

OUR HISTORY

FROM THE FOUNDATION OF ATATÜRK UNIVERSITY TREATMENT OF CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASES TO ANATOLIAN KIDNEY FOUNDATION AND OUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEPHROLOGY



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Abstract

The History of Anatolia Kidney Foundation is the continuation of Atatürk University Chronic Kidney Diseases Treatment Foundation. The founder is Ayla San.

Having finished Ankara University Medical School and specializing in Internal Medicine, she was appointed to Erzurum University Medical School to establish the Department of Nephrology. After studying Hemodialysis and Nephrology in Istanbul University Medical School Nephrology Department, she applied the first procedure of hemodialysis in Eastern Turkey, putting Erzurum among one of the firsts in this field. She started the first chronic hemodialysis.

To overcome the difficulties in establishing the Hemodialysis Center, she established “*Atatürk University Medical School Chronic Kidney Foundation*”

Ayla San is the founder of the Department of Nephrology. Atatürk University Chronic Kidney Diseases Treatment Foundation was relocated in Ankara and renamed as Anatolian Kidney Foundation to serve better and expand its services nationwide. *A Health, Education, Research Center* was established within the foundation.

Ayla San wrote “*The History Of Turkish Nephrology*” despite shortage of recorded material. She also releases “*Renaliz Newspaper*”, issued every four months with educational purposes informing of nephrological news. The 56th issue will be released soon.

Anatolian Kidney Foundation organized congresses on exclusive topics in Nephrology in Turkey and is a member of IFKF since the beginning and attended all the congresses and participated in the studies with a variety of activities. It has been organizing *The World Kidney Day* since 2006 in Ankara with scientific congresses and social activities .It was awarded *IFKF Joel D. Kopple Award* in the 16th International Congress.

Keywords: Kidney foundation, Nephrology, contribution, history.



Fig-1. The Foundation of Atatürk University Treatment of Chronic Kidney Diseases Hemodialysis Center.

In Erzurum

Atatürk University Chronic Kidney Diseases Treatment Foundation(1980-1995)

After she finished Ankara University Medical School in 1967 and her specialization in Internal Medicine in 1972, she was appointed to Erzurum University Medical School in order to establish the Department of Nephrology in February 1973. After she studied Hemodialysis and Nephrology in Istanbul University Medical School Nephrology Department, she applied the first procedure of hemodialysis in Eastern Turkey in 1975, which put Erzurum among one of the firsts in this field. She started the first chronic hemodialysis in 1978. [1-3]

In order to overcome the difficulties in establishing the Hemodialysis Center (HDC), she had to establish “*Atatürk University Medical School Chronic Kidney Foundation*” in 1980. [2, 3]

When she went to Miami University to gain knowledge, she also studied Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis (CAPD). She was invited to Venice by Prof. Dr. Bazetto to study CAPD in 1982. In this way, she was able to import materials for CAPD but persuading patients to undergo this process was very challenging then. Meanwhile, they had to deal with water purification system for a long time. This was solved in 1984. [1, 3-6]



Fig-2. First Hemodialysis Studies



Fig-3. First CAPD Studies



Fig-4. (18th May 1984)
Hemodialysis center was opened.

A modern, two-storey dialysis center opened in 1984 with the support of the foundation. They were donated 3 hemodialysis machines in 1984. She had to survive 9 investigations with other challenges during the establishment of the HDC. She had to work alone for 17 years until she could have two specialists, she had trained. The dialysis center was registered to EDTA with the code number 21 AT in 1986. [1, 3-6]

In addition, Nephrology Congresses, the first of which was held in 1980 but could not be continued, was started as *The 2nd Nephrology Congress* in 1985 by Ayla San. [1, 3]

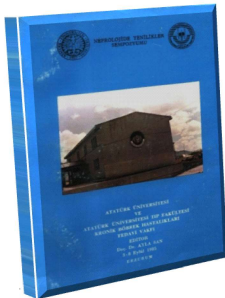


Fig-5. National Congress on Innovations in Nephrology's proceedings book (7 Sept.1985).

Trained on renal transplantation (RTx) in Osaka for six months in 1991 (JICA scholarship). [6]



Fig-6. In 1993 Nephrology and Hypertension Polyclinic was established within the foundation.

In 1991, The Tissue Matching Laboratory was set within the foundation and the first CAPD practice was realized. The first jugular catheter was implanted in 1992. In addition, in 1993 Nephrology and Hypertension Polyclinic was established within the foundation. [1, 3-6]

She opened several dialysis centers associated with the foundation, particularly in Gümüşhane and Kars, and contributed to the establishment of them. She was in charge of dialysis in Eastern Turkey training many doctors, nurses and technicians, also being a board member in Ministry of Health for a long time. [1, 3-5]

Furthermore, the foundation informed the public by meetings about organ donation. It gave place to warnings and informative slogans about organ donation and also about other health issues in the calendars that were published in 1990. The scientific community admired services of the foundation.[1, 4, 5]

The foundation was taken over by the university in an unauthorized way one night, which led her to suing the university and retiring at a very early age. She moved to Ankara with the foundation whose name changed as Anatolian Kidney Foundation (AKF) in 1995 to serve better and expand its services nationwide .[6]

After 6 years in 2001, the court case against Atatürk University resulted in favor of her. Nevertheless, she donated all the property of the foundation to the university with a ceremony organized by the Dean and the Rector, with Ayla San's name tag on the building indicating that the Dialysis Center was established by Ayla San. [6]



Fig 7, 8, 9. Ataturk University with a ceremony which was honored by the President and the Dean of Medical School in July 16, 2001.

***In Ankara
Anatolian Kidney Foundation
(1995-2015)***



Fig-10. Anatolian Kidney Foundation Health, Education, and Research Center.

In 1995, was relocated in Ankara and renamed as Anatolian Kidney Foundation (AKF) to serve better and expand its services nationwide. A Health, Education, Research Center was established within the foundation. [5, 6]

Chronic Diseases and Hypertension Polyclinic was also established. A project was organized ***“for early diagnosis and treatment of patients with Chronic Kidney Diseases”***. Later, she decided to write ***“Turkish History of Nephrology”*** in 1995 because there wasn’t any accessible material or article about the history of Turkish Nephrology and no one knew what others were doing. Therefore, she started to write it down thinking that ***“If one does not know about one’s past, he can not know about his future”***. She sent for the academicians in different clinics, who dealt with Nephrology. The book, ***“Dialysis in Our Country Past and Present”*** was completed first, then ***“History of Dialysis and Transplantation in Our Country”*** and finally as ***“Turkish History of Nephrology”*** which became one of the mostly wanted books in the field. [3-6]

The foundation did check-up activities to determine hypertension and diabetes patients in Gümüşhane.[5,6]



Fig-11. Anatolian Kidney Foundation’s check-up activities.

Renaliz



Fig-12. Renaliz newspaper.

AKF started to issue a newspaper called ***“Renaliz”***, every four months with educational purposes informing of Nephrological news. It is the first scientific Nephrological newspaper in Turkey which is broadly admired. Renaliz analyzes every subject in Nephrology in a detailed fashion. The 59th issue will be issued soon. [4-6]

Turkish History of Nephrology (THN)

There were nearly no documents about the THN until 1995. For 7 years, by contacting other universities, institutions and Ministry of Health and by writing letters, telephoning and faxing, she collected information on Nephrology (No e-mails at that time). [1, 3-6]

Ayla San edited and published ***“Dialysis in Turkey: Past and Present”*** (1998), ***“Dialysis and Transplantation in Turkey”*** (2000), ***“THN”*** (2002), ***“THN – A Summary”*** (2003). [1, 3-6]

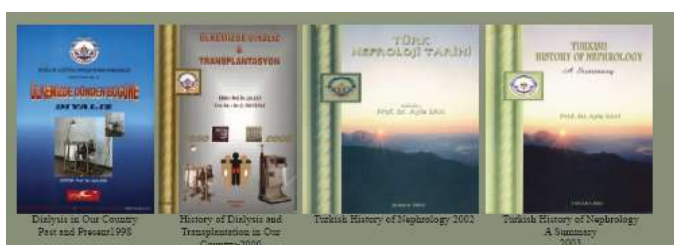


Fig-13. Anatolian Kidney Foundation’s publications on History of Turkish Nephrology.

Other Scientific Studies on THN

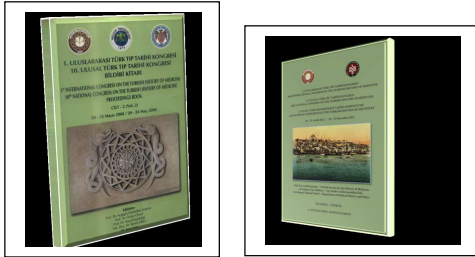


Fig-14, 15. The proceedings of 1st and 2nd International Congress on the Turkish History of Medicine (THM) 10th and 12th National Congress on the THM, 2008 Konya, 2012 Istanbul.

1st and 2nd International Congresses on the Turkish History of Medicine (THM) 10th and 12th National Congress on the THM, 2008 Konya, 2012 Istanbul. [7,8].

5th International Uremic Research and Toxicity Congress and 7th Baltic “Nephrology Meeting, 2007, Poland (**THN Poster**). [9]

13th IFKF Annual Meeting in Hungary, 2012, Ayla San , **Turkish History of RTx** (Poster). [10]

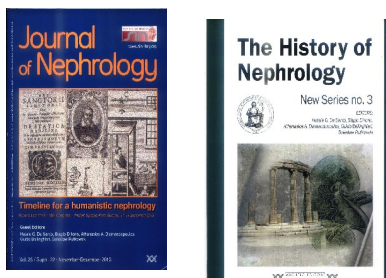


Fig-16, 17. The History of Nephrology book and the proceeding of the 8th meeting of International Association of History of Nephrology (IAHN)

The 8th meeting of International Association of History of Nephrology (IAHN) held in 2013 in Greece. San participated with the speech on “**Nephrological Knowledge in Turkey during the 18th, 19th and early 20th Centuries**”, published in Journal of Nephrology, later as **History of Nephrology**. [11, 12]

“**The Development of Turkish Nephrology from Past to Present**” was accepted as a poster presentation at the 52nd

ERA-EDTA Congress, which will be organized in London, (May 2015). Our abstract was presented on the poster, the number FP908.

Prevention and Control Scheme on Turkish KD and Strategies to prevent risk factors were organized by Turkish Ministry of Health with my responsibility on behalf of AKF (2014-2017).

The First Congresses of Hemodialysis and Quality (HD&Q);



Fig-18. First Quality in Hemodialysis Congress, Ankara, 2003.

With the increasing number of dialysis centers, Ayla San focused on the quality in hemodialysis and started congresses on Quality in Dialysis. She coined the term “Quality in Hemodialysis”. AKF has held six congresses on Quality in Dialysis since then. [13-18]

The foundation organized the following 6 congresses issuing Quality in Hemodialysis for the first time in 2003 in Ankara, 2004 Trabzon, 2005 Bolu, 2011 Ankara, 2012 Cyprus and 2013 Ankara. Standardization and prices of hemodialysis, improving the life quality of patients were discussed. [13-18]



Fig -19. VIth Hemodialysis and Quality Congress, 20-21 September 2013, Ankara.

It organized the vith HD&Q in 2013 .

The First Congresses of Kidney Disease and Nutrition;

3 Congresses in 2003 Istanbul, 2004 Ankara and 2005 Ankara were organized for the first time on KD and Nutrition. [19, 20]

“Intensive Care and Nephrology Symposium” Konya, 2006;

The importance of IC on Kidney Disease was first emphasized by AKF. [21]

Annual Meetings of IFKF;



Fig-20, 21. IFKF Annual Meetings (2008,2015).

AKF has been a member of International Federation of Kidney Foundations (IFKF) since the beginning of its establishment in 2000. It has attended all the congresses and participated in the studies with posters. [22]

2000 - 1st Annual Meeting IFKF, Nevsehir (Turkey), consecutively; 2001-Los Angeles (USA), 2002-Prague (Czech Republic), 2003-Amsterdam (The Netherlands), 2004-Adelaide (Australia), 2005-Dublin (Ireland), 2006-Naxos, Sicily (Italy), 2007-Curitiba (Brazil), 2008-Mainz (Germany), 2009-Istanbul (Turkey), 2010-Kuala Lumpur, (Malaysia), 2011- Vancouver (Canada), 2012-Budapest (Hungary), 2013- Guadalajara, Jalisco (Mexico), 2014- Lyon (France), 2015- Tokyo (Japan). [22]

World Kidney Day

AKF has been organizing World Kidney Day, which IFKF first started, since 2006 in Ankara with scientific congresses and social activities. [22]

AKF attended (made) all the WKD activities every year (2006-2015). World Kidney Day started in 2006 and has not stopped growing ever since. Every year, the campaign highlights a particular theme. “Are your kidneys OK?” (2006), “CKD: Common, harmful and treatable” (2007), “Your amazing kidneys!” (2008), “Protect your kidneys: Keep your pressure down” (2009), “Protect your kidneys: Control diabetes” (2010), “Protect your kidneys: Save your heart” (2011), “Donate – Kidneys for Life – Receive” (2012), “Kidneys for Life – Stop Kidney Attack!” (2013), “Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) and aging” (2014), “Kidney Health for All” (2015). [22-25].

Awards Given;

The 2009 poster arranged by AKF was chosen the third, 2011 the second, 2012 the third. Materials of AKF took place in the bulletin of ISN in 2009. [24, 25].

The WKD 2014 posters arranged by AKF was chosen WKD’s 3rd poster. [22-25].



Fig-22. IFKF Joel D. Kopple Award, 2015.

Prof Ayla San was presented the Joel D. Kopple Prize in the 16th IFKF annual meeting held in Tokyo, Japan, on 9-12 July 2015. [24,25]

Awards AKF Presented ;

AKF organized a congress to celebrate both the first WKD and Civilization Year together. Prof. Rıdvan Ege, MD was awarded due to his contributions as “the Best Founder”. AKF has awarded special prizes for 16 years. Retired instructors, doctors and nurses are awarded each year with photographs of Ayla San, who is also a professional photographer. [6]

Conclusion;

AKF continues its accomplishments as enthusiastically as before.

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