



# PRESS RELEASE

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

**EMBARGOED FOR  
RELEASE UNTIL  
NOVEMBER 7 AT 8 AM ET**

## **AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NEPHROLOGY TO AWARD PRESIDENT'S MEDAL TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES OFFICIALS**

**Society awards its highest honor to Department of Health and Human Services administration officials for their role in advancing kidney health.**

**Washington, DC (November 7, 2019)** — The American Society of Nephrology (ASN) will award this year's ASN President's Medal to officials in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), recognizing their commitment to advancing kidney health. The medal will be presented at ASN Kidney Week 2019, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC.

The ASN President's Medal is given to individuals who have helped advance the society's mission to "lead 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." For more than a decade, ASN has worked closely with countless professionals in HHS to build support for people with kidney diseases, their families, and caregivers.

"Earlier this year, the President signed the Executive Order on Advancing American Kidney Health. This executive order creates an unprecedented focus on kidney diseases, shifts the emphasis to kidney health, and articulates a unified strategy that will guide the efforts of ASN and the kidney community to improve every aspect of kidney care, research, and education," said ASN President Mark E. Rosenberg, MD, FASN.

"Ultimately, the executive order and the national prioritization of kidney health would not have happened without the leadership and vision of HHS Secretary Alex Azar as well as the unwavering support of other public servants with HHS, whom I am proud to recognize with the ASN President's Medal today."

There are eleven recipients of this year's President's Medal:

**Alex M. Azar II**, Secretary

**Eric D. Hargan**, Deputy Secretary

**Seema Verma**, Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

**Ed Simcox**, Chief Technology Officer

**ADM Brett P. Giroir**, MD, Assistant Secretary for Health

**James Parker**, Senior Advisor to the Secretary

**Nick Uehlecke**, Advisor

**Sandeep Patel**, PhD, Open Innovation Manager

**Murray Sheldon**, MD, FDA CDRH, Associate Director of Innovation and Technology

**Adam Boehler**, Former Deputy Administrator for Innovation Policy and Director, Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation

**Abe Sutton**, Former Advisor and White House staff

**###**

*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 more than 20,000 members representing 131 countries. For more information, please visit [www.asn-online.org](http://www.asn-online.org) or contact the society at 202-640-4660.*