

# Dialysis & Nephrology

A monthly report by Benesch on the  
Dialysis & Nephrology Industry

## Digest

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## Calendar of Events

AUGUST 5-7, 2026

### **Amputation Prevention Symposium**

Boston, MS

For mor information, please click [here](#).

SEPTEMBER 25-26, 2026

### **RPA Fall Advocacy Weekend**

Washington, D.C.

OCTOBER 21-25, 2026

### **ASN: Kidney Week 2026**

Denver, CO

For more information, please click [here](#).



The poster features the RPA logo at the top center, flanked by an illustration of a hand holding a glowing lightbulb on the left and a hand holding a megaphone on the right. The main title 'Advocacy & Innovation WEEKEND' is prominently displayed in large, bold, blue letters. Below the title, the dates 'SEPTEMBER 25-26, 2026' and the location 'Washington, DC' are listed. A central message reads: 'A must-attend for nephrologists and practice administrators seeking to advocate, innovate, and elevate the future of kidney care.' Below this, the slogan 'Be Part of the Change' is written in a bold, italicized font. A large white button with a red border contains the text 'REGISTER NOW'. The bottom section of the poster, set against a dark blue background, provides details for the two days: 'FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25' with the event 'RPA Legislative Advocacy Campaign on Capitol Hill', and 'SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26' with the event 'Innovating Nephrology: Leading the Future of Practice, Policy, and Care'. At the bottom left is a QR code, and at the bottom right is contact information: '1700 Rockville Pike, Suite 320, Rockville, MD 20852 • Phone: 301-468-3515 • Fax: 301-468-3511' and 'Email: meetings@renalmd.org • Website: www.renalmd.org'. Social media icons for Facebook, X, Instagram, and LinkedIn are also present at the bottom.



Please contact us if you would like to post information regarding our upcoming events or if you'd like to guest author an article for this newsletter.

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[jcilek@beneschlaw.com](mailto:jcilek@beneschlaw.com)



# Benesch Healthcare Sixth Annual Nephrology and Dialysis Conference

Thursday, June 25, 2026

8:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Cocktail reception to follow

**The Sheraton Grand Riverwalk Chicago**

301 East North Water Street | Chicago

Please join us for this full-day conference addressing business and legal issues facing nephrology and dialysis providers. Hear from industry leaders discussing current and future trends in care delivery, business and payment models, and legal and regulatory issues.

Click [HERE](#) to register.

Please click [HERE](#) to see available hotel rooms near the conference.

Please contact MEGAN THOMAS, Director of Client Services ([mthomas@beneschlaw.com](mailto:mthomas@beneschlaw.com)) for more information about this event as well as exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities.

If your organization is interested in Exhibitor Hall opportunities, please click [HERE](#).

*\*No CME or CLE available.*

## AGENDA

8:00–8:45

### Registration and Breakfast in Exhibitor Hall

Presented by:  CorMedix Therapeutics

8:45–9:00

### Opening Remarks

SCOTT DOWNING, Partner, *Benesch*

JASON GREIS, Partner, *Benesch*

9:00–9:30

### Legislative Update from Capitol Hill

ROBERT BLASER, Director of Public Policy, *Renal Physicians Association*

9:30–10:15

### Payor Recoupments Considerations: Playing both Offense and Defense

Moderator:

LAURI COOPER, Counsel, *Benesch*

Presenters:

HARRIETT WALL, President & CEO, *LW Consulting*

RACHEL HOLD-WEISS, Partner, *Benesch*

KATHRIN ZAKI, Senior Managing Associate, *Benesch*

10:15–10:30 **Break**

Presented by:  Nsight Health

[\(continued on next page\)](#)

# Benesch Healthcare Sixth Annual Nephrology and Dialysis Conference

10:30–11:15

## Succession Planning and Practice Governance

Moderator:

JAKE CILEK, Partner, *Benesch*

Presenters:

DAVID DOOER, CEO, *Innovative Renal Care*

FAHD AL-SAGHIR, MD, President, *Michigan Kidney Consultants*

GENNY CORDELL, CPA, Partner, *Beaird Harris*

11:15–12:00

## Artificial Intelligence in Kidney Care

Moderator:

NICHOLAS ADAMSON, Managing Associate, *Benesch*

Presenters:

ADAM WEINSTEIN, M.D., Chief Medical Information Officer, *DaVita Kidney Care*

MANDAR GORI, Chief Business Officer, *Vivance*

LEN A. USVYAT, Senior Vice President and Head of Renal Research Institute, *Fresenius Medical Care*

SEVERENCE MACLAUGHLIN, CEO & Founder, *DeLorean Artificial Intelligence*

DR. HEMANT DHINGRA, *The Nephrology Group, Inc.*

12:00–1:00

## Lunch Lecture: New CMS Alternative Payment Models

TOM DUVALL, Division Director, *Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services*

Presented by:



1:00–1:45

## Medicare Advantage: Impact on Patients and Payment Systems

Moderator:

CHRIS DEGRANDE, Partner, *Benesch*

Presenters:

EUGENE LIN, MD, MS, FASN, Assistant Professor, *University of Southern California*

ADAM WILK, PhD, Associate Professor, *Indiana University*

Fresenius Medical Care representative

VIRGINIA IRWIN-SCOTT, DO MBA, FAIM, FASN, CPE,

FACOI, National Director, Specialist Kidney Care, *Che Med*

1:45–2:30

## Cardio-Kidney Metabolic Health: Friend or Foe of a Nephrology Practice

Moderator:

JUAN MORADO, Partner, *Benesch*

Presenters:

SUNEEL UDANI, M.D., FASN, Consulting Physician,

*Nephrology Associates of Northern Illinois and Indiana*

KATHERINE KWON, M.D., FASN, President, *Lake Michigan Nephrology*

HOLLY KRAMER, Professor, Public Health Sciences, *Loyola University Chicago*

2:30–2:45 Break

Presented by: Nsight Health

2:45–3:30

## Advanced Valuation Topics in Nephrology and Dialysis

Moderator:

SCOTT DOWNING, Partner, *Benesch*

Presenters:

JIM CONNORS III, CFA, ASA, Principal, *Pinnacle*

AMIT PAYAN, Director Healthcare Valuation, *Marshall & Stevens*

MATTHEW PHILLIPS, Managing Director, *City Capital Advisors*

3:30–4:15

## The Next Step: Developing Multi-Specialty Endovascular ASCs

Moderator:

JASON GREIS, Partner, *Benesch*

Presenters:

TERRY LITCHFIELD, President, *Access Solutions*

DEREK MITTLEIDER, M.D., President, *Vascular & Embolization Specialists*

DUSTIN GREENE, Chief Executive Officer, *Preferred Vascular Group*

PRABIR ROY-CHAUDHURY, M.D., Drs. Ronald & Katherine Falk Eminent Professor in Nephrology, Co-Director, *UNC Kidney Center*

NICOLE VALENTE, RN/BSN, *Siemens Medical Solutions USA, Inc.*

4:15–5:00

## How Nephrology Actually Wins in Value-Based Care: Networks, ACOs and Contracting Strategies

Moderator:

NESKO RADOVIC, Partner, *Benesch*

Presenters:

GARY STELLUTI, Consultant, *Value-Based Healthcare*

PAUL SKLUZACEK, M.D., Chair, *Renal Healthcare Partners*

DAVID MAHVI, M.D., CEO, *Carolina Kidney Partners*

JOSE ARRASCUE, M.D., Chair of the Specialist Committee

and Board Member, *Palm Beach Accountable Care Organization*

DAN ROBERTS, CEO, Sunflower ACO, *Value Services Management Group*

5:00–5:15

## Impact of Trump Administration Immigration Policies on Physician Recruitment

MARGARITA KRNCCEVIC, Counsel, *Benesch*

5:15–6:30 Cocktail Reception

Presented by: SOMATUS  
More Lives. Better Lived.®

Please contact MEGAN THOMAS, Director of Client Services ([mthomas@beneschlaw.com](mailto:mthomas@beneschlaw.com)) for more information about this event as well as exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities.



# Exhibitor and Sponsorship Opportunities

# Benesch Healthcare Sixth Annual Nephrology and Dialysis Conference

**Thursday, June 25, 2026**

**8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.**

Cocktail reception to follow

**The Sheraton Grand Riverwalk Chicago**

301 East North Water Street | Chicago

**Conference Registration** ..... \$250  
Please register and pay [HERE](#).

**Break Sponsorships** ..... \$2000 (two slots)

- Logo
- Spotlight
- 4 free registrations
- List of attendees week before

To purchase a break sponsorship, please register and pay [HERE](#).

**Exhibitor Space** ..... \$1000

- Logo
- Overview of company
- 2 free conference registrations
- List of attendees week before

To purchase an exhibitor table, please register and pay [HERE](#).

**Breakfast Sponsor** ..... \$3500

- Logo
- Spotlight with free plug
- 8 conference registrations
- List of attendees week before

To purchase a breakfast sponsorship, please register and pay [HERE](#).

**Lunch Sponsor** ..... \$4000

- Logo
- Spotlight with free plug
- 8 conference registrations
- List of attendees week before

To purchase a lunch sponsorship, please register and pay [HERE](#).

**Cocktail Reception Sponsor** ..... \$6000

- Logo
- Spotlight with free plug
- Decorate space with signage
- 8 conference registrations
- List of attendees week before

To purchase a cocktail reception sponsorship, please register and pay [HERE](#).

**For more information or to sign up for an exhibitor space or sponsorship, please contact:**

MEGAN THOMAS  
Director of Client Services  
[mthomas@beneschlaw.com](mailto:mthomas@beneschlaw.com)



## Nephrology and Dialysis

APRIL 29, 2026

### [CMS extends application deadlines for drugmakers, states to join payment model](#)

Drug manufacturers will have until June 11 to apply and until July 17 to enter participation agreements. To be eligible, companies must make at least one drug and participate in the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program. The model is intended to make it easier for state Medicaid programs to access drugs from participating manufacturers. States will have until September 30 to finalize participation agreements.

**Source: Reuters (sub. req.)**

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MAY 7, 2026

### [California medical practice, physician to pay \\$6.7M to resolve false claim allegations](#)

Dr. Feliciano Serrano, the owner of Serrano Kidney and Vascular Access Center in Huntington Park, California, agreed to pay \$6.51 million to the U.S. and almost \$229,000 to the state of California. Serrano was accused of performing unnecessary dialysis access interventions on Medicare patients from 2016 to 2024 and medically unnecessary peripheral artery disease interventions on 17 patients between 2019 and 2024. The physician would allegedly tell patients they needed treatment for both legs when they only had complaints about pain in one and would tell patients there was a risk of amputation if they didn't undergo treatment, even when no risk was present, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. Following the settlement, the Department of Justice emphasized that no determination of liability was made.

**Source: Cardiovascular Business**

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MAY 8, 2026

### [FDA recalls Boston Scientific heart devices](#)

Boston Scientific issued an urgent recall to correct several heart devices after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) classified the action as its most serious recall. The recall may impact outpatient facilities such as vascular access centers, ambulatory surgery centers and office-based labs that utilize these devices for cardiac procedures. The FDA is advising doctors to update the devices' software during an in-person clinic visit. The recall doesn't require the devices to be removed from patients or pulled from sale.

**Source: Reuters (sub. req.)**

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MAY 12, 2026

### [FDA commissioner Makary resigns, Diamantas steps into role](#)

Dr. Marty Makary resigned from his role as the commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) following multiple reports that the President was considering firing him due to dissatisfaction with his work. Kyle Diamantas, head of the Food division, will take on the role of acting FDA commissioner. The FDA has been dealing with leadership changes, drug review delays, mass layoffs and accusations of politicization from ex-FDA staff in recent months.

**Source: Medical Device Network**

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MAY 12, 2026

### [Eugenia Timm appointed as Evergreen Nephrology COO](#)

Evergreen's newly appointed Chief Operating Officer, Eugenia Timm, will oversee operations and lead execution across the organization. She brings 15 years of healthcare leadership experience to the role, most recently serving as Senior VP of Operations at Optum, where she oversaw value-based medical group operations, supporting almost 190,000 patients in the Los Angeles South region.

**Source: Evergreen Nephrology**

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## Nephrology and Dialysis (cont'd)

MAY 13, 2026

### [U.S. to freeze Medicare enrollments, defer \\$1.3 billion in Medicaid funds to California](#)

The moves are part of the Vice President's anti-fraud task force, created to tackle potential misuse of public money. Dr. Mehmet Oz said \$1.3 billion deferral was made after the administration identified questionable expenditures and anomalies but didn't provide examples of documented fraud. Oz also announced a six-month freeze on new Medicare enrollments by hospice and home care providers nationwide. The CMS said it will intensify targeted investigations of providers in categories suspected of fraudulent activity.

Source: AP News

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MAY 14, 2026

### [Biogen acquires Apellis Pharmaceuticals](#)

With the acquisition, Apellis becomes a wholly owned subsidiary of Biogen, bringing an established nephrology commercial and medical infrastructure. Biogen is currently preparing to launch felzertamab, with a Phase 3 readout in antibody mediated rejection in kidney transplant recipients expected in 2027.

Source: Biogen

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MAY 18, 2026

### [BD Interventional names Peter Menziuso EVP, President](#)

Peter Menziuso will step into the role of EVP and President at the global medical technology company June 1, 2026. He has 30 years of experience in the industry, most recently serving as Company Group Chairman of Johnson & Johnson Vision.

Source: BD

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MAY 20, 2026

### [National Kidney Foundation names CEO](#)

Dr. Marc Hurlbert will step into the role of CEO of the National Kidney Foundation, effective July 1, 2026. A pharmacologist and healthcare leader with over 25 years of experience, Hurlbert has overseen over \$750 million in funding through over 4,000 awards supporting hospitals, universities, medical centers and community organizations addressing public health challenges.

Source: National Kidney Foundation

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MAY 20, 2026

### [Renalytix, Carna Health partner to integrate test into CKD prevention, management platform](#)

Renalytix and Carna Health formed a partnership to integrate the FDA-approved KidneyIntelX.dkd test with Carna Health's AI-driven Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) prevention and management platform. This collaboration will enable health systems to identify and manage CKD and related cardiovascular-kidney-metabolic complications earlier and more effectively, particularly for patients with type 2 diabetes and early-stage CKD. By supporting personalized, risk-guided care pathways, the partnership seeks to reduce unplanned and catastrophic dialysis starts and address the significant economic burden of kidney disease, with Medicare spending on CKD exceeding \$130 billion annually in the U.S.

Source: Select Science

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## Nephrology and Dialysis (cont'd)

MAY 21, 2026

### [NKF releases biannual survey](#)

The National Kidney Foundation Council of Advanced Practice Providers' biannual survey of nephrology nurse practitioners and physician assistants found:

- Over half (61%) of respondents had 15 years or less experience in the nephrology specialty, while 38% reported over 15 years of experience;
- Less than 3% of respondents attended an academic-led nephrology advanced practice provider (APP) education program, while 83% reported training in the specialty through informal mentorship and/or on-the-job training and 38% reported learning through self-directed study;
- Respondents provided care in dialysis units (71%) and outpatient nephrology office clinics (68%);
- APP responsibilities include standard CKD care (67%), acute work-in visits (45%), hospital follow-up visits (66%) and stage IV CKD education (44%);
- Over half (62%), of respondents signed a written employment agreement with 21% including an automatic salary increase and 45% including a no-compete clause;
- Bonuses were paid to 45% of respondents; and
- Nurse practitioners reported an average salary of \$129,646 and physician assistants had an average salary of \$128,781.

**Source: Healio**

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MAY 26, 2026

### [American Journal of Kidney Diseases found dialysis facility closures outpaced openings in 2024](#)

American Journal of Kidney Diseases recently published a study which found a rise in closures since 2018. The study looked at data from 8,343 unique dialysis facilities from 2018 to 2024, finding 16.3% opened and 9.6% closed in the study period. In 2018, there were 401 openings and 45 closures, while 2024 saw 56 openings and 74 closures. Closed dialysis facilities tended to be smaller, rural, located in the Midwest and had more patients with dual Medicaid-Medicare eligibility when compared to facilities that remained open.

**Source: Healio**

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MAY 26, 2026

### [Improving Home Dialysis Act passes Ways and Means Committee with bipartisan support](#)

Congresswoman Carol Miller's Improving Home Dialysis Act passed 28-13. The act allows Medicare to reimburse for additional home services, including staff-assisted home dialysis services and renal mental health support services, to facilitate access to home dialysis. While Medicare currently covers some support services for home dialysis care, the act expands coverage to assist with home dialysis education and support the transition to home dialysis. Currently, 15% of end-stage renal disease patients use home dialysis.

**Source: Congresswoman Carol Miller**

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## Nephrology and Dialysis (cont'd)

MAY 26, 2026

### [California Court Could Upend The Continuity Planning Agreements That Hold MSO-PC Structures Together](#)

A pending California appellate decision could fundamentally alter how management services organizations (MSOs) and dental services organizations (DSOs) structure relationships with affiliated professional corporations. The court is weighing whether simply holding a contractual right to replace a physician-owner violates the state's corporate practice of medicine (CPOM) doctrine—an outcome that could put many existing MSO-PC and DSO-PC models at risk. With regulators and new laws increasingly limiting corporate control over clinical practices, businesses should proactively reassess continuity agreements and governance frameworks to mitigate legal and operational exposure.

Source: Benesch

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MAY 26, 2026

### [The Rapid Revolution Of Restrictive Covenant And Trade Secret Law—What We Are Seeing \(and Reading\) In The First Five Months Of 2026](#)

The legal landscape governing restrictive covenants and trade secrets is shifting rapidly, with courts and state legislatures actively reshaping how noncompete and related agreements are interpreted and enforced. New developments across multiple states are creating increased complexity and uncertainty, raising the risk that outdated agreements may be deemed unenforceable or trigger litigation. As the pace of change accelerates, businesses should proactively review and update restrictive covenant agreements, aligning terms with evolving state laws and tightening scope and consideration provisions to protect enforceability.

Source: Benesch

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## VAC, ASC and Office-Based Labs

APRIL 2026

### [Radial and the ASC Opportunity: The Future of PAD Treatment](#)

The shift toward outpatient care is reshaping PAD treatment, with growing momentum behind radial-to-peripheral access in ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs). Transradial access can reduce bleeding complications while improving patient comfort, recovery, and satisfaction—while also lowering overall costs. As payer support and operator experience increase, radial access in the ASC setting is positioned to play an expanding role in endovascular care.

Source: Endovascular Today

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JUNE 15, 2026

### [The Fight for Site-Neutrality Continues: MedPAC](#)

MedPAC is continuing to push for “site-neutral” Medicare payments—an approach that would align reimbursement across care settings for the same services, regardless of whether they're performed in a hospital outpatient department, ASC, or physician office. The commission argues the current system creates financial distortions and drives up costs, noting that procedures performed in ASCs can be significantly less expensive. While CMS has taken incremental steps, broader reform would require congressional action—and could have major implications for reimbursement, care delivery, and the ongoing shift toward lower-cost outpatient settings.

Source: Becker's

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For more information regarding our nephrology, dialysis and office-based lab experience, or if you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact:

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