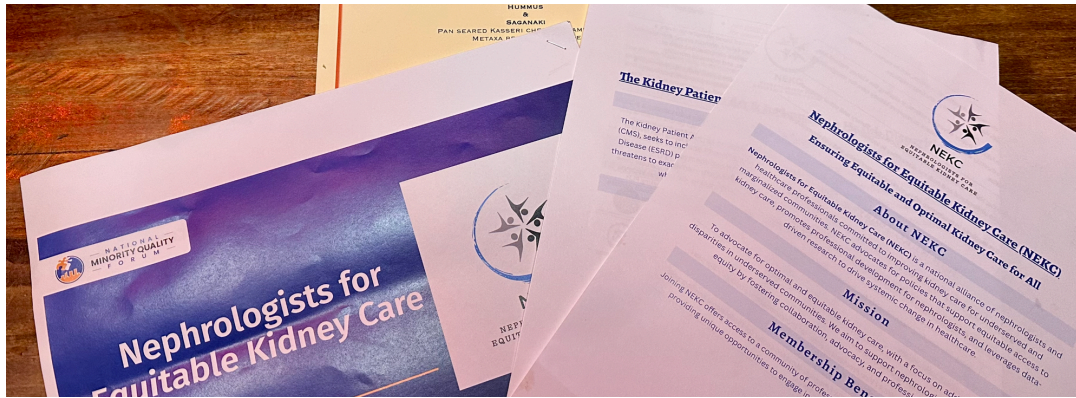




NEKC
NEPHROLOGISTS FOR
EQUITABLE KIDNEY CARE

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EQUITABLE KIDNEY CARE**

NOVEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the Nephrologists for Equitable Kidney Care (NEKC), an alliance of nephrologists and allied healthcare professionals who champion health equity. At NEKC, we are committed to promoting equitable and optimal kidney care for marginalized populations. This is the first of many monthly newsletters, and we look forward to many more activities ahead!

NEKC at ASN KIDNEY WEEK 2024

NEKC was well represented at the American Society of Nephrology's annual Kidney Week in San Diego, California.

In addition to meeting with a variety of nephrologists and industry leaders, NEKC held separate meetings at ASN with the American Kidney Fund to discuss synergies for 2024-2025, as well as the Glomcon team to learn more about their EMBARK program.

Thank you to all who joined us at ASN!

● NEKC Networking Event at ASN

We're excited to share the highlights from our October 23rd networking event in San Diego, which brought together a vibrant mix of nephrologists and others from various industries!

The event allowed for NEKC co-chairs, members, and others to reconvene in-person while attending ASN Kidney Week.

Attendees had the opportunity to connect, collaborate, and share insights about the importance of passing the Kidney PATIENT Act, and discussed strategies for 2025 to grow NEKC via engagement with additional nephrologists.

We look forward to building on this success in future events!

Check out our new website [via this link](#) and schedule a time to meet with our team by completing the discovery form on our homepage!

NEKC Kickoff Meeting at NMA

NEKC has been hard at work since August, engaging with a plethora of stakeholders to raise awareness about the Kidney PATIENT Act and promoting optimal kidney care in the community.

We kicked off our engagement efforts with a meeting in NYC at the NMA in August, followed by our participation in the Kidney Community Health Equity Summit in September. These events set the stage for impactful collaborations and growing our membership.

NEKC in the Community

NEKC has been actively engaging in the community and advocacy work. Here are some highlights of our recent activities:

- NEKC hosted a webinar on September 6th featuring NEKC co-chairs, Drs. Sandra Gadson and Randall Maxey, as well other distinguished experts in the legislative, policy and medical fields to discuss the Kidney PATIENT Act and the importance of pushing patient-centered policies. **You can watch the webinar recording [here](#).**
- Writing advocacy letters to CMS, the Congressional Black Caucus, the Congressional Doctors Caucus, and the Congressional Finance Committee.
- Attending a briefing with Congressman Hakeem Jeffries in NYC to discuss the importance of passing the Kidney PATIENT Act.
- Hosting a LinkedIn Live event, which focused on the topic of protecting vital medicines for kidney patients.
- Representation at major conferences, including the NMA, the Kidney Community Health Equity Summit, and ASN.
- Meetings with the American Kidney Fund, Glomcon, and others to expand our reach and recruit additional nephrologists.
- Attending a health fair in Brooklyn, hosted by Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, to provide kidney disease-related resources to the community.

These initiatives demonstrate our commitment to advocating for equitable kidney care and building strong partnerships to amplify our impact.



Ensuring Equitable Access to Optimal Kidney Care: The Kidney Patient Act, Potential Implications and the Push for Patient-Centered Policies

JOIN US LIVE SEP. 6 AT 12 PM ET

REGISTER NOW: [BIT.LY/NMQF0906](https://bit.ly/nmqf0906)

 <p>Kelelaye Emiru, MBA Vice President Center for Professional and Strategic Alliances National Minority Quality Forum</p>	 <p>Randall Maxey, MD, PhD Past President, The National Medical Association (NMA) Chairman of the Board, American Alliance Dialysis LLC Practicing Nephrologist</p>	 <p>Laura Williams, MD, MPH Chief Medical Officer Ardelyx</p>	 <p>Frita Fisher, MD Founder and President Midtown Atlanta Nephrology, P.C. Motivational Medical Speaker Medical Director, Non-profit Dialysis Unit, DCA Social Media Influencer</p>
 <p>Cameyrn Blackmore, PhD Health Policy Advisor Office of Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell (AL-07)</p>	 <p>Sandra Gadson, MD Past President, The National Medical Association (NMA) Practicing Nephrologist</p>	 <p>Crystal King Founder and Executive Director The Kidney Champion Foundation</p>	



Update on the Kidney PATIENT Act

The Kidney PATIENT Act continues to be a major focus of NEKC's advocacy work. Our efforts include direct engagement with policymakers and mobilizing our network to support this crucial legislation.

Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-CA) is now a co-sponsor on the bill, including 11 other Congressional Democrats as of October 25, 2024.

We have prepared a comprehensive one-pager outlining the Kidney PATIENT Act's benefits and impact, which will be made available on our newly launched website. We encourage all members to review these resources and join our advocacy campaign.

Interested in advocating for optimal kidney care in your community? Join NEKC Today!

NEKC is actively recruiting nephrologists, patient advocates, and industry sponsors to support our efforts in ensuring minoritized communities have access to optimal kidney care.

Membership in NEKC offers ample benefits, including professional development, cutting-edge data, involvement in advocacy and much more!

Email mdsolarte@nmqf.org for more information

Advocating for Every Kidney, Every Life

Ensuring Equitable Access to Optimal Kidney Care

Sign NMQF Action Network's Petition [here](#) and Urge Congress to Pass the Kidney PATIENT Act!



● Closing Thoughts and To-Dos

Thank you for your continued support of NEKC! We have outlined and committed to remain dedicated to our strategic objectives: Optimal kidney care advocacy, professional development, data-driven guidance, and collaborative partnerships. Your active involvement is crucial as we work to achieve these goals.

- Interested in serving as a co-chair or a member on NEKC's Steering Committee? Please reach out to mdsolarte@nmqf.org for more information.
- Do you want to ensure your voice is heard when shaping NEKC's direction for 2025? Complete our survey [here](#).
- Visit our website [here](#) and please stay engaged by participating in our meetings & supporting our advocacy efforts.