

Home at Last

A Quarterly Publication for the NxStage® Chronic Community

March 2007

Welcome to Our Inaugural Issue *A Note from the President*

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Welcome to *Home at Last*, a quarterly newsletter published by NxStage Medical, Inc., for our chronic renal community. We want this to be YOUR newsletter, and our goal is to provide a forum in which NxStage patients can learn, interact and share their knowledge and experiences with one another and with NxStage, so that we can continue to use our patients' valuable feedback to make therapy with our system even better.

NxStage Medical is not your typical medical products company. We are a close-knit team of talented professionals driven by a shared commitment: to lead a movement to dramatically improve renal care with innovative yet simple therapeutic solutions that benefit patients, caregivers, and society.

We pursue this goal through a passionate commitment to innovate, educate and advocate for the breakthroughs that are redefining renal care. Additionally, NxStage works in the community with its customers, patients, industry partners, and government leaders and agencies to realize the vision of better, simpler, more accessible renal care.

I hope you enjoy this inaugural issue of *Home at Last*. You can help by giving us your feedback. Let us know what you'd like to see in future issues. Tell us about a patient, nurse or center that deserves special recognition for their extraordinary contribution. Share tips that you've discovered with other patients. Or, ask us a question and we'll find the appropriate expert to answer you. We look forward to hearing from you.



Jeffrey H. Burbank
President and Chief Executive Officer
NxStage Medical, Inc.



In the News... March is the Month!

It's not surprising that we are launching a newsletter for NxStage patients in March. March 8th is the 2nd annual celebration of World Kidney Day and the entire month is designated as National Kidney Month. Both events are designed to heighten the awareness of kidney disease and educate the public on treatments.

At NxStage, we will recognize World Kidney Day and National Kidney Month with several key activities throughout the United States:

- **Patient Education Days** – During the month of March, seventeen dialysis centers across the country are each hosting a Patient Education Day. The local community is invited to learn more about daily home hemodialysis and the NxStage System One™. Several sites will also have NxStage patients available to talk to current in-center patients and patients who will start on dialysis soon.
- **Editorials** – In several key markets, strong physician and/or patient advocates for home therapy are authoring letters to the editor of local newspapers to highlight the need for more education on treatment options for dialysis and pre-dialysis patients, including home hemodialysis options.
- **Our first NxStage patients celebrate their three-year anniversary** – Another reason March is important to us is that it represents the 3rd anniversary of the first home patients on the NxStage System One. We wish them (pictured below at their 2nd anniversary celebration) and all of you continued success with NxStage!
- **In our corporate office building**, NxStage is partnering with the local National Kidney Foundation to provide educational materials on kidney disease, followed up by a future KEEP (Kidney Early Evaluation Program) screening. We hope to attract employees from the many other businesses and organizations within our building as well as the local community in Lawrence, Massachusetts, to promote kidney disease awareness and education.

Home Hemo Heroes: Three Years of Freedom



(Front row L to R): NxStage patients Judith Mead, Susan Bower; Sheila Doss, Nursing Director of Research, Satellite HealthCare; NxStage patient Carl McGuire
 (Back row L to R): Brad Goulding, NxStage Medical; Dr. Brigitte Schiller, Director of Research, Satellite HealthCare; NxStage patients Jake Casey, Everett Reed, Craig Battle; Dr. John Moran, Senior Vice President Clinical Affairs, Satellite HealthCare

This March marks the third anniversary of the first NxStage home patients, and they continue to enjoy a healthier, fuller life than before they started treatment with the System One.

Everett Reed from Pittsburgh, CA, tells us that “having this freedom is the best; the NxStage system gives me the freedom I wanted and control over my own treatment.” Jake Casey, also from California, loves that he can perform dialysis while traveling; “I'm not limited to a certain time and a certain place. I have much more freedom now.”

At NxStage, we commend these patients for taking their treatment into their own hands, and we're thrilled that our system has helped them improve the quality of their lives. Congratulations to all of you for your dedication and commitment!

Patient Spotlight

A Long Journey Home - Gus's Story

It all started back in 1970, when a young mother-to-be was told that she was carrying an unhealthy baby. She was presented with her options and had a tough, agonizing decision to make. She chose to give birth to a baby son named Gus. After 35 years of struggling with End Stage Renal Disease, or ESRD, Gus now leads a healthier, more normal life—something that he never imagined.



Gus was diagnosed with ESRD shortly after his birth and continually suffered from poor health. He recalls that he was “always in bed...and wasn’t active at all.” Gus’s health gradually declined until he was hospitalized at the San Francisco Children’s Hospital at the age of seven.

Gus considered various treatment options over the years, but kidney transplantation posed too many risks due to potential complications. He had tried home dialysis briefly in the 1980’s but within a few years, the technology he had been using became unavailable. Additionally, Gus was diagnosed with Prune Belly Syndrome (PBS), further eliminating the treatment option of peritoneal dialysis. Eventually, he began to accept the fact that he’d spend the rest of his life receiving in-center dialysis treatment, including all of the hassles and inconveniences it presents.

Then everything changed for Gus in November of 2004. He heard about a new home dialysis option through his dialysis center and jumped at the opportunity. It was then that he began daily hemodialysis treatments at home using the NxStage System One.

Today, Gus enjoys the quality of life he once thought he’d never experience. Living with a supportive family, Gus is more alert and active than ever, his blood pressure is normal, and he’s able to do the things he loves. Asked to describe a typical day, Gus says “early in the morning, I walk two small dogs outside for a few minutes and then check email, eat breakfast and manage project sites. I exercise for a few minutes by midday, and later in the evening it’s dialysis time.”

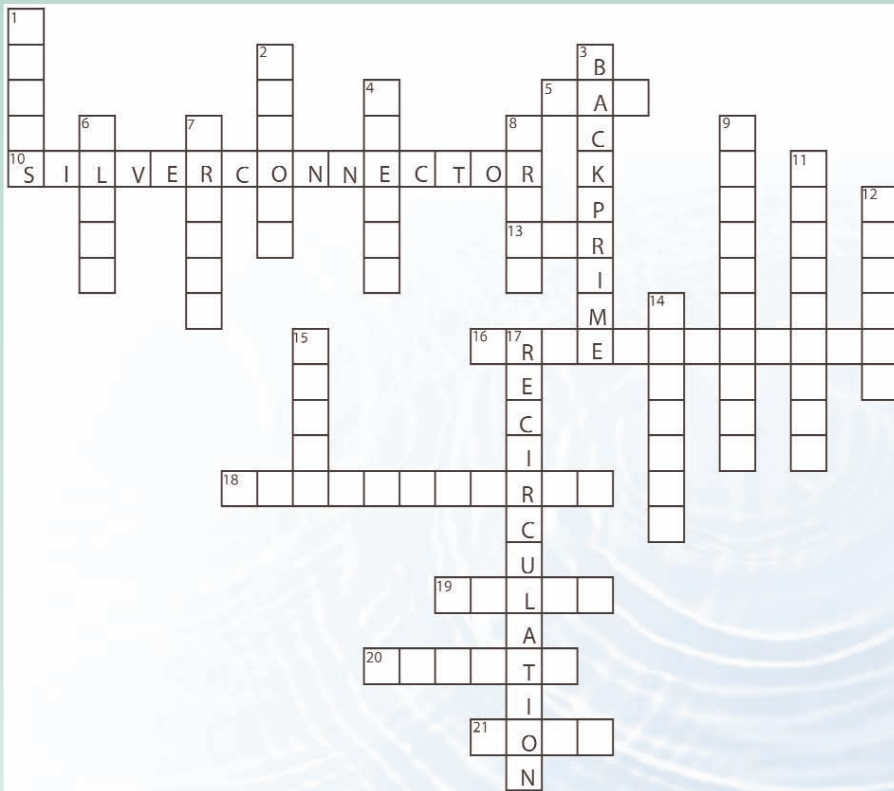
When asked what he likes most about his NxStage System One, Gus said that “NxStage’s strategy for creating a small system with an easy-to-use design makes it simple for me, and, of course, keeps me healthy at the same time.” When recommending NxStage to other patients with ESRD, Gus says that many of them get excited but assume it’s too good to be true. To which Gus replies – “it’s not!”

This patient has given NxStage permission to share his experience with daily home therapy using the NxStage System One. His experience will not necessarily be experienced by other patients. All patients are different and their experiences will vary. The NxStage System One is a prescription product, and, like all medical devices, involves some risks. Patients should consult with their doctor to understand the risks and responsibilities associated with home and/or daily hemodialysis using the NxStage System One.

Home and daily therapies are not for everyone. They require a patient and partner who are both committed to being trained on and following the guidelines for proper system operation. NxStage makes no representation as to whether therapy with the NxStage System One, home therapy, or daily therapy, is right for any particular patient. The decision as to what therapy and device is right for a particular patient must be made by their doctor. Patients should consult their doctor to determine whether home daily therapy with the NxStage System One is right for them.

Brain Boggle

An Active Mind Is a Healthy Mind



NxStage Crossword

Across

5. Remove the clear plastic _____ from the end of the drain line and place into drain.
10. Where do you attach the access pressure pod?
13. What must you vent from the post filter cap port when loosening the cap?
16. Where do you start snapping/ tapping the patient lines to remove air?
18. What number must be displayed when setting up several hours ahead of time?
19. When figuring UF Vol., you do not add your drink to the total. True or false?
20. At the end of prime, verify the _____ display and press MUTE.
21. What do you need to open before you turn on the cyclor and fluid warmer?

Down

1. What do you wash before you set up the machine?
2. Which end of the filter should be up when tapping the filter?
3. What must you do to the extra MLA lines not connected to the bags?
4. To what position/time should the fluid warmer knob be turned?
6. When loosening the air vent line cap slightly, what rises to the top of the fluid warmer?
7. Place the drain line extension on top of the cyclor _____ the IV pole.
8. You must _____ the plastic cones in the Therapy Fluid bags.
9. What do you snap/tap back to the saline bag?
11. What do you insert when the yellow caution display flashes?
12. Press the _____ icon to begin Prime.
14. _____ the locking collar up around the connection point.
15. What should be visible in the saline bag?
17. "23" displayed on the machine means _____.

NxStage Word Jumble

Unscramble the following words and write your answers into the blank spaces. Then unscramble the circled letters to answer the clue below.

FETLUNFE _ _ _ _ _ () _ _

LEAHDN _ _ () _ _ _

AIYLTASDE _ _ _ _ _ () _ () _

REHYTAP _ _ () _ _ _ ()

CSACES _ _ _ _ () _

ANLIFTORIT _ _ _ _ _ _ _ () _

LEPASM _ _ () _ _ _

And the simplest, most convenient home dialysis system is...

Answers to be revealed in the next issue.

Making Home Daily Dialysis Even More Accessible

Patients around the country are enjoying the health and quality of life benefits of the NxStage System One, but some have said there's one improvement they'd like to see: a reduction in the amount of time spent storing, unpacking, and hanging dialysate bags. We responded with the PureFlow™ SL.

The PureFlow SL is a compact, easy-to-use system that prepares high-purity dialysate from ordinary tap water. About the size of an end table, it requires no special plumbing or electrical modifications—just a simple faucet or under-sink connection and a standard electrical outlet.

The PureFlow SL prepares batches of dialysate that can be used for up to three treatments, replacing the use of bagged fluids for regular treatment. The cyclor sits on top of the PureFlow SL for treatments at home, and can be lifted off and used with bagged fluid when traveling, thereby maintaining and enhancing the simplicity, flexibility, portability, and freedom that NxStage patients have come to expect.

The PureFlow SL is FDA-cleared and NxStage patients are currently transitioning to this space-friendly system. Stay tuned for more information from your center and NxStage on when the PureFlow SL will be available to you!



Customer Service Center

Our dedicated Customer Service Team is available to meet all of your NxStage needs and answer any questions you may have. We're here from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Eastern Standard Time.

Here are some reminders to help us serve you better.

ORDERING: It's important to fax, email or call in your monthly inventory order according to your delivery schedule.

TRAVELING: If you would like to have your travel supplies delivered to your vacation destination (only within the continental U.S.), please plan to contact NxStage Customer Service thirty (30) days in advance of your vacation.



Customer Service Team
 (Sitting, L to R): Jackie Pioccone, Customer Service Manager; Peg Conrad; Kristina Green; Sheila Galup
 (Standing, L to R): Maria Karavetsos; Shawn Kennedy; Michelle Finocchiaro; Clay McCormack; Joni Desjardins; John Barone

We are honored to be part of your team!

Please call us toll-free at 866-NXSTAGE (866-697-8243) or email us at customerservice@nxstage.com.

Technical Support at Your Service



Technical Support Team

(L to R): Bob Gorgone; Peter Poirier; Scott Barnwell; Mike Oxner; Michael Longo; Brian Tomasetti; Rose Fantegrossi; Ed Kotzen; Ron Magee, Director of Technical Support Services

At NxStage, there's always someone available to assist you with any technical issues that might arise. Not only is our team available from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM, Eastern Standard Time, but they are also available after hours. Simply call 866-NXSTAGE (866-697-8243) and one of our courteous staff members will assist you.

Home at Last is published quarterly for dialysis centers and their patients by NxStage Medical, Inc.

Disclaimer: This newsletter was developed to provide an interactive forum for the NxStage chronic community. It is not intended to replace the NxStage System One Users Guide nor Cartridge Instructions for Use.

Home at Last provides general information and is not intended to serve as a treatment guide. Home daily therapies are not for everyone. They require a patient and a partner who are committed to being trained on and following the guidelines for proper system operation, as well as their dialysis prescription, which may require treatments up to six days per week. The NxStage System One is a prescription device and, like all medical devices, involves some risks. Patients should consult with their doctor to understand the risks and responsibilities of home and/or daily hemodialysis using the NxStage System One.

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