



June 19, 2006

Dear CKiD Participants and Families,

On behalf of the National Institutes of Health and the nationwide team of CKiD investigators, we want to thank you for your participation in this important study.

The CKiD study will help pediatric kidney doctors better understand what happens to children with reduced kidney function. At this time, there have been over 250 children and families from nearly 40 pediatric centers across the country who have participated in this important project. Your participation has already provided us with valuable information! We wanted to share this news with you and your family.

The information from your first study visit has shown that the method we are using to measure kidney function, in which we give you an intravenous injection of iohexol is very exact. This method of measuring kidney function is better than using serum creatinine. This is important since it will allow us to determine, with a high level of precision, whether or not there is a change in your kidney function over the next several years. It will also allow us to compare how changes in kidney function might affect growth, blood pressure, heart function, school performance and behavior.

After the iohexol test is performed, we generally allow 8 weeks for the results to be available to your kidney center and you. This is a research test and does not take the place of how your doctor usually decides how well your kidneys are working.

Many children have completed their second study visit where intellectual performance and behavior are assessed. We believe that there may be a connection between kidney disease, behavior and brain function, and your participation in this portion of the CKiD study will help us better understand this issue. We wanted to let you know that the combination of tests used in the second CKiD visit has now been collected in 56 CKiD participants, with plans for approximately 150 additional children to participate in this phase of the study this year.

Finally, the cardiovascular (heart) portion of the study will begin shortly for many of the centers. This will provide very important information regarding blood pressure and heart function in children with kidney disease, and how all of these are connected to one another.

Thank you again for your contribution to this study. Your ongoing participation will help doctors better understand kidney disease in children and how the care can be improved in the not too distant future. You can be sure that we will continue to keep you well informed of the exciting progress of the CKiD study. Please be sure to contact your CKiD physician or nurse if you have any questions whatsoever.

Sincerely,