

December 17, 2021

The Unicode Consortium
P.O. Box 391476
Mountain View, CA 94039-1476

Dear Unicode Consortium:

Thank you for the opportunity to recommend the creation of a kidney emoji

On behalf of the Glomerular Disease Study and Trial Consortium (GlomCon), I am writing to express our strong desire to help raise awareness about kidney health and disease and represent the more than 850 million people worldwide affected by kidney diseases.

The kidney disease community (patients, patient advocates, physicians, and researchers) have for long desired to see the inclusion of kidney within the current existing line up of emojis. Unfortunately, no emoji exists for kidneys despite their vital role in health.

The more than 4500 GlomCon members in 118 countries believe that a kidney emoji would be strong mechanism to support communication, awareness and acknowledgement of kidney health and disease in our societies. A kidney emoji would also help to represent the 850,000,000 people worldwide who have kidney diseases. A medically and anatomically accurate kidney emoji could also help to achieve equity in health care around the world.

Creating an emoji representing the kidney would create opportunities for nephrologists and other health professionals to discuss concerns about kidney health—such as kidney pain, kidney stones, acute kidney injury, and kidney diseases—with their patients in an efficient and timely manner. An emoji allows for simplified communication that would assist doctors and nurses to discuss kidney concerns with all patients. With the current increase in the use of telehealth, emojis are more important than ever.

For these reasons, GlomCon supports the development of a kidney emoji. To discuss this letter or GlomCon's strong support for the development of a kidney emoji please contact me at 203-927-7987 or info@glomcon.org.

Sincerely,



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