



Press release

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EKHA welcomes the recognition of renal disease at the UN High Level summit

The European Kidney Health Alliance (EKHA) welcomes the UN High Level Meeting on Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) to address the world biggest killers and its acknowledgement that renal diseases pose a major health burden for many countries.

EKHA Chair Elect, Professor Norbert Lameire, says: “This is a great success for the renal community, and an important step forward in the recognition of chronic kidney disease as a major health issue”

EKHA together with the International Society of Nephrology has been an active leader in raising awareness on kidney disease and the burden it represents in terms of financial cost in Europe. It is estimated that 10% of the European population is affected by a kidney disease and this figure is likely to double if nothing is done to fight against this silent epidemic.

Over the last year, EKHA together with the European Chronic Disease Alliance mobilised European and national leaders, calling for a strong final declaration on the fight of non communicable diseases and putting the emphasis on stronger prevention.

The commitment of the EU to tackle the raise of NCDs is key, and EKHA welcomes the recognition by Commissioner Dalli that keeping people well is a necessity and acting on prevention is the only way to avoid that NCDs become a heavier burden to Europe.



Notes for editors

About EKHA:

EKHA is an alliance of not-for-profit organisations who represent the key stakeholders in kidney health issues in Europe whose objective is to raise awareness of the importance of kidney health and of the need for action to improve the early detection of chronic kidney disease.

[www.ekha.eu](http://www.ekha.eu)

1- Members of the European Kidney Health Alliance are:

- European Kidney Patient Federation (CEAPIR),
- European Dialysis and transplant nurses Association/European Renal Care Association (EDTNA/ERCA)
- European Renal Association (ERA)
- International Federation of Kidney Foundations (IFKF)
- International Society of Nephrology (ISN)