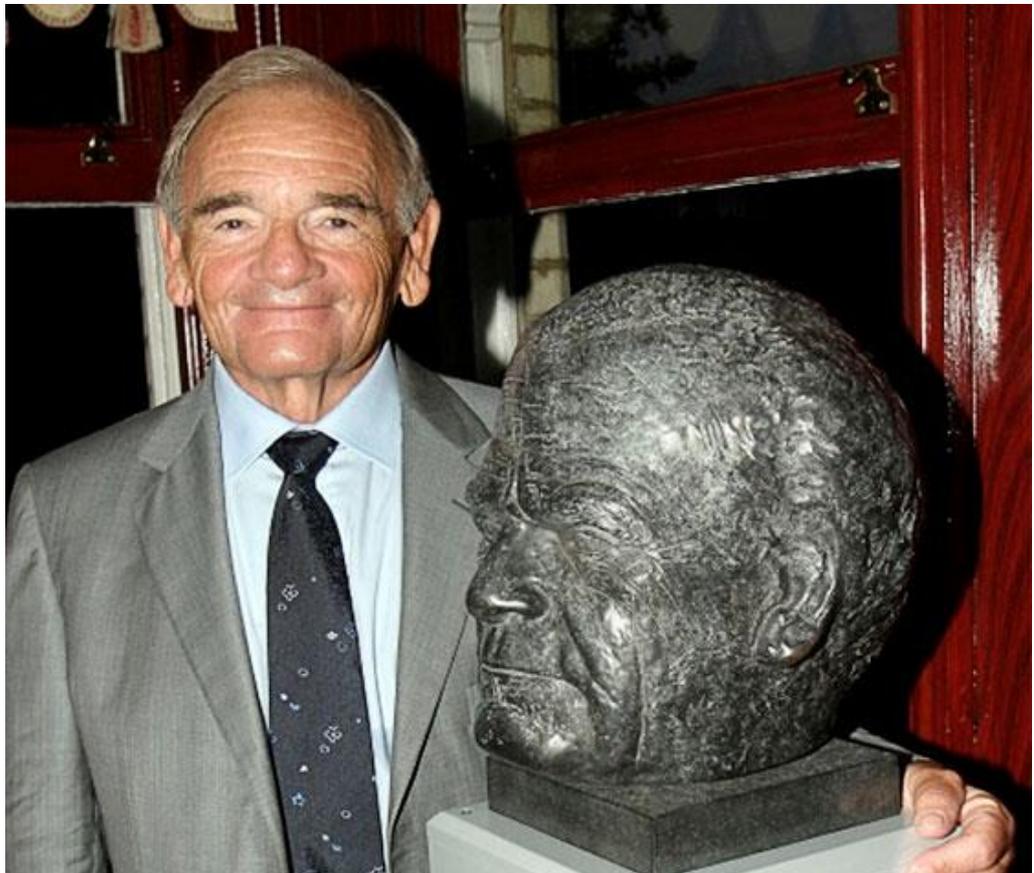


ERA-EDTA mourns the death of Prof. Stanley Shaldon, a visionary pioneer in nephrology and one of the founders of the association

7 January 2014



Prof. Stanley Shaldon

"With the death of Stanley Shaldon we have lost a brilliant nephrologist and one of the pioneers and most creative spirits of our specialty", explains Prof. Raymond Vanholder, Ghent, Belgium, president of the European Renal Association-European Dialysis and Transplant Association (ERA-EDTA). "Stanley was highly visionary and fifty years ahead of his time, when he initiated home dialysis, nocturnal dialysis, and extended dialysis treatment: all options that only started thriving during the last decade".



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European Renal Association - European Dialysis and Transplant Association

Prof. Shaldon was born in 1931 in London and studied medicine at the University of Cambridge, Queens' College London and the Middlesex Hospital London from 1949-56. After he had spent two years in military service as a medical specialist at a hospital in Lagos, Nigeria, he got his postgraduate training at the Hammersmith Hospital and the Royal Free Hospital, London, where he became Lecturer in Medicine in 1960 and Consultant Physician to the Renal Unit in 1965. Only one year later, in 1966, he set up the National Kidney Centre in London. In the seventies he left England and worked as visiting professor in Montpellier, France, and Stockholm, Sweden. From 1977 until receiving emeritus status he was responsible for the research section of the Department of Nephrology at the University Hospital in Nimes, France.

Prof. Shaldon's scientific work was outstanding, with over 350 peer-reviewed publications as a pioneer in the fields of (home) haemodialysis, ultrafiltration and treatment of ESRD, including ground-breaking clinical inventions. He developed an arteriovenous fistula which was simple to puncture in self care and was also the first one to apply central vein catheters as access for dialysis, now known as the "Shaldon-catheter" (Lancet 1961) all over the world. He also was one of the first to reuse dialyzers, and even more importantly, he drew attention to the significance of pure dialysis water, of chemokines in uremia and last but not least, of the toxicity of dietary salt. He was an excellent nephrologist and the patients were always at the center of all his efforts. His dream was "to make dialysis the insulin of end stage renal disease", meaning to enable patients to perform dialysis themselves and being less dependent on medical assistance. In a video that was produced in 2010 during the ERA-EDTA's annual congress he explained his vision and gave an interesting insight into the pioneering years of dialysis (please visit www.era-edta.org/page-3-14-132-132-stanleyshaldon.html).

Furthermore, Prof. Shaldon was a great teacher and mentor bringing up and influencing many of the current generation of European and world-wide nephrologists. He also was one of the "founding fathers" of the ERA-EDTA in 1963. His vision granted the development of one of the most successful European Scientific Societies today – with now more than 6,600 members – which he inspired for many years. For all his major clinical, scientific and personal contributions, Prof. Shaldon was appointed as Honorary Member of the ERA-EDTA in 1994. In 2011 he was awarded the "ERA-EDTA Award" for his outstanding contributions to nephrology; finally in 2012 the ERA-EDTA renamed its young nephrologists' award into the "Stanley Shaldon Award for Young Investigators".



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"Unfortunately, Stanley could deliver the prize only once in person, last year at the ERA-EDTA congress in Istanbul. We are very grateful to him for all he did for the ERA-EDTA and nephrology in general. We will always remember him as a great scientist and miss him dearly as a good friend", explains Prof. Vanholder.

About ERA-EDTA

With more than 6,600 members, the ERA-EDTA ("European Renal Association – European Dialysis and Transplant Association") is one of the biggest nephrology associations worldwide and one of the most important and prestigious European Medical Associations. It supports basic and clinical research in the fields of clinical nephrology, dialysis, renal transplantation and related subjects. The ERA-EDTA supports a number of studies as well as research groups and has founded a special "Fellowship Programme" for young investigators as well as grant programmes. In order to involve young nephrologists in all activities of the ERA-EDTA the Council decided to create a Young Nephrologists' Platform (YNP). Besides, it has established various research networks and different working groups to promote the collaboration of nephrologists with other medical disciplines (e.g. cardiology, immunology). Furthermore, a "European Renal Best Practice" (ERBP) advisory board has been established by the ERA-EDTA to draw up and publish guidelines and position statements. Another important goal of the ERA-EDTA is education: several series of CME-courses as well as the annual congress offer an attractive scientific programme to cover the need of continuous medical education for doctors working in the fields of nephrology, dialysis and transplantation. The association's journals, NDT (Nephrology, Dialysis, Transplantation) and CKJ (Clinical Kidney Journal), are currently the leading nephrology journals in Europe. The ERA-EDTA Registry is a large epidemiologic database comparing countries by assessing nephrology practice throughout Europe. Finally, ERA-EDTA is member of the European Kidney Health Alliance (EKHA), a consortium of renal societies that actively interacts with the European Parliament. For more information please visit www.era-edta.org