



The Kidney and Heart Disease Connection

Nearly 30 million Americans suffer from chronic kidney disease (CKD) and because of this condition are at significantly greater risk of heart disease. More research is needed to understand the kidney-heart connection and prolong the lives of these citizens.

Kidney disease:

- Accelerates the progression of heart disease.
- Increases the risk of heart attacks and heart disease-related death.
- Causes high blood pressure (80% of kidney patients have high blood pressure)
- Dialysis patients are 10 to 30 times more likely to die from heart disease compared to the general population.
- High blood pressure causes extensive kidney damage.

Helping Americans with CKD and Heart Disease.

- How kidney disease causes heart disease is still largely unknown; ASN urges Congress to fund more research investigating the kidney-heart connection.
- Most major cardiovascular disease trials exclude patients with kidney disease.
- Nine out of 10 cardiovascular disease trials provide inadequate information on the kidney function of enrollees.

ASN's Policy Priorities for 2010

- ✓ Address profound health disparities
- ✓ Improve the success of kidney transplants
- ✓ Fund medical research that improves kidney health for Americans
- ✓ Fix the sustainable growth rate formula

50% of people
with kidney failure die
from heart disease.

For more information about the ASN or kidney disease, visit www.asn-online.org or call 202-659-0599.