

FOREWORD

Nephrology nursing is a healthcare speciality that, despite not being recognised by the Ministry of Health, requires a degree of knowledge, skills, competencies, and experience essential for the practice and application of treatments, care, and monitoring of people with kidney disease. This publication aims to homogenise the procedures and protocols of nephrology nursing, to standardise care and competencies, which is, after all, what all people with kidney disease (kidney patients) aspire to. We expect to be treated and cared for with equity, equality, and dignity in any treatment or health intervention, regardless of the person or health system we have in our town, province, or autonomous community.

As this publication rightly points out, the diagnosis of kidney disease is a life crisis that will change your life forever. Therefore, we need the professionalism and excellence of nephrology nurses so that they can apply treatments and interventions with virtuosity and dignity, as well as involve us in the management and care of our kidney disease, sharing information, health education, treatments, medication and, not least, helping us to accept this diagnosis, which will, unfortunately, affect us all, treatments, medication and not least, helping us to accept this diagnosis, which sadly will accompany us for the rest of our lives, regardless of the medical treatment or renal replacement therapy that we may receive throughout the journey of the person with kidney disease, their relatives and family members.

The person with kidney disease, who is vulnerable and often fragile, needs holistic care beyond solely clinical and medical values. Undoubtedly, nephrology nurses, being experts in care, play a fundamental role in the treatments and specific protocols in nephrology, as it is with the healthcare figure with whom people with kidney disease and their families will share the most hours. The nephrology nurse is the protagonist in the application of all clinical procedures, as well as in the social, psychological, and human aspects, where the nephrology nurse becomes a central pillar of the multidisciplinary team of the nephrology service. The nephrology nurse is the meeting point in the nephrology service between medical specialists, health professionals, and renal patients, where he/she will be able to coordinate, monitor, manage, evaluate, and train people with renal disease.

I want to express our thanks and congratulations, on behalf of all people with kidney disease, to the authors, editors, and promoters of this publication for the effort that has involved the integration and review of all the procedures and specific protocols for nephrology nursing, which will undoubtedly help and serve as a reference for any nephrology nurse who performs their function by applying professional treatments and care, with quality indicators, objectives and evaluating their daily performance with people with kidney disease, will help and serve as a reference for any nephrology nurse who performs their function by applying professional treatments and care, with quality indicators, objectives and evaluating their daily performance with people with kidney disease, whom they undoubtedly care for, protect, pamper and are their "leitmotiv".

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