

In conclusion, we would like to suggest that, besides scientific evidence supporting that home dialysis offers advantages as an effective treatment strategy to improve the survival and quality of life of our dialysis patients,⁹ in this time of pandemic, home dialysis also provides an added benefit: the possibility of “staying at home” while undergoing dialysis therapy at the same time as complying with preventive measures, thereby avoiding the risks of exposure and transmission of diseases such as COVID-19 and enabling our dialysis patients to continue their RRT in a safe and effective manner.

Conflicts of interest

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

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On the need to harmonize nephrological terminology in Ibero-American countries[☆]

Sobre la necesidad de armonizar la terminología nefrológica en los países latinoamericanos

Mr. Director:

After the publication of the article: Nomenclature for kidney function and disease, report of a Kidney Disease: Improving

Global Outcomes (KDIGO) Consensus Conference¹ in the summer of 2020, and its subsequent dissemination through the Webinar of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN): ISN-KDIGO Webinar: Nomenclature for Kidney Function & Disease: Implications for Researchers, Clinical Educators and Practitioner, from the Latin American Registry of Kidney Dialysis and Transplantation and the Acute Renal Injury Committee

DOI of original article: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nefro.2021.01.013>.

[☆] Please cite this article as: Sánchez-Álvarez JE, Ferreiro-Fuentes A, González-Bedat MC, Rosa Díez GJ, Lombardi R, Lugón J, et al. Sobre la necesidad de armonizar la terminología nefrológica en los países latinoamericanos. *Nefrologia.* 2022;41:700–701.

of the Latin American Society of Nephrology and Hypertension (SLANH), a concern arose to work on an Ibero-American version of consensus with the aim of standardizing, agreeing and harmonizing the nomenclature that could be used by the Spanish-Portuguese-speaking community from this moment on.

As a consequence of this initial idea, the Spanish Nephrology Society (SEN), the Brazilian Nephrology Society (SBN) and the Portuguese Nephrology Society (SPN) were gathered together to work on the development of an integrative linguistic document that could be practical for all of us who speak, write and read in Spanish and Portuguese.

As a result of the group's work, there were developed some tables including terminology in both languages. These tables have been published recently in the journal *Nefrología Latinoamericana*² and include suggestions on what are the terms to use when referring to kidney function, how it is assessed, and the name of diseases affecting the kidney. In addition, recommendations are provided on which abbreviations to use and which words should not be used.

According to data from the Cervantes Institute,³ the Spanish language is used by 580 million people (7.6% of the world's population). Each geographic territory adds peculiarities and nuances. This may mean that, when choosing a word, it can be disturbing for some communities, especially when they are separated by an ocean. In any case, we have tried to find converging points with which we all are represented.

After several months of work in the nephrological societies of Spain and Portugal and the one that encompasses Latin American countries, we were pleasantly surprised to see how another group of Spanish-speaking nephrologists, also from Europe and America, felt the same need to unify and adapt terms in our language. As first contributions, there were published, almost simultaneously in English⁴ and in Spanish,⁵ a declaration of commitment in this regard.

The final purpose of this letter is to invite Spanish nephrologists to consult the consensus document and value its possible use. This unification of criteria will serve as a basis to favor the understanding and advancement of nephrology in all the countries where Spanish and Portuguese is spoken.

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nefro.2021.01.002>