



**MEDIA ADVISORY
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AAKP Kicks Off 50th Annual National Patient Meeting in Dallas, Texas

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The American Association of Kidney Patients (AAKP), the nation’s oldest and largest kidney patient advocacy organization, will be hosting its annual National Patient Meeting next Friday, October 3 – Sunday, October 5, 2025 in Dallas, Texas, at the Doubletree by Hilton, Fort Worth South, 100 Altamesa Blvd. East, Fort Worth, TX 76134.

AAKP’s **National Patient Meeting** is the largest hybrid kidney patient conference in the U.S. with a growing international audience. This year’s [event](#) features a diverse line-up of expert speakers and influencers from all sectors of the kidney disease community including patient advocates, U.S. government officials, medical professionals, academia, private industry, and other non-profit organizations. The theme of this year’s event is “**50 Proud Years of Patient Education: 50 Years of Saving Lives, 50 Years of Saving Livelihoods.**” Topics include the latest developments in kidney-related research and technologies including Cardiovascular-Renal-Metabolic Health, artificial intelligence, artificial organs including [xenotransplants](#), infection prevention, anemia management as well as advancements in Veterans kidney health, acute kidney injury, and new, patient-developed shared decision-making tools.

In 2019, AAKP declared 2020-2030 as [The Decade of the Kidney™](#) to refocus national attention on unmet patient needs and to help clear regulatory and payment barriers that impede earlier [disease prevention and medical innovation](#). AAKP has redefined kidney disease as both an American healthcare and workforce issue due to the fact that status quo treatments, particularly hemodialysis, drive patient unemployment, disability and dependency. AAKP manages the premier non-partisan voter registration program, [KidneyVoters™](#) for kidney patients, transplant recipients, organ donors, and kidney professionals.

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About the American Association of Kidney Patients (AAKP): Since 1969, AAKP has been a patient-led organization driving policy discussions on kidney patient care choice and medical innovations to improve patient lives and prevent avoidable illness, disability and death. AAKP advocates played a central role in the Congressional authorization of Medicare coverage for dialysis and transplantation (1972), signed by President Richard Nixon (1973), which evolved into the modern End Stage Renal Disease Program. Over the past decade, AAKP patient advocates have helped advance the passage of the bipartisan law modernizing the Organ Procurement and Transplant Network (OPTN) via greater competition and oversight (2023); lifetime transplant drug coverage for kidney transplant recipients (2020); the presidential *Executive Order on Advancing American Kidney Health* (2019); new job protections for living organ donors under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) via the U.S. Department of Labor (2018); and Congressional legislation allowing HIV-positive organ transplants for HIV-positive patients (2013). Follow AAKP on social media at @kidneypatient on Facebook, @kidneypatients on Twitter, and @kidneypatients on Instagram, and visit <http://www.aakp.org> for more information.