



Chronic Kidney Disease

Guest Editors:

Dr. Elisabetta Versino

Department of Clinical and
Biological Sciences Medical
School, University of Torino, AOU
San Luigi Gonzaga Regione
Gonzole 10, 10064 Orbassano,
TO, Italy

**Prof. Dr. Giorgina Barbara
Piccoli**

1. Nephrology, Centre Hospitalier
Le Mans, 72037 Le Mans, France
2. Department of Clinical and
Biological Sciences, ASOU San
Luigi, University of Turin, 10124
Turin, Italy

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Message from the Guest Editors

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) has been redefined in the new millennium as any alteration of kidney morphology, function, or blood or urine composition lasting for at least three months. This broad definition encompasses also diseases or conditions that are associated with normal kidney function, such as a kidney scar from an acute pyelonephritis episode or a single kidney resulting from kidney donation. The choice of broadening the definition acknowledges the fact that even the first stages of CKD are associated with adverse clinical events (for example, in pregnancy) and with an increased risk of morbidity and mortality.

CKD is a relevant public health problem: according to the 2015 Global Burden of Disease Study, it was the 12th cause of death, leading to 1.1 million deaths worldwide each year; moreover, overall CKD mortality has increased by 31.7% over the last 10 years. These data are likely to be underestimated, and indeed the world kidney day in 2019 is dedicated to care for all patients in all settings, a goal not yet accomplished in developing countries.





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Research Center, Morgan State
University, 1700 E. Cold Spring
Lane, Baltimore, MD 21251, USA

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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