The American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA) will work independently and in collaboration with local kidney care and professional nursing coalitions to identify and respond to health policy issues that affect the practice of nephrology nurses and the individuals for whom we provide care. ANNA will support state legislative and regulatory bodies for action impacting the care of the chronic kidney disease (CKD) population and nephrology nursing practice.

Priorities for Medicaid Payment System Related Issues

1. Monitor policies related to Medicaid payment systems impacting the CKD population.
2. Advocate for access to care that promotes kidney health, including complete, person-centered, quality, and evidence-based care.
3. Advocate health policy initiatives that promote organ donation and increase transplantation.
4. Advocate for state legislation and funding for initiatives to identify, prevent and slow the progression of CKD and for patient education programs.

Priorities for State Boards of Nursing Related Issues

1. Monitor regulation changes impacting nephrology nursing.
2. Advocate for initiatives to ensure registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) are able to practice to the full scope of their educational preparation, training, and license.
3. Advocate for APRNs to promote their appropriate reimbursement.
4. Advocate for, and support, all states signing the Nurse Licensure Compact to facilitate disaster response and to protect nurses who provide telehealth services.

Priorities for Nursing and General State Health Policy Issues

1. Monitor proposed legislation impacting the population with CKD.
2. Support participation in state kidney coalitions/caucuses.
3. Advocate for state legislation, funding, and other regulatory initiatives to address the nursing and nursing faculty shortage and workforce issues, and to improve recruitment and retention of registered nurses.
4. Advocate for fair and consistent work environments and removal of geographic and practice setting limitations for RNs and APRNs.
5. Advocate for staffing decisions, by registered nurses, based on the needs of the individual patient.
6. Advocate for the use of a patient acuity classification systems to determine staffing needs.
7. Advocate for further policies to support research on nursing models of care that promote optimal patient outcomes.
8. Support the restriction of the title "nurse" to only those individuals who have fulfilled the requirements for licensure as a registered nurse as outlined in each state's nurse practice act.
9. Support legislation that improves patient and personnel safety.
10. Advocate for improved patient handling techniques to protect registered nurses and other health care workers from injury.
11. Advocate for the establishment of comprehensive prevention programs in health care settings to address workplace violence.

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The State Health Policy Priorities are reviewed and reaffirmed annually.