IN MEMORIAM

DR. ALAIN SLINGENEYER

**BORN IN ORAN, ALGERIA, ON JANUARY 5, 1948; DIED ON NOVEMBER 9, 2014,
AT HIS HOME IN MONTPELLIER, FRANCE**

A new generation of peritoneal dialysis (PD) specialists is brilliantly following in the footsteps of pioneers—this a normal part of life, providing hope for the future. But losing those with whom we have shared a large part of our professional life always brings a deep sadness. It is with these reflections that we announce the passing of Dr. Alain Slingeneyer.

To the younger generation, who might not know him, we wish to point out that Alain was a great figure, both in France and abroad. He enjoyed professional fame in the field of PD, in which he was a pioneer, and is also remembered for his impressive humanity.

During his teenage years, he lost many members of his family to the war in Algeria. He then moved to France, where he was brought up by his aunt, who was a second mother to him. After high school, he studied medicine at the University of Montpellier and became a nephrologist. For a large part of his professional life, he worked with a not-for-profit organization treating home dialysis patients.

I write this with Dr. Bernadette Faller, since we met Alain at about the same time, when we were both in our early thirties: Bernadette was just back from Toronto, where she had been working with Dimitrios Oreopoulos, and I was on my way to Columbia with Karl Nolph. Alain was already an expert in PD in Montpellier, in the south of France, with Professor Charles Mion. The three of us shared not only our enthusiasm for the development of continuous ambulatory PD (CAPD) but also love and respect for our patients. It was clear to us that Alain, above everyone else, was the most devoted to patient care. He made himself available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for his patients—and for his friends and colleagues also. After his

retirement, he initiated a program with Diaverum to coach and help with the development of new PD centers.

Alain will be remembered for his early research work in PD, including first reports of PD-related complications, and his skill in implanting catheters. Above all, his warm personality shone, impressing all those who met and talked to him. He was well known for his devotion to patients and his complete honesty, never allowing non-medical considerations to influence his practice. He was also valued for his appreciation of culture, fine art, and painting. Indeed, he was an archetype belonging to the old medical tradition of medicine as an art.

All our thoughts go now to his friend Franck who cared for Alain until the end, allowing him to die at home.

We hope that the new generation keep in mind Alain's exemplary devotion to his patients.

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With the kind approval of
Dr. Bernadette Faller
Chief of Nephrology, Colmar, France

On behalf of the RDPLF, his French colleagues and his foreign colleagues, among them Javier de Arteaga, Jose Divino, Simon Davies, Max Dratwa, Wim Van Biesen, Claudio Ronco, and many others who sent such kind words about him.