

### **Three main health insurance companies invest in portable artificial kidney, an initiative of the Dutch Kidney Foundation**

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of June, three main Dutch health insurance companies; Zilveren Kruis, Menzis & CZ, signed a contract to participate for €6,8 million in the initiative of the Dutch Kidney Foundation (DKF) to develop a portable artificial kidney (PAK). The PAK will be designed as a compact haemodialysis machine suitable for daily and nocturnal dialysis outside of hospital. It should give patients more freedom to dialyse anywhere and anytime to like. Our motto is '*the dialysis treatment should be compliant to the patient and not the other way around*'. The investment of the companies will make it possible to build a prototype which should be ready for clinical testing by the end of 2017.

Cooperation of three insurance companies is unique and also will be a great help to prepare the integration of the portable artificial in the insurance packages.

We expect that with a PAK, the therapy can be up to 40% cheaper (depending on the degree of self-sufficiency). The PAK will lower the barrier to self-dialysis, because the machine is less intrusive and more flexible in use.