

= New Kidney in Town =

" New Kidney in Town " is the eighth episode of the ninth season of the animated comedy series Family Guy . It originally aired on Fox in the United States on January 9 , 2011 . The episode follows Peter , after he drinks kerosene , causing him to suffer from immediate kidney failure . In need of a replacement kidney , Peter is unable to locate a match , until it is discovered that his anthropomorphic dog Brian is a match , but would require the donation of both his kidneys . Meanwhile , Chris is instructed by his English teacher to write an essay about hope , in preparation of United States President Barack Obama 's appearance at their school . Unable to write anything inspiring , he decides to pick his sister Meg 's brain and use her ideas .

The episode was written by Matt Harrigan and Dave Willis , and directed by Pete Michels . It received mostly positive reviews from critics for its storyline and many cultural references . According to Nielsen ratings , it was viewed in 9 @. @ 29 million homes in its original airing . The episode featured guest performances by Yvette Nicole Brown , Drew Carey , Gary Cole , Christine Lakin and Rachael MacFarlane , along with several recurring guest voice actors for the series . " New Kidney in Town " was one of five episodes submitted for consideration for an Emmy Award in the " Outstanding Comedy Series " category in 2011 .

= = Plot = =

Peter is introduced to Red Bull by Quagmire at the bar . He ends up becoming highly addicted to it and it makes him operate at high speeds . Peter buys packs of Red Bull and introduces it to his family , though things get out of hand as soon as he starts performing everything too fast . One day , Peter comes home to find that Lois has thrown the Red Bull out in an attempt to make Peter give up his new addiction . This angers Peter , who in retaliation , attempts to make his own . Because of a misreading , Peter decides to put kerosene in his beverage believing that fuel causes the effect Red Bull has on him . Brian tries to warn Peter that kerosene is dangerous , but Peter ignores him and adds it anyway .

Upon drinking it , Peter collapses and is rushed to the hospital , where the family learns that Peter has been diagnosed with Kidney failure due to the damage done and he is in need of a transplant . However , since they must wait a few months before they can get donors , Peter must undergo dialysis . Three weeks later , after undergoing constant dialysis procedures , Peter gets angry that the dialysis treatments have stolen him from the world . Convinced that one skipping would not hurt him , Peter eventually decides to skip an appointment but his assumptions are false and him skipping it causes him to become jaundiced and vomit blood .

At the hospital , the family learns that Peter 's condition has a big chance of suddenly failing and thus killing him . They learn that the only other option besides the daily procedures is that one must give up one of their kidneys to Peter . Lois volunteers to give up one of hers , but is informed that she isn 't a match . Dr Hartman suggests the idea of using their kids as donors but Lois refuses to bring them into it . Brian also volunteers , and they discover that he has the same kidney type as Peter . However , as dog kidneys are smaller than human 's , the donation requires both kidneys . If the procedure was successful , Brian would lose his life . Brian decides to go along with the procedure to save Peter 's life . Reluctant to lose Brian , Stewie kidnaps him and takes him to the local playground , in hopes of staying there the rest of their lives . Brian convinces Stewie to let him go , stating that Stewie needs his father more than he needs his dog . The next day , Brian and Peter prepare to undergo the kidney transfer . However , Dr. Hartman reveals that he is also a match and has decided to donate one of his own kidneys : Brian 's life is spared .

Meanwhile , at the same time during the kidney crisis , United States President Barack Obama has decided to visit Quahog , and Chris ' entire English class is assigned to write an essay about hope . He consults his sister Meg for her opinion and she lists her personal opinion on the subject , which Chris plagiarizes . Meg is angered that he has decided to take her words and call them his own , but she is eventually given credit for co @-@ writing the speech , and she and Chris introduce Obama to the school . President Obama then enters the school 's auditorium , and begins singing and

playing the guitar as students swoon over his performance .

= = Production and development = =

" New Kidney in Town " was co -@-@ written by Williams Street writers Dave Willis and Matt Harrigan , in their first official episode for the series . The two have also worked for Aqua Teen Hunger Force , Space Ghost Coast to Coast , and Squidbillies , among others . The episode was directed by series regular Pete Michels , shortly after the conclusion of the eighth production season , in his first episode for the season . Series veterans Peter Shin and James Purdum , both of whom having previously served as animation directors , served as supervising directors for the episode , with Alex Carter , Andrew Goldberg , Elaine Ko , Spencer Porter and Aaron Blitzstein serving as staff writers for the episode . Composer Walter Murphy , who has worked on the series since its inception , returned to compose the music for " New Kidney in Town " .

In addition to the regular cast , actress Yvette Nicole Brown , actor , comedian and game show host Drew Carey , actor Gary Cole , actress Christine Lakin and voice actress Rachael MacFarlane , sister of series creator and executive producer Seth MacFarlane , guest starred in the episode . Recurring guest voice actors John G. Brennan , actor Ralph Garman , writer Danny Smith and writer John Viener made minor appearances in the episode .

= = Cultural references = =

In the opening scene of the episode , after complaining of being exhausted , Peter is introduced to the energy drink Red Bull by his friends , Quagmire and Joe . He then suddenly becomes extremely hyperactive , and begins singing the 1998 single " Ray of Light " by singer @-@ songwriter Madonna in a parody of the high speed time @-@ lapse of its video . Peter also goes on to appear on the American game show The Price Is Right , with actor and comedian Drew Carey appearing as host . He then begins playing the Showcase Showdown game , until the wheel suddenly spins off its axis and into the audience , running over several rows of people . After suffering from Red Bull withdrawal , Peter decides to create his own concoction , including kerosene . After drinking it , he suffers from immediate kidney failure , requiring constant dialysis . Deciding to go to The Drunken Clam with Quagmire and Joe , he is reluctant to go to his scheduled dialysis appointment , in order to watch the 1984 CBS series Charles in Charge .

In preparation for a special appearance at their school , James Woods High School , Chris is assigned to write an essay about " hope " to welcome United States President Barack Obama . After reading his essay to the entire school , along with his sister , Meg , President Barack Obama , dressed similarly to Conrad Birdie as portrayed in the film version of the musical , begins singing and playing guitar in the school 's auditorium . Obama then performs the song " Honestly Sincere " from the stage musical and film Bye Bye Birdie .

= = Reception = =

" New Kidney in Town " was broadcast on January 9 , 2011 , as a part of an animated television night on Fox , and was preceded by The Simpsons and the series premiere of the animated series Bob 's Burgers , and followed by Family Guy creator and executive producer Seth MacFarlane 's spin @-@ off , The Cleveland Show . It was watched by 9 @.@ 29 million viewers , according to Nielsen ratings , despite airing simultaneously with Desperate Housewives on ABC , Undercover Boss on CBS and The Cape on NBC . The episode also acquired a 4 @.@ 7 rating in the 18 ? 49 demographic , beating Bob 's Burgers and The Cleveland Show in addition to significantly edging out the latter in total viewership . The episode 's ratings increased significantly from the previous episode , largely due to the lead @-@ in provided by the NFL Wild Card game that preceded the " Animation Domination " line @-@ up .

Television critics reacted mostly positive toward the episode , calling the storyline " heartfelt . " In a simultaneous review of the episodes of The Simpsons and The Cleveland Show that preceded and

followed the show , respectively , The A.V. Club 's Rowan Kaiser wrote , " I spent the entire time expecting the rug to be pulled out and the whole thing revealed to be Seth MacFarlane just trying to manipulate my emotions . " Kaiser went on to compliment series creator and executive producer Seth MacFarlane , stating " some of the more recent formal experiments that the show has done , such as the hour @-@ long murder mystery in this season 's premiere , indicate that MacFarlane and company agree with the criticism . " He concluded his review by writing , " I have to give props to Family Guy for going outside their wheelhouse without winking excessively at their audience , but I think it may have been a little bit too far to be truly great . " Kaiser ultimately gave the episode a B rating , the best rating of the night , beating The Cleveland Show episode " Ain 't Nothin ' But Mutton Bustin ' " and The Simpsons episode " Moms I 'd Like to Forget " . In another positive review of the episode , Jason Hughes of TV Squad praised the episode 's " funniest moments , " which included the opening sequence involving Peter and the Red Bull , as well as the reference to The Price Is Right . Hughes went on to comment that the episode " taught us about the depths and bonds of love that make a family . Whether it 's acceptance , hope or sacrifice , there 's no limit to what we will do for family . " Kate Moon of TV Fanatic also commented positively on the episode , writing in her review of the storyline , " Overall , I found the installment to be refreshing with everyone taking a part in Peter 's dilemma . It was actually sweet and emotional for a change . " Moon also praised the scenes involving President Obama , and Stewie 's attempt at saving Brian .

The episode was among four other episodes submitted by the Family Guy production team for consideration of an Emmy Award nomination , in the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Comedy Series category . " New Kidney in Town " was submitted , along with " Halloween on Spooner Street " , " Road to the North Pole " , " And I 'm Joyce Kinney " and " Trading Places " . The series was successfully nominated in 2009 , but failed to merit an award . Mark Hentemann , executive producer and showrunner of Family Guy said of the nominating process , " We had internal discussions in the writers ' room , and it seemed like we were much more akin to the other primetime comedies than we were to children 's shows in animation . We assumed we would not get anywhere , and so it was a great surprise when we got the nomination . "