



PRESS RELEASE

ASN Contact: Christine Feheley
(202) 640-4638 | cfeheley@asn-online.org

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SIMPLE AUTOMATED TOOL PROMPTS PHYSICIANS TO SCREEN PATIENTS WITH DIABETES FOR KIDNEY DISEASE

Highlights

- A tool that provides an automated prompt to physicians increased kidney disease screening in patients with type 2 diabetes.
- Results from the study will be presented at ASN Kidney Week 2023 November 1–November 5.

Philadelphia, PA (November 2, 2023) — Investigators have implemented an automated health maintenance tool created by the National Kidney Foundation into electronic medical records to prompt primary care physicians to screen for chronic kidney disease (CKD) in adult patients with type 2 diabetes. The impact of the tool will be presented at ASN Kidney Week 2023 November 1–November 5.

Diabetes is a major cause of CKD, and current guidelines recommend annual kidney function screening in patients with type 2 diabetes. To improve screening, researchers adapted their clinical decision support tool to auto-enroll all adult patients with type 2 diabetes and include an automatic prompt for one-click ordering of kidney function screening tests, such as the urine-albumin-to-creatinine ratio (UACR) or the Kidney Profile that includes both UACR and estimated glomerular filtration rate.

After implementing the tool—called the Kidney Profile—at the University of Virginia Health System, there were higher rates of testing for UACR (a sign of kidney dysfunction) in primary care encounters. The greatest impact was seen compared with a group that was not already using any automated reminders to increase screening.

“It is really important to make sure patients with type 2 diabetes are screened for CKD, but of course that isn’t enough. The next steps that our team is working on is to make sure that CKD is recognized as a medical problem for the patient. Then a number of different tools may be able to assist clinicians with risk assessment and treatment,” said corresponding author Margaret Spolnik, MD, of the Indiana University School of Medicine. “Ultimately, we want to promote evidence-based interventions like healthy lifestyle, risk factor control, and medications to reduce the risk of progressive CKD.”

Study: “Implementation of a Kidney Screening Intervention to Improve Early CKD Detection in Type 2 Diabetes (T2D)”

The world's premier nephrology meeting, ASN Kidney Week, brings together approximately 12,000 kidney professionals from across the world. The largest nephrology meeting provides participants with exciting and challenging opportunities to exchange knowledge, learn the latest scientific and medical advances, and listen to engaging and provocative discussions with leading experts in the field.

About ASN

Since 1966, ASN has been leading the fight to prevent, treat, and cure kidney diseases throughout the world by educating health professionals and scientists, advancing research and innovation, communicating new knowledge and advocating for the highest quality care for patients. ASN has nearly 21,000 members representing 140 countries. For more information, visit www.asn-online.org and follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#).

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