

Newsletter

October 2020

Message from the Chair,

Welcome to all our new PRONA members! Thank you for choosing to join our mission of improving pediatric renal nutrition care. We are the leaders and future of our unique field, and I am honored and humbled to serve you all as the PRONA Chair this year. I have worked in nephrology care now for over 12 years. The relationships I saw in the nephrology setting during my internship are what drew me to the field. I quickly learned first-hand the bonds formed between our patients, patient families, and fellow healthcare workers are like no other. These relationships are still what I hold dear and cherish most. I feel blessed to be in a field where we truly make a difference in the lives of others and get to see that difference in the care and support we provide through watching our patients grow and thrive. On the professional side, I hope as Chair I am able to get to know more about all of you, as we work together to lift each other up during this tumultuous time.

We started our year in August with our first official Board change, and I'm proud to say our Board and Committees are off and running with various projects to fulfill our mission and goals. It has already been such a pleasure to work with the talented intellectuals we have serving our Board. We hosted our 1st Member Meeting of the year on October 8th to review our current projects and to discuss the direction we want our group to take. Be on the lookout and please join us for our upcoming meetings in December 2020, February/March 2021 and May/June 2021, with specific dates TBD. We thrive on member participation and thus greatly value your input.

One of our initial projects is updating our website to provide valuable content for members and non-members alike. Please visit the site at <https://prona.online/> and let us know how we can improve it to meet your needs! We are currently working to simplify our member registration and login process, creating our member publication and "find an expert" pages that feature our incredible colleagues, and updating our Officers page so you know who is representing you. In our "members only" area, we hope to offer a current member list, access to our digital pocket guide, newsletter archives and resources created by our own Clinician and Patient Resource Committees.

Meetings

December, February/March,
May/June

Important Announcement

Due to Covid-19, previous membership deadlines and project timelines have been extended

Our pocket guide is well on its way in the final stages of editing. We hope to send to the printers in the next few months. This has truly been a member collaboration project and will be a practical and useful tool for so many in our field. Thank you to all who have worked tirelessly to complete this book!

Our committees have numerous projects in the works, including formula calculators to ease the burden of creating complicated recipes, developing a mentorship program for new pediatric renal RDs, creating vitamin D guidelines, sharing existing and creating new patient education materials, various research projects, and honoring worthy dietitians in our field through awards and stipends. We also hope to improve our network with other groups who have similar interests so we can work together to create a larger ripple.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you this year. I hope you all know how important you are to your patients, patient families and colleagues. You touch the lives of so many people, and you should be truly proud of the work that you do.

Sincerely,

Christine Benedetti, MS, RDN, CSR, LD

PRONA Chair 2020-2021