

Introduction

The Swiss Society of Nephrology (SSN) was established in 1969 in Berne by 17 members. Today, the SSN has more than 200 members; of these, the majority work as specialist in nephrology. The SSN is a member of the Swiss Medical Association (FMH).

The [Board](#) consists of 10 members. The three major linguistic regions as well as the university and non-university centres are represented. Colleagues in private practices and research centres as well as nephro-paediatrics are also represented.

The president of the Dialysis commission and the president of the Swiss renal foundation are also part of the Board.

Tasks and goals

The SSN mission is to represent its members toward the population, the Authorities and various institutions. In particular, the SSN is guaranteeing quality of the practiced nephrology medicine in Switzerland, the SSN encourages and supports basic and clinical research of the kidneys and its associated diseases and the SSN defends the interest of its members. To achieve these goals:

- The SSN establishes the 6-year curriculum for obtaining the FMH title of specialist in nephrology, in accordance with the federal laws
- The SSN validates and controls the continued education for the FMH title in nephrology
- The SSN supports financially the [Swiss Renal Foundation](#) which funds research projects
- The SSN organizes the annual meeting of high standards
- The SSN organizes two annual sessions for continued medical education (CME)
- The SSN organizes since 2008 courses for kidneys, urinary tracts and dialysis shunts
- The SSN is represented in the Swiss Medical Council of the FMH, in the Institute for postgraduate and continued education (SIWF), in the Swiss Academy for Quality in Medicine (SAQM), SwissDRG, TarMed,

Various commissions meet on regular intervals to discuss and treat their various tasks such as the Dialysis Commission, the Exam Commission, the Training and Continuing Education Commission, the title commission, the Ultrasound Commission or the Exam Commission for Paediatric Nephrology.

Working groups on certain specific topics have been established such as (genetic renal diseases, nephrology nursing, and nephrologists in private practice...)

In addition the SSN operates the [national dialysis registry](#). Other registries are supported by the SSN, such as the renal biopsy registry, the lupus registry, the Swiss Kidney stone cohort. A close collaboration with the Swiss Transplantation registry is also maintained.

Contact to other societies - abroad and in Switzerland - are also very important to the SSN. A collective membership to the [International Society of Nephrology](#) (ISN) exists since 2005 and Switzerland participates regularly in the [ERA-EDTA](#) meetings.

At intervals, there are joint congresses with the French or German Society of Nephrology or other Swiss Specialties Societies.

With the increasing number of patients suffering from kidney problems, the society sees it as its task to tackle the perception and the prevention of chronic kidney failure in the population: Within this framework, projects are supported in partnership with the annual [World Kidney Day](#) of each year.

The SSN can be reached via the [back office](#) and its website, for which the official language, for simplicity, is English.

Thank you for your interest in the Swiss Society of Nephrology