



WKD 2023 Report

Name: Pavlinka Baliska

Organization name: NEFRON – Kidney patient organization

Country: Republic of North Macedonia

Number of events organized/collected in your country: 10

Activities of note (please give a brief description of the activity with links to online sources that mentioned it):

1. “World Kidney Day in Macedonia & Celebration of 20-years jubilee of Kidney Patient Organization NEFRON – Skopje” – event for patients, the general public and media, Skopje
2. Press release for media World Kidney Day 9 March 2023 in Macedonia, Skopje
3. “Kidney Health for all – Preparing for unexpected, supporting the vulnerable” – Event in Hotel “Hilton” organized by University Clinic of Nephrology in Skopje, with 4 educational talks presented by Prof.dr. Goce Spasovski, Dr. Maja Mojsova Mijovska, Dr. Milena Stefanovik and Dr. Nikola Georgievski. The event was supported by other representatives. Dr.Irfan Mehmedi from National Commission for Diabetes and Mr. Dushko Gjorgiev from Kidney Patient Organization Nefron and talked about the importance of early prevention, diagnosis, and treatment for kidney disease in the population.
4. Nefroplus Dialysis centers organized open days in clinics in Ohrid, Prilep, Bitola, and Gostivar during March (presented the new nephrology ambulances, organized preventive nephrology examinations free-of-charge in one-month, educational presentations for World Kidney Day topics, etc.)
5. Diaverum Dialysis center placed in Kumanovo and the Association of Diabetics from Kumanovo organized an educational workshop on the topic: “Prevention of chronic kidney disease in people with diabetes”
6. Diaverum Dialysis center with cooperation with Medicine High School “Nace Bugjoni” organized series of educational workshops about kidney disease, hemodialysis, first aid etc..
7. Nefroplus Ohrid together with local red-cross organization and students in primary school “St.Kiril and Metodij” organized an event to raise awareness of our kidneys on a public square in Ohrid.
8. An educational presentation for 10-year-old kids in primary school “Vojdan Chernodrinski” on the topic “Healthy habits for healthy kidneys” by the Nephron-Kidney patient association.
9. On 9th March in 18 cities in the country preventive examination of blood pressure and diabetes was organized in public places.
10. 4 thematic shows for World Kidney Day “Kidney Health for all” were performed on National TV Stations by Dr. Irena Busletic Rambabova, dr. Vasiliki Krechova and Dr. Vasile Tomanovski



List of media that published WKD press releases or mentioned WKD related activities (newspapers, magazines, online publications, TV, radio, etc...) – please provide link to online sources:

<https://www.facebook.com/NEFRONzdruzenie>

<https://time.mk/?q=%D1%81%D0%B2%D0%B5%D1%82%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%B8+%D0%B4%D0%B5%D0%BD+%D0%BD%D0%B0+%D0%B1%D1%83%D0%B1%D1%80%D0%B5%D0%B3&search=news&startdate=08.03.2023&enddate=15.03.2023&order=dec>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cAcY26I-Yjg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3GC7AoyWB5I>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x37ZA5Vqn1w>

https://sdk.mk/index.php/makedonija/najmladiot-patsient-na-dijaliza-ima-3-godini-najstariot-90-godini/?fbclid=IwAR0sy_bwkwEprjcw4vB8Pi6wziG-SAT2llnHQE8TNy0_q7IC6v1fCPyc-l

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1m3wrx3e2cA>

<https://pedijatar.mk/svetski-den-na-bubregot-2023-dijabetesot-i-visokiot-krven-pritisk-se-vodechki-prichini-za-pojava-na-bubrezhni-zabolvana/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yviit6Ear8E>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPa9nAkhVIO>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F3pxt_9sqj4&fbclid=IwAR3eUaDulJWztCinpRnipovZZaaKT7U7Vn81rgCxG6eFZ9vtpWxaxAdYoJA

If you have created a World Kidney Day local website, Facebook page or Instagram account, please provide analytics such as: number of followers/number of site visits in March/ content most requested/ page views/ posts most liked/ hashtag reach, etc....

<https://www.facebook.com/NEFRONzdruzenie>

List of celebrities involved and short description of their involvement:

The First lady Ms. Elizabeta Georgievska supported World Kidney Day at an event organized by University Clinic of Nephrology. Also, the event was supported by representatives from Ministry of Health, National Commission for Diabetes, Macedonian Society for Dialysis, Transplantation and Artificial Organs, doctors from University Clinic for Infection Disease, KARIL and dialysis centers Diaverum and Nefroplus, other institutions, students of medicines etc..

The events organized in Skopje and other cities were supported by national and local media.



The president of the association Nefron, Mr. Dusko Gorgiev, made two live appearances in the most watched morning programs of the national television channels Kanal 5 and Telma.

Description of advocacy activities:

NEFRON – Kidney Patient Organization in Macedonia advocates for better prevention and cure for kidney disease and raises awareness for organ donation in the country in many ways such as: sending letters to officials and authorities, educating children, informing the public by social and other media, and the most importantly communicating daily with members and public through our office. We develop projects for members and projects for education and cooperate with other associations from other countries and the Balkan region.

The campaign for World Kidney Day in Macedonia has been implemented since 2008, by the patient association Nefron in cooperation with the professional medical association MZNDTVO. For this purpose, every year we translate campaign materials and share it with the public. Also, we select important messages and requests from patients and caregivers and send them to institutions, medical services, and the public, also advocating for implementation.

This year was dedicated to the 20-year jubilee of our association; we made a survey about “People who have been living on dialysis & transplantation for more than 20 years”. We found that in March 2023, the total number of patients on dialysis is 1502, and 240 patients are living with kidney transplants in Macedonia.

We found that 62 patients from Macedonia spent more than 20 years on dialysis (from 20 to 43,5 years), and the patient Stojce Cekovski from Kriva Palanka has been on dialysis for 43.5 years. He is one of the patients who has been living the longest on dialysis in Europe. Many times, we have shared his story in the media, sending out courage to people with chronic kidney disease. We are preparing to share his story with the World Kidney Day Team.

We want to nominate the president of the Nefron-Kidney Patient Association, Mr. Dushko Gjorgiev as WKD Champion for all his efforts in raising awareness for chronic kidney disease and the importance of organ donation. Mr. Gjorgiev played a critical role in the association and in the community; he is dedicated to the implementation of patient rights, advocates and lobbying health authorities and the government for better cures and treatments and organizes and monitors a lot of WKD events for the public and media. He is a member of the SEEN Transplant Board, and he has also been a dialysis patient since 2006.

Attach representative pictures

Mr. Dushko Gjorgiev, president of Nefron – Kidney patient organization

