

Sponsored by



## American Society of Nephrology Kidney Week 2011 Philadelphia

### Highlights from Thursday Sessions

#### Barriers to PD Utilization and How to Overcome

*Matthew J. Oliver, MD*

Using data from Canada, Oliver showed how peritoneal dialysis could become a more popular choice if patients are given the proper education and tools to use the modality. "The idea that PD is underused because patients don't want to do it is wrong," Oliver said. Rather, the reasons why PD is not used or not successful when it is used is more like a cascade. Twenty-four percent of new ESRD patients have contraindications for PD, and the pool gets smaller with each requirement for the modality. But Oliver showed that high PD rates could be achieved if a center takes the initiative. However, as one audience member pointed out, high PD rates are easier to achieve in Canada, where the government pays for up to two nurse or doctor visit a day for home care patients.

#### United States Renal Data System Update

*Paul W. Eggers, PhD; Charles A. Herzog, MD; Areef Ishani, MD; Wendy L. St. Peter, PharmD, FASN*

TheUSRDS group offered an informative look into the outcomes and care for kidney patients. For dialysis patients, "hospitalizations are a very common phenomenon and they tend to be clustered," said Gilbertson. And the high rate of hospitalization "is not fully appreciated." But there is good news: Mortality rates are steadily declining, and according to Herzog, this is primarily because of the drop in cardiovascular mortality rates. Though he was very hesitant to give a specific reason for the decline in CV mortality, he did note that the use of beta blockers has substantially increased.

When do we start dialysis?

A session on Thursday debated the value of the findings in the IDEAL study. Today, another extended program is offered on the controversy about when to initiate dialysis.

- Early versus Late Initiation of Dialysis: To Start or Not to Start, That Is the Question  
4:30 pm - 06:30 pm  
Ballroom A

Timing of Dialysis Initiation and Survival in ESRD: The

USRDS Experience  
Alexander S. Goldfarb-Rumyantzev, MD, PhD  
Time of Dialysis Initiation: Lessons Learned from the

IDEAL Study  
05:00 PM - 05:30 PM  
Carol A. Pollock, MD, PhD

Madhukar Misra, MD, FASN

