

WKD Guyana Report

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- **Organization name: Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation (GPHC)**
- **Country: Guyana**

- **Activities of note:**

The University of Calgary and GPHC were recently awarded a joint Sister Renal Centre grant for pediatric nephrology services under the leadership of Dr. Areefa Alladin (GPHC) and Dr. Andrew Wade (University of Calgary). The team from the University of Calgary visited Guyana from March 8-13, 2026, for a week of activities, including workshops, conferences, meetings, and needs assessment. Visitors from the University of Calgary included Dr. Julian Midgley, pediatric nephrologist, and Jenny Wichart, clinical pharmacist in nephrology, dialysis and transplant.

The WKD activities spanned a week of activities across several organizations, hospitals and disciplines

The Guyana Pharmacy Council Continuous Education Session and workshop on nephrology and the importance of pharmacists in kidney care

1. We started the week on March 8, 2026, with a 5-hour conference and workshop hosted by the Guyana Pharmacy Council. This conference had about 200 attendees (pharmacists and pharmacy assistants).

Topics:

- a. The role of the pharmacist in urine dipstick testing and referral
- b. The importance of clinical pharmacists in the multidisciplinary care of people living with kidney disease. This workshop assessed the needs, barriers, and facilitators for the practice of clinical pharmacists and will provide the foundation for building a clinical pharmacy residency program, with nephrology as the first cohort.

2. International Society of Nephrology (ISN) Sister Renal Centre: Guyana-Calgary and Global Kidney Care Conference

Date: March 10, 2026

This conference was in collaboration with the Kidney Foundation of Guyana, GPHC, and the Ministry of Health. Sixty key persons were invited, representing health administration and policies, nephrology, dialysis and transplant services, pharmacy practice, dietitians, social workers, patients and caregivers. The Minister of Health, Dr. Frank Anthony, gave the feature



address. Dr. Julian Midgley spoke on the evolution of nephrology practice globally, Dr. Areefa Alladin gave an overview of WKD's theme, the importance of prioritization of kidney health and preparation for the expected burden of kidney disease by 2040, and Jenny Wichart talked about medication use in chronic kidney disease. The patient and caregiver talked about living with kidney disease, the gaps in delivering care for those who need it, and the need for psychosocial, dietary, pharmacy and nursing support at dialysis centres.

International Society of Nephrology (ISN) Sister Renal Centre Guyana-Calgary and Global Kidney Care Conference Agenda

Date: March 10, 2026 (8:30 to 15:00)

Location: Herdmanston Lodge, 65 Peter Rose St, Georgetown

Moderator: Dr. Areefa Alladin

Time	Topic	Speakers
8:30-9:10	Welcome and introduction	Dr. Areefa Alladin
9:10-9:45	Evolution of kidney care- a global perspective	Dr. Julian Midgley
9:45-9:50	Remarks from GPHC	Dr. Areefa Alladin
9:50-9:55	Remarks from the Chronic Disease Unit	Dr. Lall
9:55-10:05	Remarks from Chronic Disease Unit- Kidney focal point	Dr. Nandishaw Ramsingh
10:05-10:15-	Remarks from the Chief Medical Officer	Dr. Narine Singh
10:15-10:45	Remarks from the Minister of Health	Hon. Dr. Frank Anthony
10:45-11:00	Coffee break	
11:00-11:45	Hemodialysis: HD units, standards and water quality	Dr. Andrew Wade
11:45-12:00	Questions and answers	
12:00-12:30	Hemodialysis patients in Guyana	Patient partner
12:30-13:15	Lunch	
13:15-14:00	Medications in Chronic Kidney Disease and Dialysis	Jenny Wichart, RPh
14:00-14:50	Hemodialysis: principles and prescriptions	Dr. Andrew Wade
14:50-15:00	Closing remarks	Dr. Alladin





3. Grand rounds: the ISN and the University of Calgary- Nigeria and Guyana Sister Renal Centre partnerships.

The University of Calgary, Department of Pediatrics, dedicated its Grand Rounds to WKD. Dr. Cello Tonelli from Calgary/ISN spoke about the Importance of World Kidney Day team 2026 and the ISN sister renal center grants. Dr. Debo from Ibadan, Nigeria, gave an overview of the process from Level C center to graduating and becoming a transplant centre. Dr. Areefa Alladin from Guyana spoke about the current state of nephrology in Guyana, the objectives of the new sister renal centre partnership, and the plans for the next six years to move Guyana from a level C center to a mentor centre.

This was the tricontinental live rounds from Canada, Nigeria, and Guyana, with the University of Calgary team on the ground in Guyana.

4. Regional/rural World Kidney Day Awareness Activities

Workshops were held at two regional hospitals in Berbice, Guyana, to train doctors and nurses in assessing and managing chronic kidney disease in the rural setting. These workshops were planned and supported by the Kidney Foundation of Guyana, training over 20 doctors in CKD care.

5. Patient appreciation events

Meals were provided to dialysis patients for WKD at Bath Regional Hospital and Number 75 Village Regional Hospital. Patients were sensitized to dialysis and CKD care through interactions with the nephrology team and the Kidney Foundation of Guyana's executives.

6. World Kidney Day Awareness Activities at GPHC (March 12. 2026)

World Kidney Day booths were set up at GPHC to sensitize persons visiting the hospital, patients and staff on the importance of kidney health, early detection and management of kidney diseases.

7. Launch of the ISN SRC grant at GPHC

The ISN SRC grant between GPHC and the University of Calgary was launched on WKD. This showed commitment from GPHC and the University of Calgary. The media were in attendance.

8. World Kidney Day Dialogue Session Hosted by the Nephrology Department

In observance of World Kidney Day, the Nephrology Department at the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation (GPHC), in collaboration with the Transplant Department and the Ministry of Health, hosted a Dialogue Session to discuss kidney health and the growing impact of chronic kidney disease (CKD) in Guyana. During his presentation, Dr. Obadele Thorne, Registrar at the GPHC, highlighted the importance of early screening and patient awareness. The event also featured Mr Rawle Nelson, a dialysis patient and advocate, who shared his personal experiences living with kidney disease. In his emotional message, he spoke about the financial, emotional,



and physical challenges many dialysis patients face and emphasized the importance of counselling and emotional support for those undergoing treatment. Presentations were also delivered by Dr Nandi Shaw, Focal Point Officer for the Diabetes and Kidney Programme at the Ministry of Health, and Dr Lachmine Lall, Director of Non-Communicable Diseases and Mental Health. Their discussion focused on national strategies and the need for coordinated efforts to address chronic diseases in Guyana. A panel discussion on managing chronic kidney disease in clinical practice was led by Dr Areefa Alladin, Paediatric Nephrologist, along with international experts Dr Julian Midgley of the Alberta Children's Hospital and Jenny Wichart of Alberta Health Services. Additional presentations explored complications of kidney disease, including anaemia management, as well as the future of kidney care and transplantation in Guyana. The session concluded with remarks from Dr. Dianne Narine, who emphasized the importance of continued collaboration among healthcare providers, policymakers, and patients to improve kidney care nationwide. The event served as a reminder of the important role the kidneys play in overall health and highlighted the need for greater public awareness, early screening, and preventive care to reduce the impact of kidney disease in Guyana.

- **Media coverage:**

[List media outlets such as newspapers, magazines, online publications, TV, radio, etc., and include any links wherever available.]

- <https://www.facebook.com/guyanancn/posts/pfbid0HCBBWgYf5MzaG3eEB4kgiZTZL1ivtyTrriuRHKQ22JksU24eJhgZtGgELu2EEUxI>
- <https://www.facebook.com/GeorgetownPublicHospital/posts/pfbid02cMH8hQKYsdGvyn3NMhrBcofsz13CnAvVfVowfW7yGJAeiUi8eH15Et8s9No69haxul>
- <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=saved&v=2410445239369486>
- <https://www.facebook.com/Jay7J/posts/pfbid02Qca9gB4JM8275KYyPgHR63eXnaEawjMxuYc6H5wY8qyeLWZLyqQ8voYdsQ4J7gUhl>
- https://newsroom.gy/2026/03/10/more-than-100-children-battling-kidney-disease-new-grant-to-boost-healthcare/?fbclid=IwY2xjawQj5AxleHRuA2FlbQIxMABicmlkETFwY3JVb2NKeTBYS01IUGpGc3JOYwZhchBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODlwMDg5MgABHj2H8_D3zECYPTy13oWvkb_xrjysO5ASvfZkmZNbqjhl403YdRY5weZhSLM1_aem_hr-LZfMRfCkAmwN-1i8Czg
- <https://www.facebook.com/GeorgetownPublicHospital/posts/pfbid02gHrZUMLk7YMQ5XsVscgM6sKMP9LEXpKbHDVKDtBhUxTrRaj2THUgujet5nwfiA4Pl>
- <https://www.facebook.com/mohguyana/posts/pfbid0iE1rWwzYpWM7G6EoR8xqcqbFVhmtDoYYDJMtNngPzuYx77TPD1zzvgg9hJ8gHvizl>



- **Social media and website analytics:**

[Include metrics such as reach, engagement, page views, etc., for your WKD-related content.]

GPHC Facebook posts in relation to World Kidney Day

Content	Platform	Views	Interactions	Comments	Saves	Shares	Links to Posts
World Kidney Day 2026 graphic	Facebook	4,858	39	0	-	13	https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1Dt3Rbj1gS/
Nephrology Department Exhibition	Facebook	11,256	73	0	-	9	https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1CGroRFfxg/
GPHC Paediatric Grant	Facebook	12,262	100	1	3	9	https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1QsoNsMePU/
World Kidney Day Dialogue	Facebook	24,767	135	1	1	14	https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1DmnyhuzCn/
GPHC Represented at Tri Continental Round Table	Facebook	13,840	85	1	1	11	https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1Agrk3zDrz/

- **Celebrity involvement:**

None

- **Advocacy efforts:**

All activities included patients and caregivers who were asked to speak and tell their stories. Patients advocated for peritoneal dialysis access, as Guyana primarily promotes HD. Patients talked about the cost of HD, their inability to work and have a normal life while being on HD and the reliance on others for support (physical, emotional and financial). Patients asked for HD centres to practice safely and in a regulated manner, as there are no established standards of practice and infection rates are high. Patients wanted access to private sessions with a psychologist and social worker as they struggled with mental health issues. We, the members of the Kidney Foundation of Guyana, advocated for governmental support to address these matters.

We are advocating for a PD first option and for free dialysis across Guyana. As part of the ISN SRC grant, we will develop standard operating procedures for HD centres and will advocate for regulated practice to ensure safety. We will develop a formal training program for nurses working in dialysis units.

- **Please paste here below any relevant pictures.**








MEDIA LAUNCH PROGRAMME

ISN Sister Renal Centres Grant Launch
Thursday, 12th March 2026 (World Kidney Day)
Pharmacy Foyer, GPHC
1:00 PM

Master of Ceremonies	Nygil Drepaul, Communications Unit, GPHC
1:00 PM	Opening & Welcome
1:05 PM	Overview of the Grant & Partnership Dr. Areefa Alladin Consultant Nephrologist - GPHC
1:15 PM	Remarks from Mentor Institution Dr. Julian Midgley Pediatric Nephrologist - University of Calgary
1:25 PM	Remarks from Hospital Leadership Mr. Robbie Rambarran, CEO, GPHC
	Symbolic Launch



