. Glavanovic will further investigate the possibility of B Corp Certification within the health care industry.</p>

5. Canadian Sustainable Kidney Care Survey

Dr. Ethier provided the following report:

CANADIAN SUSTAINABLE KIDNEY CARE SURVEY

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING OUR SURVEY!

Results – RESPONDENTS

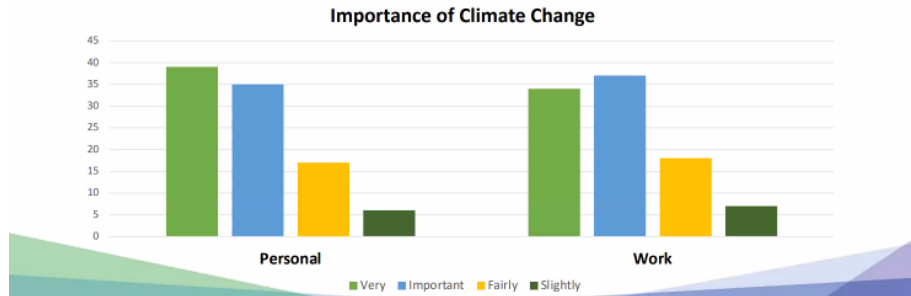
- N=516 (68.4% English, 31.6% French)
- 79% of respondents were Female, 83% between ages 30-59
- 44% Kidney nurses, 20% Adult nephrologists

Facility Type

Facility Type	Percentage
ICHD	~44%
Satellite	~20%
Home Dialysis	~10%
OIP	~26%

CANADIAN NEPHROLOGY KIDNEY CARE SURVEY - RESULTS
OVER 70% FEEL CLIMATE CHANGE IS VERY IMPORTANT OR IMPORTANT

Primary reason for environmental measures in kidney care services:
“Active involvement in a time of climate crisis”



CANADIAN NEPHROLOGY KIDNEY CARE SURVEY RESULTS:
WHAT ENVIRONMENTAL MEASURES ARE TAKEN AT WORK MORE FREQUENTLY

Clinical Care:

- Medication reconciliation
- Prefer oral over IV med use
- Consumables strategies
 - storing expiring products visibly
 - Ordering only what is used

Office / non-clinical areas:

- Computers log off / hibernate
- Lights turned off
- Photocopying discouraged
- Waste bins / signage present

CANADIAN NEPHROLOGY KIDNEY CARE SURVEY RESULTS
OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Low carbon transportation to place of work/therapy
- Sustainable procurement
- Adaptation and communication of emergency plans

Respondent Comments

- *“it is our duty to advocate and lobby for collective action”*
- *“everyone wants green technology, but there is no plan”*
- *“more employees would ride/walk/bus to work if incentivized”*
- *“managers and educators need to make this a priority”*

Discussion:

- It is clear that many nephrologists are not knowledgeable about sustainability issues and practices within nephrology.
- This project is being presented in abstract form at the upcoming ASN meeting, and will be written up for submission to CJKHD, with appreciation of Dr. Ethier’s leadership on this important project.

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6. Educational Materials	
<p><i>Earth Day Grand Rounds Presentation</i></p> <p>Dr. Stigant reported that she had provided a presentation to the British Columbia province-wide rounds entitled “The Power of You” and encouraged Committee members to adapt her presentation in any way that suited them. The complete video presentation can be found at the following link: PWR - Environmentally Sustainable Kidney Care - April 21, 2023 - YouTube</p> <p><i>CASCADES Graphic</i></p> <p>The CASCADES info graphic can be found at the following link: https://cascadescanada.ca/resources/kidney-care/</p> <p><i>BC Renal ESKC Engagement</i></p> <p>Dr. Stigant reported that she had met with BC Renal and they were extremely interested in participating in a broad range of sustainability actions.</p> <p><i>Application for Funding for an Environmental Sustainability Fellow</i></p> <p>Dr. Stigant reported that she was seeking funding to hire a nephrology fellow to work on sustainable issues. This work might also be done cooperatively with the Australian Society of Nephrology. It is foreseen that the fellow would sit on SNAP committee as well as have a core curriculum via CASCADES and UK Sustainable Kidney Care existing programs.</p> <p><i>Editorial the Canadian Journal of Kidney Health and Disease</i></p> <p>With co-editors, Drs. Rajan and Stigant recently published the opening editorial for the special sustainability collection for CJKHD, noting this is also a policy piece that provides Canadian context and mandate for environmentally sustainable clinical care.</p> <p>The Necessity of Environmentally Sustainable Kidney Care - Caroline E. Stigant, Tasleem Rajan, Katherine A. Barraclough, Fiona A. Miller, 2023 (sagepub.com)</p> <p>Dr. Ethier provided a brief English overview of the recent article in La Presse: Planète bleue, idées vertes Le CISSS de Laval s’attaque à son empreinte carbone La Presse</p>	<p>A6. Committee members will consider offering grand rounds on sustainable nephrology.</p> <p>A7. Committee members will share the CASCADES resource among their colleagues.</p>
7. Future Work	
<p><i>Patient Involvement</i></p> <p>Dr. Stigant noted that she had spoken with a patient who had been identified via CanSOLVE who was enthusiastic to be part of the Committee and would likely provide a rich patient perspective and contribution to the series of articles on sustainability.</p> <p><i>Carbon Neutral SNAP Committee designation +/- ? Carbon Neutral CSN organization</i></p> <p>The Committee discussed the possibility of seeking carbon neutral designation and encouraging other CSN Committees to do the same.</p>	<p>A8. The newly recruited patient representative will be invited to attend the next SNAP Committee Meeting in September</p> <p>A9. Dr. Stigant and Finkle will further</p>

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<p>It was agreed that \$10,000 would be included in the next SNAP Committee Budget to develop some metrics and a process for carbon neutral designation.</p> <p><i>Prescribing Primer</i></p> <p>Work on this project is progressing.</p> <p><i>Environmental KPI Development for Kidney Care</i></p> <p>Dr. Glavinovic reported that the QUIS representatives were reviewing relevant papers and will be holding an upcoming meeting.</p> <p><i>CASCADES Collaborations</i></p> <p>Drs. Stigant and Glavinovic have met with CASCADES representatives and there are plans to convert 'Ten Steps to Sustainability' from an infographic to an interactive 'playbook'. Further, CASCADES has committed to development of further ESKC infographics, including potentially KPI, medication reduction strategy, and the green prescribing primer.</p>	<p>discuss the prescribing primer.</p>
<p>8. Website Updates</p>	
<p>The website updates were not discussed at this meeting as we ran out of time. This topic will be put on the next SNAP meeting agenda in September for discussion.</p>	<p>A10. Dr. Stigant to Website Updates on the next <u>September meeting agenda.</u></p>
<p>9. Wrap-up and Next Meeting Date / Time</p>	
<p>Dr. Stigant thanked the members for their attendance at the meeting and wished them a happy summer.</p> <p>Next Meeting: TBD September 2023.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.</p>	<p>A11. Ms. Sa will poll members regarding the timing of the next SNAP.</p>

Appendix #1: Sustainable Nephrology Action Committee Report on Industry Engagement Sessions

Background

Renal replacement therapies are not only a significant cost to public health care dollars but may have a disproportionate health-care carbon footprint. The therapy is carbon intensive in terms of transportation, single use plastics, water and power consumption. While many strategies can be employed that do not involve industry partners, it is important to engage with industry to understand and learn how we can work together on initiatives and support organizations and products that help to reduce the carbon footprint.

What was known before

Water use to provide hemodialysis is significant as is the transportation impact to provide 156 dialysis treatments per year in a facility (staff, supplies and patients). Energy use in these facilities may be significant as well. Some manufactureres have signed onto a global environmental pledge.

Why this was done

Little data is published on the environmental impact of renal replacement therapies in Canada, a baseline of industry engagement is necessary to understand the full landscape of the the carbon footprint in 2023.

Methods

Working with CSN executive, a list of companies were invited to participate in a friendly information sharing conversation with further engagement likely. Respectful of time, confidentiality and appreciative of participation. Manufactureres of water treatment systems, pharmaceuticals and dialysis equipmment were approached to join the “manufacturer’s fair. XX invitations were sent with X companies responding, X companies declining and X companies wanting to engage in a different fashion or at a later date. Tone was welcoming with a focus on collaborative information sharing. The meeting was virtual over Zoom with sequential presentations and only the SNAP members present to hear /watch each industry partner give a 10 minute presentation followed by a 5 minute question period.

Results

Themes

- 1) Varying levels of engagement in 2023, mirroring public health care
 - a. The basics – office environment initiatives
 - b. New products that may lower carbon footprint
 - c. Organization-wide carbon footprint calculations and efforts to move toward neutrality with specific actions, targets and new innovations (electric cars, LEEDS designations, carbon offset projects, zero waste goals)
 - d. Involves buildings, power consumption, reduction in waste and more environmentally friendly products (end of life cycle, longer life etc.)
- 2) A balance between cost to the buyer/consumer and lower carbon footprint, potentially. Example: Lower carbon footprint inhaler from an innovator vs. cheap generic inhaler using curent propellants. Industry will innovate but the community must be willing to favour these products
- 3) Dialysis Water quality systems may reduce power, water consumption or cost but unlikely all three (may be one of three) as decisions are made to offset one at the expense of the other two. Innovations at larger, non-health care applications are not applicable to smaller health applications.
- 4) Home therapies may be best, sorbant renal replacement therapy machines may come to Canada and globally

Discussion

While much can be done internally within our publicly funded kidney services to reduce our collective carbon footprint, we wanted to explore how industry can partner with us to further this initiative.

Limitations

In this forum, only a limited number of manufacturers could present given the time constraints. The committee therefore did not capture industry-wide initiatives or preparedness. Additionally, some manufacturers declined the invitation. There is always the potential for industry to overstate initiatives on climate change but the membership felt this was an honest exchange with some potential carbon friendly product offerings on the horizon. It is unknown if these will come to fruition in Canada. Finally, the information industry shared was entirely at their discretion and control. Again, however, the committee felt that nothing was being hidden or overstated.