

Editorial

It gives me great pleasure to present to you this maiden issue of "Kidney Health" the newsletter of our newly launched "Mumbai Kidney Foundation". In keeping with the ethos of our foundation, this issue and our subsequent issues will be pertaining to kidney in health and disease. As our foundation was launched on the occasion of the 1st world kidney day with its central theme of 'Prevention of kidney disease', the theme of our inaugural newsletter remains the same. We have some stalwarts from the nephrology community contributing to this issue.

The newsletter will help us to introduce our foundation to you, including its aims and objectives; its vision; and various projects which will be launched, to share the burden of the Chronic Kidney Disease patients. A close, one-on-one contact with this unfortunate group of individuals over the last 15-20 years helped us realise the magnitude of the problem which these patients face, not only in combating their disease, but also in their day to day lives. Every patient fights this problem in his own unique manner. Thus we see a panorama of human reactions ranging from anguish; despair; hope; grit and determination; the will to come out on the top despite all odds; and ultimately just to grin and bear it all. It is this group of people who have been our inspiration in setting up this foundation so as to help ease their burden.

We unfortunately live in a country where the government provides absolutely no form of social security. But we as Indians have been taught about social responsibilities right from our childhood days. Thus we do have a host of NGOs working in the medical, educational or social sector. But the problems which need to be tackled are of immense proportions, hence any help put forward by the various NGOs seems to be just a mere drop in the ocean. Hence there definitely is a need for as many people as possible to come forward to try and do their bit for the society.

Here, I would like to quote Kahlil Gibran who said about giving:

"It is well to give when asked, but it is better to give unasked, through understanding;

And to the open-handed the search for one who shall receive is joy greater than giving.

And is there aught you should withhold?

All you have shall some day be given;

Therefore give now, that the season of giving may be yours and not your inheritors."

Dr. Molina Khanna

Editor