

# ISTITUTO ITALIANO PER GLI STUDI FILOSOFICI

Diploma d'onore del Parlamento Europeo

È necessario porre l'interesse dello Stato al di sopra di tutti gli altri, perché lo Stato sia governato bene, e non cercare continui pretesti per andare contro l'equità né permettersi di tentare sopraffazioni contro il bene comune. Perché uno Stato ben governato è il più grande presidio, e quando vi è questo vi è tutto, e se questo è salvo tutto è salvo, e se questo perisce tutto perisce. (Democrito di Abdera, V sec. a.C.)

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## SOPRAVVIVERE NON BASTA / SURVIVAL IS NOT ENOUGH FOR THE WORLD KIDNEY DAY 2010

Napoli, March 8 - Benevento, March 9, - Salerno, March 9 - Foggia, March 10 - Gaziantep, March 10 - Palermo, March 10 - Patras, March 10 - Kežmarok, March 11 - Koper, March 11 - Messina, March 11 - Napoli, March 11 - Rende, March 11 - Trieste March 11 - Varna, March 11 - Catania, March 12

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### SURVIVAL IS NOT ENOUGH - Quality of life for CKD patients

The life of patients treated with dialysis and/or transplantation is characterized by many losses and many dependencies. Even the selection of foods and beverages, practising a sport, accepting and exerting a job may be a problem. In addition patients take drugs. Many, many drugs. "Pills, pills, pills and more pills" is the title of a column written by an illustrious patient married to Eli A. Friedman, Professor of Medicine/Nephrology at Downstate Medical Centre. The field of quality of life is broad and includes not only physical health and well-being but also psychological, social, educational and occupational well-being. Since dialysis and transplantation are effective means of treatment is now time to expand the concept including quality of life as a target for all patients and indeed any chronic disease. We are aware that "Quality of life depends on the economic power of nations, on health care organization, social organization, family support, gratifying job, the cultural background, the social net and good luck". Since the guild of physicians has lost its power and is in a fading phase – and therefore less able to defend patients' needs – it is necessary to ask the help of philosophers because of their traditional ability of setting problems is perspective with man's problem in general. Although the right to health care is a primary need it might be difficult to grant it because of costs. We foresee not only a new cadre of health managers capable to focus their efforts on patients' needs, but also we ask for prevention and clinical research. This quest has been the core of *Survival is not enough* from the first edition and has now found support in Sarkozy's plan for health care in France where it is foreseen that all university hospitals shall participate in clinical research whereas now only 3 out of 29 do clinical research. We cannot neglect that there is a general quest from tax payers to translate basic research into drugs and technology badly needed by our patients. However our society is not ready for that. Translational research should be the focus for the near future. Currently clinical research is not supported adequately and clinical scientists do not find a proper place in our brave new global world and are prevented to making their contribution to a science based on patients. We have a great faith in the capability of Europe and of the Mediterranean Area to find its own way. Finally we feel that the female gender has a crucial role in research, diagnosis and treatment of CKD. Therefore a special event is dedicated in Naples to women in nephrology and will deal with history, roles and careers in nursing and medical staff.

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