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## MEI Celebrates 25 Years of Giving Hope to People with Kidney Disease

Madison, Wisconsin—[Medical Education Institute \(MEI\)](#) celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018. Founded in 1993 by patient advocates Edith Oberley, Paulette Sacksteder, and William Hofeld, the award-winning non-profit educates patients and families about chronic kidney disease (CKD) using a unique, evidence-based approach to help them become their own experts, self-manage at a high level, and improve their own health outcomes. MEI also advocates for improved patient care, helps professionals understand patient perspectives, and promotes better matching of dialysis options to patients' values and lifestyle. Dori Schatell, MS, part of the team since before MEI was founded, took the role of Executive Director in 2001.

Highlights of MEI's 25 years include:

- [Life Options](#) – An innovative program to help people live long and live well with CKD
- [Core Curriculum for the Dialysis Technician](#) – The industry's most-used technician training manual
- [Kidney School](#) – Tailored, online CKD self-management support, also available as PDF or audio
- [Home Dialysis Central](#) – A resource to raise awareness and use of PD and home hemodialysis
- [Help, I Need Dialysis!](#) – A comprehensive guide to all types of dialysis for patients and professionals
- [KDQOL-Complete](#) – A scoring and data storage service to interpret results of the KDQOL-36
- [My Life, My Dialysis Choice](#) – A free, online tool to match dialysis options to patient values
- [UFR-Calculator](#) – A free online tool to help ensure that water is removed safely during hemodialysis

Dr. John Sadler, Chair of the MEI Board, said he is proud of the work it has done. "I've always been impressed with what MEI has achieved," said Dr. Sadler. "The continuing competence and effectiveness of this small but influential organization has improved the lives of thousands of patients, families, and professionals."

Melville Hodge, whose wife benefited from home dialysis, said he is especially grateful for MEI's Home Dialysis Central website. "My wife, Jane, began hemodialysis at 73 facing a one year survival probability of 16% — but survived for more than 12 years with home hemodialysis," said Mr. Hodge. "I will be forever grateful to MEI's Home Dialysis Central for their role in Jane's survival. They are a beacon for the 90,000 new Americans facing dialysis each year."



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About MEI: MEI is a national 501(c)(3) Public Charity dedicated to helping people with chronic diseases learn to manage and improve their health. MEI fulfills its mission by conducting research, developing evidence-based educational materials for consumers and health professionals, and advocating for patient-centered policies. MEI is funded through corporate sponsorships, fee-for-service contracts, product sales, and donations. Tax-deductible contributions can be made through MEI's website, [www.meiresearch.org](http://www.meiresearch.org).

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