



American Nephrology Nurses Association 2026 HEALTH POLICY AGENDA

The American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA) will independently and collaboratively engage as a member of formal or informal coalitions at the federal level to address and respond to health policy issues impacting nephrology registered nurse (RN) practice and the individuals for whom they provide care.

Set Priorities for Coverage and Payment Related Issues

1. Monitor and respond to the annual proposed rules related to the Medicare ESRD Prospective Payment System (PPS) and Quality Incentive Program (QIP), and patient education programs created under the *Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act* (MIPPA) (P.L. 110 275).
2. Monitor and respond to any other pertinent proposed rules that may impact the nephrology RN practice, including but not limited to, the annual Physician Fee Schedule rule.
3. Monitor Medicare Payment Advisory Commission's (MedPAC) work on issues related to the Medicare ESRD program.
4. Support quality measures that matter, are valid and reliable, and promote transparency of quality programs within the Medicare ESRD benefit.
5. Support health policy initiatives that ensure all individuals with end stage kidney disease (ESKD) have access to Medigap insurance.
6. Monitor for opportunities to participate in Medicare technical expert panels that may impact the care of individuals with kidney disease.
7. Support research to define nursing-related quality measures that are relevant to the kidney care settings and advocate for quality measures that recognize the impact of nephrology RNs. This includes collaborating with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Battelle, the American Nurses Association (ANA), and other relevant entities.
8. Continue involvement with various public and private quality improvement initiatives through Kidney Care Partners (KCP), the Alliance for Home Dialysis, and other entities.
9. Support health policy initiatives that promote organ donation, eliminate barriers to donation and increase transplantation including protections for organ donors.
10. Advocate for health policy initiatives that support and promote home dialysis therapies.
11. Advocate for health policy initiatives focused on kidney health and prevention of kidney disease, and education programs for individuals with chronic kidney disease (CKD).

Set Priorities for Nursing and General Health Care Issues

1. Advocate for increased funding of the Nursing Workforce Development Programs at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).
2. Advocate for funding for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), and the Kidney Health Initiative (KHI).
3. Advocate for legislation, funding, and other health policy initiatives to address the nursing and nursing faculty shortage.
4. Advocate and support efforts to enable Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) to practice to the full extent of their education and training, and advocate for full equitable reimbursement.
5. Advocate for initiatives that promote safety for patients and RNs, as well as all other health care providers in the workplace.
6. Monitor and respond to health policy initiatives that impact nursing practice and their effects on nephrology nursing.
7. Monitor and respond to health policy initiatives which would limit the scope and standards of practice for nephrology RNs.
8. Advocate for health policy initiatives that improve the health of individuals, families, and communities by recognizing and addressing social determinants of health.
9. Support health policy initiatives to ensure the provision of effective, efficient, equitable, and accessible care across the healthcare–continuum, while identifying the system facilitators and barriers to achieving these goals.
10. Support institutional and legislative policies that promote the Resolution on Racial Justice for Communities of Color (ANA, 2020), including 'to recognize human dignity regardless of culture, creed, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, age, experience, or any aspect of identity' (ANA, 2020).
11. Support health policy initiatives that ensure a diverse and equitable workforce.

References

American Nurses Association 2020 Membership Assembly. Racial Justice for Communities of Color. Retrieved 1/7/2025:

[Membership Assembly Adopts Racial Justice Resolution | ANA \(nursingworld.org\)](https://www.nursingworld.org/ANA/2020/03/2020-Membership-Assembly-Adopts-Racial-Justice-Resolution)

***Adopted by the ANNA Board of Directors in March 1997
Revised and/or reaffirmed annually from 1998-2025
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The Health Policy Agenda is reviewed and reaffirmed annually.