

ALLEN R. NISSENSON, M.D, F.A.C.P., F.A.S.N., F.N.K.F.

ALLEN R. NISSENSON, MD, FACP is Chief Medical Officer of DaVita Healthcare Partners Inc. and an Emeritus Professor of Medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, where he served as Director of the Dialysis Program and Associate Dean. Dr. Nissenson is a former President of the Renal Physicians Association and served on the RPA Board of Directors as a special advisor to the President. He was one of the founders and served as President of the National Anemia Action Council (NAAC), a multidisciplinary organization to raise awareness of professionals and the public about the prevalence, consequences, and treatment of anemia.

Dr. Nissenson served as President of the Southern California End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Network as well as Chair of the Medical Review Board. He has long been involved in issues of health care delivery, and has consulted for the Rand Corporation and PacifiCare on the development of capitation models for ESRD used in a seminal HCFA Demonstration Project in this area. He was a leader in the development of care coordination and disease management approaches to chronic kidney disease and ESRD and is currently working on the development of new models of integrated care management for the chronically ill.

Dr. Nissenson served as a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow of the Institute of Medicine in 1994-5, working in the office of the late Senator Paul Wellstone. During that time Senator Wellstone was a member of the Labor Committee and Dr. Nissenson was able to focus on a broad range of issues including health professions, FDA, NIH, Medicare, Medicaid, HIPAA, and confirmation hearings for the Surgeon General. Following this experience, during his tenure as President of the Renal Physicians Association, he worked closely with CMS on issues related to care delivery, quality, and financing for patients with chronic illnesses. He continued this work by helping to develop a novel disease management/care coordination program for patients with kidney disease. He subsequently served as Co-Principal Investigator of an NIH-sponsored Center on Health Disparities focused on kidney disease where he led the health policy/outcomes research section. Dr. Nissenson formed a new Council of Chief Medical Officers of dialysis organizations which has worked closely with the renal community and CMS on public policy issues related to improving the quality of care for ESRD patients. Most recently Dr. Nissenson was selected to represent Kidney Care Partners on the National Quality Forum (NQF).

Dr. Nissenson's major research interests include a focus on the quality of care for chronic kidney disease patients including issues of healthcare delivery, economics and public policy; anemia management; impact of anemia on brain and cognitive function; and development of innovative new approaches to the treatment of ESRD. He has served as a member of the Advisory Group overseeing the Dialysis Outcomes Quality Initiative of the National Kidney Foundation (NKF-DOQI), as well as serving as a member of the anemia work group since its inception in 1997.

Dr. Nissenson is the author of two dialysis textbooks, both in their fourth editions and was the founding Editor-in-Chief of *Advances in Renal Replacement Therapy*, an official journal of the National Kidney Foundation. He recently completed service as Editor-in-Chief of *Hemodialysis International* the official journal of the International Society for Hemodialysis, as well as *Medscape Nephrology*, an innovate website focused on nephrology. He is currently Editor-in-Chief of NephLink, a new social media site for nephrologists. He has over 640 publications in the field of nephrology, dialysis, anemia management, and health care delivery and policy, the latter including a seminal paper in *Health Affairs* on the ESRD program. Among his numerous honors is the President's Award of the National Kidney Foundation, the Lifetime Achievement Award in Hemodialysis presented by the University of Missouri on behalf of the Annual Dialysis Conference, and in 2011 the AAKP Medal of Excellence Award.