

Dear Colleagues,

Cardiovascular diseases remains the main cause of death in western societies and the amplification of the death risk conveyed by coexisting CKD appears to be considerable. The bidirectional link that associates renal and cardiovascular diseases, the high risk of death signalled by their coexistence and the considerable epidemiological burden imposed by this link is at the basis an emerging new discipline aiming at making the borders between nephrology and cardiovascular medicine even more permeable than before. Cardio-Nephrology or Nephro-Cardiology societies have already been founded.

To respond to the to the ongoing changes in medicine and in science, the ERA-EDTA has recently launched an initiative aimed at promoting collaboration between nephrologists and other specialists on themes of major clinical and scientific interest. This initiative poses the creation of working groups (WG) as a central means for fostering advancement in Renal Medicine and allied sciences.

The large interest on Renal & Cardiovascular Medicine among the ERA-EDTA membership is the basis for the creation by the ERA-EDTA Council of a EUropean RENal and Cardiovascular Medicine (EURECAM) working group.

We have decided to take a “step-by-step” approach for creating the Working Group. If you have an interest in Renal & Cardiovascular Medicine we invite you to visit the WEB site of our working group (<http://www.era-edta.org/eurecam.htm>) and, if our goals meet your conception of this rapidly developing area, we cordially invite you to join the Working group. We value participation and especially shared decisions. For this reason the Working Group action plan will be decided on the basis of the results of the 2 surveys below. We are there for asking you to kindly give your contribution by replying to both of them.

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=oufMTV1pEq7MAAVg2s5bxA\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=oufMTV1pEq7MAAVg2s5bxA_3d_3d)

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=hC21rGlrmDMbXIkGoWpfgw\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=hC21rGlrmDMbXIkGoWpfgw_3d_3d)

The success of this new initiative is based on your participation and on your suggestions.

Best regards.

Carmine Zoccali  
EURECAM Chairman

Gerard London  
ERA-EDTA President

## MEMBERS

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