



# Global Insights, Local Promise

Transforming Health Care Through Interconnected Intelligence

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2019 Global Annual Medical Report



**FRESENIUS  
MEDICAL CARE**





**FRESENIUS MEDICAL CARE IN FOCUS**

# Communities as Hubs of Interconnected Intelligence and Drivers of Innovation

*Health care transformation and innovation on local and global scales would not be possible without the free exchange of information and ideas. Recognizing the unlimited potential that comes when people join together with shared purpose, Fresenius Medical Care embraces community as a vital source of interconnected intelligence and takes its place as a global citizen committed to lifelong learning by viewing the concept of community through three broad lenses: peer, professional, and knowledge.*

**PEER COMMUNITIES**

**National Kidney Foundation**

In 2018, Fresenius Medical Care formalized its relationship with the National Kidney Foundation (NKF), the largest organization in the United States dedicated to the awareness, prevention, and treatment of kidney disease, to sponsor NKF's National Kidney Walks. Fresenius Medical Care North America (FMCNA) Chief Executive Officer Bill Valle served as the inaugural national corporate chair, and over 5,600 FMCNA employees were among the 85,000 walkers in 90 North American cities.

**Kidney Care Partners**

Kidney Care Partners (KCP), a coalition of more than 30 organizations, is dedicated to expanding patient choice and access to care, improving quality of care, developing enhanced therapies, and furthering innovative research for individuals with chronic kidney disease (CKD). Fresenius Medical Care partners with KCP to support its research and development and to help individuals living with kidney diseases.

**Renal Support Network**

Renal Support Network (RSN) provides support groups, conferences, and nonmedical programs for people living with kidney disease. Fresenius Medical Care contributes resources and thought leadership content for RSN to encourage connection between end-stage renal disease, dialysis, and transplant patients and the kidney community at large.

**Medical Education Institute**

Medical Education Institute (MEI) develops and distributes, at little or no cost, informational materials to patients with chronic diseases and conducts research on patient experience and interaction with health care teams. FMCNA sponsored MEI's KidneySchool.org, which offers a free online program to help patients learn to manage and live with late-stage CKD, and offers continuing education credits for dialysis nurses and care technicians.



World-famous Harlem Globetrotters and school children from Chicago help launch the Fresenius Medical Care Foundation in 2018.

**PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITIES**

**ERA-EDTA**

European Renal Association-European Dialysis and Transplant Association (ERA-EDTA) is one of the largest nephrology-focused organizations in Europe and the Mediterranean area, promoting clinical advances in nephrology, dialysis, renal transplantation, hypertension, and related subjects. Fresenius Medical Care actively partners with ERA-EDTA on knowledge-sharing symposia and events.

**American Nephrology Nurses Association**

The American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA) is committed to advancing the nephrology nursing specialty. FMCNA funds ANNA's scholarship program; assists FMCNA nurses with membership dues, conference fees, and certification expenses for member nurses; and helped produce a video that showcases the nephrology nursing profession.

**American Society of Nephrology**

The American Society of Nephrology (ASN) educates health professionals and scientists, advances research and innovation, and communicates new knowledge. Fresenius Medical Care is a frequent exhibitor at major ASN conferences and supports ASN's Ben J. Lipps Fellowship program, which awards 10 fellows \$50,000 annually for up to two years to conduct original, meritorious kidney biology and disease research.

**Renal Physicians Association**

The Renal Physicians Association (RPA) advises and educates policymakers on issues impacting kidney disease patients and nephrology practices. Fresenius Medical Care nephrologists have served as past presidents of the RPA, and Fresenius Medical Care leaders and physicians actively participate in RPA knowledge-sharing events.

**INTRODUCING: THE FRESENIUS MEDICAL CARE FOUNDATION**

In 2018, FMCNA launched the Fresenius Medical Care Foundation, a nonprofit addressing the environmental, social, and economic conditions that increase the risk for CKD. Its initial grant focus will be on partnership programs that ensure everyone who needs a kidney can pursue a transplant. The foundation will: make investments in the NKF's Big Ask/Big Give program, to educate patients and donors about living donor transplant options; and, through Donate Life America, build innovative initiatives to simplify the process of linking recipients with living donors.

**KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITIES**

**The MONDO Initiative**

Dialysis providers collect volumes of detailed, longitudinal, and standardized patient data, resulting in valuable registries of routine patient care information on thousands of dialysis patients worldwide. Fresenius Medical Care and others providers contribute certain anonymized patient data to the MONDO (MONitoring Dialysis Outcomes) research consortium, which is a global outreach initiative that provides a platform for joint data analysis and outcome studies.

**International Conference on Dialysis Advances in Kidney Disease**

Nephrologists, renal researchers, and kidney experts from across the globe gather annually for the International Conference on Dialysis Advances in Kidney Disease, presented by FMCNA's Renal Research Institute. Featuring expert presenters from numerous organizations, the three-day conference draws nearly 400 top physicians, researchers, and scholars from nine countries.

**School Communities**

With CKD more common in Taiwan than anywhere in the world, Fresenius Medical Care Asia Pacific introduced a novel awareness campaign for children. Because superhero characters are popular role models throughout Asia, the Fresenius Medical Care team created "The Kidney Kid" campaign designed to provide basic kidney education to children, regardless of cultural or social background. At school, children watched a video about this new "superhero" and received a cape, mask, stickers, adventure book, and educational material.



Symbolic connection: Irene Feng ties a student's cape with a bow.