

MeN Declaration

Recognizing that chronic kidney disease is devastating workers and families in multiple parts of Central America

Supporting COMISCA's 2011 declaration "Unidos para Detener la Epidemia de la ECNT en CA y RD", which includes chronic kidney disease as a priority among the non-transmittable chronic diseases subject to surveillance

We, the participants in the Mesoamerican Nephropathy (MeN) workshop organized by SALTRA, November 28-30, 2012, declare that there is proof of a chronic kidney disease of undetermined origin (MeN_u) affecting Mesoamerica.

This is a silent disease that is overwhelming public health systems, leading to premature deaths. Therefore, prevention and health promotion are essential. The participants of this meeting have provided evidence based on their research and are actively looking for the etiology of the disease. Global and local interdisciplinary action and research are essential to address this urgent and tragic public health problem.

As such, we offer our support to governments to aid them in recognizing the disease in Central America and to collaborate with local researchers and multi-sector actors to 1) address this issue by pooling resources and using existing scientific evidence, 2) prevent premature deaths in the most affected populations by intervening where possible.

A collection of approximately 25 handwritten signatures in various colors (black and blue ink) arranged in a loose grid pattern across the bottom half of the page. Some signatures are written in blue ink, while others are in black ink. The signatures are of varying lengths and styles, representing the diverse group of participants at the workshop.