

## SPR IN GREEN NEPHROLOGY

### AIM

Kidney care has this year become the first clinical specialty to address its environmental impact, with the creation of a “Green Nephrology” programme. The aim of the programme is to support the transformation to sustainable kidney care, while improving quality and efficiency for the future of kidney care. Pilot approaches within renal units across the country are being undertaken, in a bid to improve the environmental impact of kidney services.

### HOW WILL THIS BE ACHIEVED?

The Campaign for Greener Healthcare has formed a partnership with the Renal Association, the British Renal Society, NHS Kidney Care, the NHS Sustainable Development Unit, the National Kidney Federation, the Association of Renal Industries and Baxter Healthcare to improve the sustainability of kidney care through a Green Nephrology Programme.

To support this programme NHS Kidney Care is funding a one-year “Green Nephrology Fellowship” for a Specialist Registrar (SpR) to work on sustainability in kidney care.

In September 2009 Andrew Connor was appointed to the post. Andrew graduated from Charing Cross & Westminster Medical School in 2001. He has subsequently worked in clinical medicine in London, the South West and New Zealand. He has been seconded from his training as a Specialist Registrar in Renal Medicine to his current position as the Green Nephrology Fellow at the Campaign for Greener Health.

Between September 2009 and 2010 he will be exploring the environmental impact of kidney care within the UK and working with NHS staff to improve practice in kidney units. Andrew has been receiving training in project management and clinical systems improvement, working with renal units to look at existing approaches that aim to reduce carbon emissions, and to develop sustainable models of kidney care.

### ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

**Green network** – 79% of kidney units in the UK now have a Green Nephrology Local Representative. Kidney Patients’ Associations have been invited to put forward a green representative too.

**Sustainability survey** – 87% of represented units completed our survey covering topics from staff travel to procurement of dialysis products. Slide presentations of the survey results were sent to Local Representatives, for discussion in local units.

**Case studies & how-to guides** – giving best practice in:

- Conserving water in haemodialysis
- Retrofit of heat exchangers to dialysis machines
- Telephone clinics in follow up of renal transplant recipients
- Reduce, re-use, recycle in the dialysis unit

**Webinars** – held on water conservation and on waste management in haemodialysis.

**10:10 renal checklist** – 10 actions for renal units to support the 10:10 campaign: cutting carbon by 10% in 2010.

**Articles on sustainable care** - Accepted in medical journals, indexed once published from [www.sustainabilityforhealth.net/](http://www.sustainabilityforhealth.net/) renal.

**Commissioning** - sustainability clauses included in the national peritoneal dialysis pathway.

**Carbon footprinting** – the first carbon footprint of a clinical specialty is soon to be published!



### CONTACT

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