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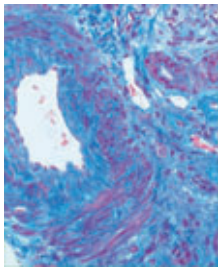

The Kidney and the Vascular System: Emerging Culprits in Pathogenesis and Advances in Therapy

PROGRAM

April 15-18, 2010 / Kyoto, Japan

Advancing Nephrology around the World Celebrating 50 Years

www.isn-nexus2010.com

Scientific Program

Plenary Sessions	Translational Symposia	Meet the Professor Breakfasts
Clinical Symposia	Corporate Symposia*	

*Lunch box or light meal is available to attendees during the Corporate Symposia.

Thursday, April 15 — Theme: Adipobiology

15:00-15:10 — Opening Remarks — Room A

Hirofumi Makino *Japan*
Eberhard Ritz *Germany*

15:10-16:20 — Opening Plenary Session — Room A

Chairs: **Bernardo Rodríguez-Iturbe** *Venezuela*
Hirofumi Makino *Japan*

1. Sudden death in endstage kidney disease
Speaker: Eberhard Ritz *Germany*

2. Role of adiponectin and adiponectin receptors in metabolic syndrome and vascular complications
Speaker: Takashi Kadowaki *Japan*

16:20-18:00 — Adipocyte and the Kidney — Room A

Chairs: **Agnes B. Fogo** *USA*
Tsuyoshi Watanabe *Japan*

1. Lipids, adipokines and CV mortality in ESRD patients
Speaker: Christoph Wanner *Germany*

2. Body fat and survival in CKD
Speaker: Tetsuo Shoji *Japan*

3. Adipocyte as a culprit of reno-cardiovascular injury
Speaker: Hunjoo Ha *Korea*

4. Caloric imbalance and the kidney
Speaker: Kumar Sharma *USA*

18:00-20:00 — Opening Reception — Sakura

Friday, April 16 — Theme: Vascular Calcification

8:00-9:00 — Meet the Professor Breakfast — Annex Hall

Round-table style discussion

9:30-10:10 — Plenary Session — Room A

Chair: **Hermann G. Haller** *Germany*

Recent advances in understanding interplays among the kidney, bone and vascular system
Speaker: Tilman Drüeke *France*

10:10-11:25 **Calcification and Phosphate Biology** Room A

Chairs: Adeera Levin *Canada*
Yuh-Feng Lin *Taiwan*

1. Molecular mechanisms of vascular calcification: Possible involvement of FGF23
Speaker: Takashi Shimada *Japan*

2. New insights into the pathogenesis of uremic vascular calcifications
Speaker: Jürgen Floege *Germany*

3. Vascular calcification, aging, and beyond
Speaker: Makoto Kuro-o *USA*

11:30-12:25 **Vitamin D (sponsored by CHUGAI PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD.)** Room A

Chairs: Ravi Thadhani *USA*
Masafumi Fukagawa *Japan*

1. Nutritional vitamin D vs. active vitamin D: Which is needed in CKD patients?
Speaker: Kamyar Kalantar-Zadeh *USA*

2. Renoprotective and cardioprotective effects of vitamin D
Speaker: Takayuki Hamano *USA*

11:30-12:25 **Metabolic Syndrome (sponsored by Nippon Boehringer Ingelheim Co., Ltd. / Astellas Pharma Inc.)** Room D

Chairs: Yasuhiko Tomino *Japan*
Suhnggwon Kim *Korea*

1. Novel components of the renin-angiotensin system (RAS): Relevance to diabetic nephropathy
Speaker: Mark Cooper *Australia*

2. Next generation angiotensin receptor blockers: New opportunities for preventing vascular injury and renal damage
Speaker: Theodore Kurtz *USA*

12:30-14:00 **Poster Session 1** Annex Hall

14:00-15:40 **Bone-Vascular Connection** Room A

Chairs: Tilman Drüeke *France*
Haiyan Wang *China*

1. Communication and interactions between blood vessels and bone
Speaker: Grahame J. Elder *Australia*

2. Strategies to prevent or reverse the progression of vascular calcification in chronic kidney disease (CKD)
Speaker: Ziad A. Massy *France*

3. Fibroblast growth factor 23 and mortality among patients undergoing hemodialysis
Speaker: Myles Wolf *USA*

4. Vitamin D, endothelial dysfunction and arterial stiffness in patients with chronic kidney disease
Speaker: Gérard M. London *France*

15:40-16:00 **Coffee Break**

Plenary Sessions	Translational Symposia	Meet the Professor Breakfasts
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16:00-17:40 **Recent Diagnostic and Therapeutic Advances** Room A

Chairs: Carmine Zoccali *Italy*
Hiroshi Itoh *Japan*

1. **The role of heme oxygenase-1 in arteriovenous fistula function in hemodialysis patients: Prognostic association with length polymorphism and regulatory mechanism for far infrared therapy**
   Speaker: Chih-Ching Lin *Taiwan*
2. **Whole-body magnetic resonance angiography and its relation to biomarkers: Evidence for FGF23 as a cardiovascular risk factor?**
   Speaker: Tobias Larsson *Sweden*
3. **Effectiveness of hemodialysis access with an autologous tissue engineered vascular graft**
   Speaker: Todd N. McAllister *USA*
4. **ASTRAL: A very large RCT of angioplasty and stenting for atheromatous renovascular disease (ARVD)**
   Speaker: Philip Kalra *UK*

17:45-18:40 **Cardiotonic Substance (sponsored by Bayer Yakuhin, Ltd.)** Room A

Chairs: Sei Sasaki *Japan*
Gérard M. London *France*

Bayer HealthCare
Bayer Schering Pharma

1. **Endogenous cardiotonic steroids, salt-sensitivity of blood pressure, and chronic renal failure**
   Speaker: Alexei Y. Bagrov *USA*
2. **Aldosterone and endotherial pathophysiology**
   Speaker: Hans Oberleithner *Germany*
3. **Therapeutic impact on glomerular capillary failure: An integrative biology perspective**
   Speaker: Matthias Kretzler *USA*

Saturday, April 17

Theme **Oxygen Biology and Cardio-Renal Connection**

8:00-9:00 **Meet the Professor Breakfast** Annex Hall

Round-table style discussion

9:30-10:10 **Plenary Session** Room A

Chair: Eberhard Ritz *Germany*

Regeneration therapy for heart failure
Speaker: Issei Komuro *Japan*

10:10-11:50 **Oxygen Biology - Hypoxia and Oxidative Stress** Room A

Chairs: Jürgen Floege *Germany*
Ton Rabelink *Netherland*

1. **Identification of novel targets of hypoxia-responsive pathways**
   Speaker: Masaomi Nangaku *Japan*

2. The ying yang of hypoxia-inducible gene expression
Speaker: Kai-Uwe Eckardt *Germany*

3. Oxidative stress: A new perspective for an old paradigm
Speaker: Toshio Miyata *Japan*

4. Role of oxidative stress and inflammation in the progression of CKD
Speaker: Bernardo Rodríguez-Iturbe *Venezuela*

12:00-12:55 **Cardio-Renal Connection (sponsored by Novartis Pharma K.K.)** Room A

Chairs: Bernardo Rodríguez-Iturbe *Venezuela*
Genjiro Kimura *Japan*

1. Sodium as a culprit for cardio-renal syndrome
Speaker: Akira Nishiyama *Japan*

2. Strain vessel: New hypothesis for the cardio-renal syndrome
Speaker: Sadayoshi Ito *Japan*

12:00-12:55 **Renoprotection (sponsored by Daiichi-Sankyo Co., Ltd.)** Room D

Chairs: Hermann G. Haller *Germany*
Kimio Tomita *Japan*

1. ARB, endothelial function, and renoprotection
Speaker: Danilo Fliser *Germany*

2. New horizon of RAS inhibition in therapy for type 2 diabetic nephropathy
Speaker: Enyu Imai *Japan*

13:00-14:00 **Poster Session 2** Annex Hall

14:00-15:40 **Cardio-Renal Syndrome** Room A

Chairs: Mark Cooper *Australia*
Alan S. Go *USA*

1. Endotoxemia, inflammation and cardiovascular disease in CKD patients
Speaker: Philip K.T. Li *Hong Kong*

2. Reducing albuminuria for renal and cardiovascular protection
Speaker: Fan-fan Hou *China*

3. LVH and myocardiopathy in CKD
Speaker: Carmine Zoccali *Italy*

4. CKD, diabetes and CVD: Implications for populations and clinical care
Speaker: Adeera Levin *Canada*

15:40-16:10 **Coffee Break**

16:10-17:50 **Promising Target Molecules for Future Therapy** Room A

Chairs: Charles van Ypersele de Strihou *Belgium*
Chih-Wei Yang *Taiwan*

1. Targets for vascular damage: Insights from Mendelian disorders and genome-wide association studies
Speaker: Olivier Devuyst *Belgium*

2. PAI-1 antagonists: The promise and the peril
Speaker: Mesut Eren *USA*

3. Is ADMA a modifiable risk factor in cardiovascular and renal diseases?
Speaker: James Leiper *UK*

4. Mineralocorticoid receptors, salt-sensitive hypertension, and metabolic syndrome
Speaker: Toshiro Fujita *Japan*

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17:55-18:50 **Anemia (sponsored by Kyowa Hakko Kirin Co., Ltd.)** Room A

Chairs: Tadao Akizawa *Japan*
Kai-Uwe Eckardt *Germany*

KYOWA KIRIN

1. Chronic Kidney Disease Japan Cohort (CKD-JAC) study
Speaker: Seiichi Matsuo *Japan*

2. Latest perspectives on outcomes of ESA therapy in CKD
Speaker: Robert Toto *USA*

Sunday, April 18 Theme Vascular Senescence

8:30-9:10 **Plenary Session** Room A

Chair: Kumar Sharma *USA*

Impact of kidney function on atherothrombotic complications in the general population and in patients with heart disease
Speaker: Alan S. Go *USA*

9:10-10:25 **Vascular Injury and Regeneration** Room A

Chairs: Kosaku Nitta *Japan*
Olivier Devuyst *Belgium*

1. Renal dysfunction disrupts macrophage lipid homeostasis and inflammation
Speaker: Valentina Kon *USA*

2. PPARγ and chronic kidney disease
Speaker: Agnes B. Fogo *USA*

3. Microvascular remodeling and progression of renal failure
Speaker: Ton Rabelink *Netherland*

10:25-11:40 **Vascular Ageing and Senescence** Room A

Chairs: Danilo Fliser *Germany*
Naoki Kashihara *Japan*

1. Advanced glycation (AGEs) and cardio-renal ageing
Speaker: Josephine M. Forbes *Australia*

2. Disruption of the angiotensin II type 1 receptor promotes longevity in mice
Speaker: Ariela Benigni *Italy*

3. Premature vascular senescence: The decline and fall of blood vessels
Speaker: Michael Goligorsky *USA*

11:40-11:50 **Closing Remarks** Room A

Tadao Akizawa *Japan*

Tadao Akizawa, MD

Japan

Tadao Akizawa is professor of the Division of Nephrology, Department of Medicine, Showa University School of Medicine. He graduated from the Tokyo Medical and Dental University in 1973. Prior to his present position, he worked for the Fujigaoka Hospital, Showa University from 1976 to 1999, and then, worked at the Wakayama Medical University as professor of the Division of Nephrology and Blood Purification Medicine. He is also president of the Japanese Society for Dialysis Therapy (JSDT), vice president of the Japan Association of Chronic Kidney Disease Initiative (J-CKDI) and International Society of Blood Purification (ISBP). In addition to these responsibilities, he contributes to related organizations as a trustee and plays a key supporting role in various academic societies.

Alexei Y. Bagrov, MD, PhD

USA

Alexei Bagrov is an Investigator and Head, Hypertension Unit at the Laboratory of Cardiovascular Science, National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health, Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Bagrov received his medical training at Ivan Pavlov Medical University and Ph.D. at Sechenov Institute of Evolutionary Physiology and Biochemistry, St. Petersburg, Russia. He subsequently completed his cardiology training and held clinical and academic appointments in St. Petersburg, Russia. Since 2001 he is working at the NIH. For last twenty years his main research interest is the role of endogenous cardiotonic steroids in regulation of renal function, vascular tone, and in pathogenesis of salt-sensitive hypertension, chronic kidney disease, and preeclampsia.

Ariela Benigni, PhD

Italy

Ariela Benigni got the degree in Biological Science at the University of Milan and PhD degree at the Maastricht University. She is the Head of Department of Molecular Medicine and Scientific Secretary at the Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research in Bergamo, Italy. Her research interest involves mediators of progressive renal injury from the early studies on prostaglandins and arachidonic acid metabolites to the more recent interest on endothelin from the prospective of pathophysiology and therapeutic interventions. A major effort has been devoted to drug therapies to halt disease progression or even induce regression of renal lesions by multidrug approach with the current interest to characterize cellular determinations of regression of renal lesions after ACE inhibition. While performing these studies, she has made the serendipitous observation of prolonged survival in mice lacking angiotensin type 1 receptors and established the biochemical link between angiotensin II-induced senescence and the pro-survival gene sirtuin 3. Cellular therapy with mesenchimal stem cells (MSC) in acute and chronic kidney injury is another area of research together with gene therapy approaches to the donor organ to overcome acute and chronic rejection of the graft without the need of immunosuppression.
She acted as Associate Editor of Kidney International and the Journal of Nephrology. She is consultant of WHO for a multicentre observational study on the evaluation of the predictive ability of angiogenic factors for Pre-eclampsia. For this latter study she has been appointed as Senior Fellow by the University of Oxford, Nuffield Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology. Ariela Benigni is author and co-author of more than 190 scientific articles, reviews and monographs and was invited to give lectures to several international meetings.

Clemens D. Cohen, MD

Switzerland

Clemens Cohen is Assistant Professor at the University of Zurich in Switzerland. He studied medicine at the medical schools of Heidelberg and Mannheim, Germany. Afterwards he completed his residency and fellowships in internal medicine, nephrology, and rheumatology at the University of Munich in Germany. In 2006 he joined the faculty of this university and moved to Zurich, Switzerland, in 2007. Here he took a shared position at the Division of Nephrology and the Insitute of Physiology. He coordinates the European Renal cDNA Bank, a unique multicenter study on human renal gene expression. His main research interests have been the pathogenesis of acquired nephropathies, such as diabetic nephropathy, and the systematic analysis of transcriptomic data from microdissected human kidney biopsies.

Mark Cooper, MBBS, PhD, FRACP

Australia

Dr. Mark Cooper is the Head of the Diabetes Division and Director of the JDRF Danielle Alberti Memorial Centre for Diabetes Complications at the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute. He holds honorary appointments as a Professor of Medicine at both Monash University and University of Melbourne. He is a trained endocrinologist who continues, albeit part time to look after patients with diabetes and endocrine disorders. His research encompasses basic, preclinical and clinical research with the major aim to reduce the major burden in type 1 diabetes as a result of renal and vascular complications. He has received multiple prizes including the Susman Prize from the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, the Australian Diabetes Society (ADS) Kellion award and the JDRF Scholars award. His recent research has focussed on the role of epigenetics in diabetic vascular complications, and in particular in elucidating the molecular mechanisms responsible for the sustained efforts of prior hyperglycemia on diabetic vascular complications. He is regularly invited to international meetings and has over 400 peer reviewed publications.

Olivier Devuyst, MD, PhD

Belgium

Olivier Devuyst is Full Professor of Physiology and Medicine at the Université catholique de Louvain (UCL) Medical School in Brussels, Belgium, and has a joint appointment in the Division of Nephrology, Saint-Luc Academic Hospital of the UCL. He was awarded his PhD in 1997 and since then has headed the Laboratory of Nephrology at UCL. Dr. Devuyst and his group are investigating the molecular mechanisms of the transport of water and solutes across epithelia, and the pathophysiology of inherited renal tubular diseases and their progression. The group has also developed a strong interest in the molecular basis of transport across the peritoneal membrane. Dr. Devuyst has been the laureate of several international prizes, including the Galien Prize in 2003 and the International Spa Foundation Prize in 2007 and has been elected at the Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium in 2005. He is Associate Editor of *Peritoneal Dialysis International, Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation*, and *Nephron Physiology* and serves on the Editorial Board of *Kidney International*. Since 2008, Dr. Devuyst coordinates EUNEFRON, the European Network for the Study of Orphan Nephropathies.

Tilman Drüeke, MD

France

Tilman Drüeke is Professor of Nephrology and Emeritus Director of Research at the ERI-12 laboratory of Inserm, Facultés de Médecine et de Pharmacie, Université Picardie Jules Verne, Amiens, France. He graduated from the Medical School of Tübingen, Germany and subsequently specialized in nephrology at Necker Hospital, Paris. He hold clinical, teaching and research positions at that institution for the last 40 years. He was Editor-in-Chief of *Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation* from 1999–2005 and is currently Associate Editor of the *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology (CJASN)*. He is on the editorial boards of *JASN* and *Kidney International*, and serves as a reviewer for many other journals. He has published over 450 articles in peer-reviewed journals. He was co-chair of the CKD-MBD expert group of KDIGO which led to the 2009 KDIGO guideline in this field. Professor Drüeke's basic and clinical research interests focus on complications associated with chronic renal failure and hemodialysis, mainly in the area of metabolic, endocrine and cardiovascular disturbances.

Kai-Uwe Eckardt, MD

Germany

Kai-Uwe Eckardt is Professor of Medicine and Head of the Department of Nephrology and Hypertension at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany. He attained an MD from the University of Münster in 1985 and obtained residency and fellowship training in pathology, physiology, internal medicine and nephrology at the Universities of Münster, Hannover, Zurich, Oxford and the Charité in Berlin.
Following his habilitation he was appointed Assistant Professor of Physiology in 1993 and became Associate Professor of Medicine at the Charité, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, in 2000.
His major scientific interests lie in the molecular mechanisms and physiological / pathophysiological relevance of oxygen sensing, and the mangagement of anemia. He is chairman of a collaborative research centre on kidney injury, founded by the German Research Foundation and principal investigator of a national CKD cohort study in Germany. He serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of the American Society of Nephrology, Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation and the Journal of Molecular Medicine. Since 2009 he is member of the ISN council and chair of the ISN Forefronts Committee. He is also a founding executive committee member and since 2007 co-chair of KDIGO (Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes).

Grahame J. Elder, MB, BS, PhD, FRACP

Australia

Grahame Elder is a renal physician, whose principal interest is in bone and mineral metabolism, particularly resulting from Chronic Kidney Disease and following transplantation. He is a staff specialist in the Department of Renal Medicine at Westmead Hospital Sydney, clinical associate professor University of Sydney, attends the Bone and Calcium Clinic at St Vincent's Hospital Sydney and has an appointment to the Osteoporosis and Bone Biology Program at the Garvan Institute for Medical Research. He has been a work group member for national and international evidence-based chronic kidney disease mineral and bone disorder (CKD-MBD) guidelines; the 'Caring for Australasians with Renal Impairment' (CARI) guidelines and the recently published 'Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes' (KDIGO) CKD-MBD guidelines. He has served on the education committee of the Australian Kidney Foundation and currently the United States National Kidney Foundation's Kidney Learning System. He is director of clinical renal research at Westmead Hospital Sydney and is a subject editor of the journal Nephrology.

Mesut Eren, PhD

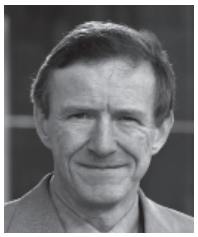
USA

Mesut Eren is a Research Assistant Professor of Medicine at Northwestern University in Chicago Illinois. He received his Ph.D. degree in biochemistry from The Ohio State University where he studied the regulation of redox potentials in flavoproteins. In 1997, he became a NIH postdoctoral research fellow in the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) in Nashville, TN. At VUMC, he worked with Dr. Douglas E. Vaughan and investigated the role of plasminogen activator inhibitor-1 (PAI-1) in cardiovascular pathology with a focus on developing mouse models of impaired fibrinolysis (or plasminogen activation) and its systemic effects. He also studied the role of PAI-1 in angiotensin II induced atherosclerosis. He became a Research Assistant Professor of Medicine at Vanderbilt University in 2001 and moved to Northwestern University in 2008.

Danilo Fliser, MD

Germany

Danilo Fliser is Professor of Medicine and Head of the Department of Internal Medicine IV – Renal and Hypertensive Disease – at the Saarland University Medical Centre of Homburg. He started his senior academic career as Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Ruperto-Carola University, Heidelberg, and was thereafter appointed Assistant Professor at the Hannover Medical School. His current research interests are progression of chronic kidney disease, endothelial and vascular biology including endothelial regeneration and cardiovascular complications in chronic kidney disease. He is a member of the European renal and cardiovascular medicine (EURECAM) working group and the European study group on uremia toxicity (EUTox). Prof. Fliser has authored more than 150 original publications. He is on the editorial board of several nephrology journals, including *Der Nephrologe, Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* and *Nephrology, Dialysis* and *Transplantation*, and is also a reviewer for several major international journals. In 2005 Prof. Fliser received the *Franz-Volhard-Prize* from the German Nephrology Society – the most prestigious national nephrology award.



Jürgen Floege, MD

Germany

Jürgen Floege is Professor of Medicine at the RWTH University of Aachen, Germany. His particular interest in renal diseases and renal replacement therapies developed during various research periods in physiology, pharmacology, nephrology and pathology at the Hannover Medical School, Germany, the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York and the University of Washington, Seattle, USA. He was appointed as head of the Division of Nephrology and Immunology at the University of Aachen, Germany in 1999. Since 2001 he is also Vice Dean of the Medical School. Professor Floege is a former member of the ISN executive committee and ERA council member and current member of ERA's scientific advisory board. In addition, he is the vice-president of the German Society of Nephrology. Together with Professors Richard Johnson and John Feehally he is editor of the fourth edition of "Comprehensive Clinical Nephrology". Finally, Professor Floege is deputy editor of Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation and a member of the editorial board of several other prominent journals, including Journal of the American Society of Nephrology, Kidney International, the Journal of Nephrology and Clinical Nephrology. He is one of 3 chairpersons of the Scientific Committee of the World Congress of Nephrology, Vancouver 2011.

Agnes B. Fogo, MD

USA

Dr. Agnes Fogo did her undergraduate education at the University of Oslo in Norway and the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga, followed by medical school at Vanderbilt University Medical School, where she also did her Pathology residency and fellowship training. She has served as Pathology Editor for American Journal of Kidney Disease, Associate Editor for American Journal of Pathology and The Journal of the American Society of Nephrology, and is currently Section Editor for Nephrology Dialysis and Transplantation and Associate Editor for Laboratory Investigation. She has also served on numerous grant review committees of the NIH and American Heart Association, and currently is a member of the training grant NIDDK grant committee. She participates in teaching Renal Pathology courses offered by the ISN, directs a longstanding renal pathology course at the ASN and created a widely used resource for teaching renal pathology in the form of a web-based free Atlas of Renal Pathology for the National Kidney Foundation. Her interest in teaching is reflected in her election to the Academy of Excellence in teaching at Vanderbilt University. She currently chairs the ISN Renal Pathology Subcommittee, and is an ISN councilor. She is an honorary member of the Italian Society of Nephrology, the South African Renal Association, the Australian/New Zealand Nephrology Association and an honorary Professor position at Fudan University in Shanghai. Her research interests focus on progression and potential regression of chronic kidney disease. She also has clinical interests in hypertension and the kidney and focal segmental glomerulosclerosis. She has published numerous research articles and reviews, and has authored two textbooks of renal pathology. She is currently the John L. Shapiro Professor of Pathology and Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, and Director, Renal Pathology/EM Laboratory at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, TN.

Josephine M. Forbes, PhD

Australia

A/Prof Forbes completed her PhD in Nephrology at Victorian Paediatric Renal Services, Royal Children's Hospital. In 1999, she became the Group Leader for the Glycation and Diabetes Complications Laboratory at the Baker Heart Research Institute as a Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) Post Doctoral Fellow. She is currently a JDRF Career Development Fellow and currently holds research grants from the NHMRC of Australia, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) and the NIH (USA). She is a regular member of NHMRC review panels in addition to grant review panels for the JDRF international.

Her work to date has resulted in more than 70 publications in highly ranked diabetes and related journals with excellent citation rates. Her primary research focuses on the biochemical process of advanced glycation and its contribution to diabetes and its vascular complications, in particular nephropathy. She has received awards for her work in type 1 diabetes including a Young Researcher Award from the International Diabetes Federation, a Millenium Award from DART and a Young Tall Poppy Award in 2008. A/Prof Forbes currently leads a team of 12 staff and supervises four PhD students in 2009 in addition to being an Associate Professor in Immunology at Monash University, Australia.

Toshiro Fujita, MD, PhD

Japan

Professor Toshiro Fujita is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine and Chief of the Department of Nephrology and Endocrinology at the University of Tokyo. He qualified in medicine in 1972 at the Keio University School of Medicine, Japan. He remained in Keio until 1976, during which time he completed his medical internship and residency. Between 1976 and 1978, he was a Research and Clinical Fellow at NHLBI, Bethesda, Maryland, USA. On returning to Japan, he was appointed Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, firstly at the University of Tsukuba and later at the University of Tokyo School of Medicine. Since 1995, Professor Fujita has been Chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine at the Graduate School of Medicine and Faculty of Medicine, University of Tokyo, and is Chief of the Department of Nephrology and Endocrinology at the University of Tokyo Hospital.

His contribution to the study of hypertension and kidney diseases has been widely recognized. In 2009, Professor Fujita was awarded a Arthur Corcoran Lecture Award, Council for High Blood Pressure Research, AHA.

Professor Fujita worked as a research and clinical fellow at NHLBI of NIH in Maryland, USA, from 1976 to 1978. In 1980, Fujita and Bartter demonstrated the pathophysiology of salt-sensitive hypertension. Since then, he has been continuing research on renal and metabolic aspects of hypertension. His research interests include nephrology, endocrinology, metabolic science and cardioangiology. Dr. Fujita's group has reported the involvement of aldosterone/mineralocorticoid receptor activation in salt-sensitive hypertension and metabolic syndrome. Recently, they found alternative pathway of MR activation: modification of MR function by Rac1 GTPase (Nat Med 2008).

A renowned expert in his fields, Professor Fujita has been actively contributing to professional associations and scientific publications. Over the past 30 years, Professor Fujita has published over 500 scientific articles. Professor Fujita has been a member of the Program Committee of the High Blood Pressure Council, American Heart

Association. Professor Fujita is currently serving as a Consulting Editor for *Hypertension* and a Corresponding Editor for the *American Journal of Hypertension*. He was President of the Japanese Society of Hypertension (2003-2005), the Japanese Society of Internal Medicine (2004-2006), and the Japanese Society of Endocrinology (2006-2007). Currently, he is President of the Japanese Society of Nephrology and a member of KDIGO-Clinical Practice Guideline on Blood Pressure in CKD.

Masafumi Fukagawa, MD, PhD

Japan

Masafumi Fukagawa, MD, PhD received his MD in 1983 from University of Tokyo School of Medicine. Following subspecialty training and PhD program in Tokyo, he was Research Fellow at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, TN (USA) until 1995.
From 2000 to 2009, Dr. Fukagawa was Associate Professor and Director of the Division of Nephrology and Kidney Center at Kobe University School of Medicine (Japan), where he established a new program and has trained numbers of medical students, residents and fellows from Japan and other Asian countries. Since 2009, he has moved to Tokai University School of Medicine, Isehara, Japan, as Professor of Medicine and the Director of Division of Nephrology and Metabolism.
Dr. Fukagawa's major research interest is mineral metabolism, in which field he has published many clinical and basic papers. He chaired a committee for Japanese clinical guidelines, is a member of KDIGO Work Group on CKD-MBD global guidelines. He is Asociate Editor of the *CJASN* and also serves as editorial board member and reviewer for major international journals.

Alan S. Go, MD

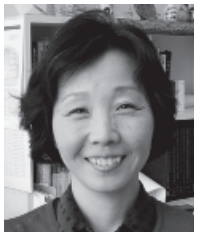
USA

Alan S. Go, MD is Director of the Comprehensive Clinical Research Unit and Assistant Director for Clinical Research at the Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente Northern California. He is also Regional Medical Director for Clinical Trials at The Permanente Medical Group and Associate Professor in the Departments of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Go's research interests include prediction and prevention and of acute and chronic kidney disease, optimizing treatment and outcomes of renal and cardiovascular disease, cardiovascular health services research and clinical epidemiology, management of atrial fibrillation and genetic and clinical predictors of cardiovascular disease. Dr. Go currently leads multiple NIH-sponsored prospective cohort and database studies of acute, chronic and end-stage renal disease.

Michael Goligorsky, MD, PhD

USA

Michael S Goligorsky, M.D., Ph.D., is Alvin I Goodman Chair in Nephrology, Academic Chief of Renal Division, and Director of Renal Research Institute at the New York Medical College. After completing residency and fellowship, Michael joined the faculty of the State University of New York at Stony Brook (1988). He became a Professor of Medicine and Physiology in 1997 and an Honorary Professor at the University College London (1998). In 2002 he moved to New York Medical College to inaugurate the Renal Research Institute. In 1991, Michael was elected to the Society of Clinical Investigations; in 2002 he was elected a member of the American Association of Physicians. Michael serves as an Associate Editor for *Am J Pathology, Am J Physiology: Cell*, and a Topic Editor for *Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation*. His research interests include: the mechanisms of endothelial dysfunction as a harbinger of atherosclerotic, diabetic, and hypertensive vascular damage; stress-induced premature senescence (SIPS) of endothelial cells and the role of lysosomal dysfunction; mechanisms of functionally incompetence of endothelial progenitor cells (EPC) in chronic kidney disease; mechanisms of Alarm Signalling by ischemic organ; and proteomic analysis of the urine in kidney disease.



Hunjoo Ha, PhD

Korea

Hunjoo Ha is Professor of College of Pharmacy and Department of Life & Pharmaceutical Sciences, Graduate School, Ewha Woman University, Seoul, Korea. She received her PhD degree from Department of Pharmacology, Graduate School, University of Minnesota, Mpls., MN, USA. She is also a member of Department of Bioinspired Science, Graduate School, Ewha Woman University, a unique interdisciplinary programs devoted to education and research towards convergence in redox biology, chemistry, and pharmaceutical science and supported by World Class University grant, NRF, Korea since 2009. Her main research interest has been in the area of redox biology and its implications for renal function and the development of new renoprotective agents.

Hermann G. Haller, MD

Germany

Prof. Hermann Haller is presently Director of the Department of Nephrology at Hannover Medical School and Dean of Medical Education. He graduated the Free University of Berlin in 1983. From 1983 until 1992 he trained at the Free University at Berlin. He spent three years as a post-doctoral fellow in the Division of Endocrinology at the Yale Medical School. In 1992 he became Professor of Medicine at the Franz-Volhard-Clinic at the Max-Delbrück-Centre of Molecular Medicine in Berlin. Prof. Haller's scientific interest is in hypertension, diabetic nephropathy and transplantation. He is especially interested in vascular complications and endothelial cell function in these areas. Prof. Haller is post-president of the German Hypertension Society. He has published more than 500 peer-reviewed articles. Prof. Haller has received the Folkow Award of the European Society of Hypertension, the Franz Volhard Prize of the German Hypertension Society and the Jan Brod Award, Czech Society of Hypertension. He is also a principal investigator in international multicenter studies.

Takayuki Hamano, MD, PhD

USA

Takayuki Hamano received his MD degree in 1998 from Osaka University, Japan and completed his residency and fellowships in internal medicine and nephrology. After receiving his PhD degree in 2005, he joined the faculty of Department of Nephrology, Osaka University Graduate School of Medicine as an assistant professor in 2007. He became a member of patient registration committee in the Japanese Society for Dialysis Therapy in 2007. His main research interest has been in the area of CKD-MBD (chronic kidney disease-mineral and bone disorders). He has devoted himself to the study of such subjects as phosphate metabolism, the role of fetuin-A and osteoprotegerin in vascular calcification, and the effect of vitamin D on multiple organs. Having much interest in observational studies enrolling thousands of CKD patients, he moved to Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of Pennsylvania in 2008, to be involved in CRIC (Chronic Renal Insufficiency Cohort) study. He is thinking of comparing Japanese CKD patients and American counterparts from the viewpoint of CKD-MBD by connecting CKD-JAC (CKD-Japanese Cohort) and CRIC.

Fan-fan Hou, MD, PhD

China

Fan Fan Hou, M.D., Ph.D., is Professor of Medicine at Southern Medical University and Director of Renal Division, Nanfang Hospital, Guangzhou, China.
Dr. Hou is board certified in internal medicine and nephrology. She completed a research fellowship at Brigham & Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School in Boston, USA, and was previously an ISN Fellow. Professor Hou's major areas of clinical expertise and research interest lie in chronic kidney diseases. She has been the principal investigator for a number of clinical trials including ESBARI, ROAD and SDBRAS. She is a current standing member of Chinese Society of Nephrology and is on the editorial boards of 14 international and domestic journals. Dr. Hou, as the first and/or corresponding author, has published a numerous papers in peer-reviewed journals including *N Engl J Med, J Am Soc Nephrol, Kidney Int*, and *Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol*. She is the recipient of an Outstanding Scientific Presentation Award of EDTA (1995), the First Prize Medal for Best Paper of ISN (2001), and the National Scientific and Technological Award (second class, 2004, 2007).

Enyu Imai, MD, PhD

Japan

Dr. Enyu Imai is Associate Professor of Nephrology at Nagoya University. He received MD from Kagoshima University and PhD from Osaka University. He devoted his research carrier to development of gene therapy, cell therapy, establishment of immune tolerance, and inhibition of fibrosis at Osaka University. His current research interest is clinical nephrology, in particular, CKD and nephrotic syndrome. He and his colleagues developed Japanese equation for estimated GFR from serum creatinine and estimated the CKD population in Japan. He is a leader of a national study of Japan nephrotic syndrome cohort study (JNSCS) and the analysis of JNSCS is underway to elucidate prevalence, incidence, therapeutic regimen and prognosis of nephrotic syndrome. He is a member of steering committee of CKD Japan Cohort (CKD-JAC) study to clarify incidence of ESRD and cardiovascular disease, QOL, medical economics in the CKD population receiving medical care by specialists. He is a councillor of Japanese Society of Nephrology. He published more than 200 English scientific papers. He currently serves editorial board of Journal of the American Society of Nephrology, Kidney International, and Clinical Nephrology, and subject editor of Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation.

Sadayoshi Ito, MD

Japan

Prof. Sadayoshi Ito is Vice Dean and Professor of Medicine at Tohoku University School of Medicine, Sendai, Japan. He is also Head of Division of Nephrology, Endocrinology and Vascular Medicine and Director of Clinical Trial Center at Tohoku University Hospital. Prof. Ito received his MD from Tohoku University School of Medicine in 1979. After training at Furukawa City Hospital, he joined the Second Department of Internal Medicine at Tohoku University in 1981. He had undergone his fellowship at Henry Ford Hospital in USA from 1982 to 1984. Although he came back in Japan for a time, he returned to Henry Ford Hospital USA as a Senior Staff Investigator in 1987. He came back to Tohoku University as Associate Professor in 1995 and then was promoted to Professor of Medicine in 1997. His research interests center on the mechanism of renin release and glomerular hemodynamics. Prof. Ito developed unique technologies for isolation and perfusion of a single glomerular afferent or efferent arteriole, or for simultaneous perfusion of both a single afferent arteriole and the attached macula densa. His elegant research has been appreciated highly and received many awards, including Young Investigator Award (First Prize) of Inter American Society of Hypertension, Young Scholar Award of the American Society of Hypertension and Established Investigator Award of American Heart Association. He served as a Chief Editor of Nephron from 1999 to 2002, and fills or has filled an important role in journals like Journal of American Society of Nephrology, Hypertension Research and Clinical and Experimental Nephrology.

Hiroshi Itoh, MD, PhD

Japan

Dr. Itoh is Professor and Chairman, Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Nephrology, Keio University in Tokyo, Japan. Prior to his appointment as Professor and Chairman he was Associate Professor and Vice Chairman of Department of Medicine and Clinical Science, Kyoto University Graduate School of Medicine.
Dr. Itoh received his MD (1983) and his PhD (1989) from Kyoto University, School of Medicine. His postdoctoral training included 2 years with Prof. Victor Dzau at Harvard Medical School and Stanford University.
Dr. Itoh obtained his medical membership of Japan in 1983, was qualified in Internal Medicine in 1993, and took board examination in Endocrinology and Metabolism in 1994 and in Diabetes Mellitus in 2003. He is a board member of Japan Endocrine Society, Japanese Hypertension Society, Japanese Society of Molecular Medicine, and Japanese Society of Cardiovascular Endocrinology and Metabolism.
Dr. Itoh's major research interests include medical and molecular biology of hypertension, medical and molecular biology of diabetic complication, vascular biology and atherosclerosis, vascular hormones and vascular remodeling, ES cells and regeneration medicine and metabolic aging.

Takashi Kadowaki, MD, PhD

Japan

Dr. Takashi Kadowaki is the Professor of Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases, University of Tokyo. Dr. Kadowaki has contributed significantly to the elucidation of molecular mechanism of insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes. In particular, Dr. Kadowaki's laboratory co-discovered insulin sensitizing action of adiponectin and more importantly identified receptrors for adiponectin (AdipoR1 and AdipoR2), which play a crucial role in the pathogenesis of insulin resistance, metabolic syndrome and type 2 diabetes. Due to an outstanding contribution to research in the field of diabetes, Dr. Kadowaki has obtained worldwide recognition and received many prestigious awards. He served or serves as an Associate Editor of several journals including Diabetologia, Diabetes, Diabetes Care and Journal of Clinical Investigation. Dr. Kadowaki currently serves as the chairman of Board of Directors, Japan Diabetes Society.

Kamyar Kalantar-Zadeh, MD, MPH, PhD

USA

Kamyar Kalantar-Zadeh, MD, PhD, MPH is an Associate Professor (in residence) of Medicine, Pediatrics and Epidemiology at UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine, and Director of the Dialysis Expansion Program at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Southern California.
He received his MD from the University of Bonn in Germany, a doctorate from University of Erlangen-Nuremberg in Germany, and a Master's degree in Public Health (MPH) and a PhD in epidemiology from University of California in Berkeley.
Dr. Kalantar-Zadeh completed his residency in both medicine and pediatrics at the State University of New York at Brooklyn (SUNY) and his nephrology fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF).

He is a triple board certified physician specialist and is listed is several national top physicians and best doctors.
Dr. Kalantar-Zadeh has received many awards and grants from organizations such as the National Institutes of Health, the National Kidney Foundation, and the American Heart Association.
He is a council member of numerous professional associations, including the American Society of Nephrology and the International Society of Renal Nutrition and Metabolism, and an Associate Editor or member of the editorial board of several journals including *American Journal of Kidney Diseases* (Associate Editor), *Advances in Chronic Kidney Disease*, (Associate Editor), Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology, *Journal of Renal Nutrition, American Journal of Nephrology*, etc.
Dr. Kalantar-Zadeh has authored or coauthored more than 150 peer-reviewed articles, 10 book chapters and over 200 abstracts.
He lectures frequently on cardiovascular and nutritional risk factors and disparities in patients with chronic kidney disease, including malnutrition-inflammation-cachexia syndrome, osteodystrophy, mineral disarrays, vitamin deficiency, anemia, iron deficiency, diabetes, obesity, and acid-base homeostasis.
Kamyar Kalantar-Zadeh, MD, PhD, MPH, serves on the speaker bureau and/or received honoraria from and/or serves as a consultant for:
Abbott, Amgen, Amag, DaVita, Fresenius, Genzyme, Shire, and Watson.

Philip Kalra, MA, MB, BChir, FRCP, MD

UK

Professor Philip Kalra graduated from Cambridge University and St Thomas's Hospital and after training in nephrology in Leeds, New Zealand and Greater Manchester, was appointed consultant nephrologist at Salford in 1995. He was promoted to Honorary Professor at the University of Manchester in 2009. He is lead of the renal research team at Salford Royal Hospital. His major research interest is in atherosclerotic renovascular disease (ARVD) and he is co-originator and lead nephrologist for the recently published ASTRAL trial. Other research interests include CKD epidemiology and CKD-related vascular calcification. He has also played a significant role in amalgamating Cardio-Renal education and research within the UK.

Naoki Kashihara, MD

Japan

Naoki Kashihara is currently Professor of Internal Medicine at the Kawasaki Medical School, Okayama, Japan. He obtained his medical degree from Okayama University School of Medicine, Okayama, Japan, in 1982 and undertook a Nephrology Fellowship at Okayama University Hospital from 1985 to 1987. From 1987 to 1990 he took up a research associate position in the Department of Pathology (under Professor Kanwar) at the Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, Illinois, USA. He subsequently became associate professor of Department of Internal Medicine at the Okayama University School of Medicine in 1997. In 1998 he moved to Kawasaki Medical School and became chairman of Department of Nephrology and Hypertension. Since 2001 he has been a member of the Executive Committee of Kawasaki Medical School and has held the position of Director of Medical Internship and Residency at Kawasaki Medical School. He stayed in Oxford University as Visiting Fellow of Green College in 2008. He has been vice president of Kawasaki Medical School since 2009. His main research interest has been in pathophysiogy of kidney diseases, with particular focus on oxidative stress, endothelial dysfunction, implications of mitochondrial damage, hypertensive renal injuries, and the development of cardiovascular disease in patients with kidney diseases.

Suhnggwon Kim, MD, PhD

Korea

Suhnggwon Kim is Professor of Division of Nephrology of the Department of Internal Medicine, Seoul National University College of Medicine in Korea, a Councilor of the International Society of Nephrology, KDIGO (Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes) and a Councilor of APCN. He is also director of Kidney Research Institute and Medical Research Center of the Seoul National University Hospital. His researches focus on developing novel therapeutic intervention and surrogate markers associated with the prognosis of glomerulonephritis and chronic kidney disease. He and colleagues are conducting variable clinical trials on glomerular disease including IgA nephropathy, minimal change disease, lupus nephritis, and diabetic nephropathy. His research group's works are also on the transitional and basic experimental researches including in vitro and in vivo studies about Hepatitis B virus-associated glomerulonephritis, Hanta virus associated renal disease, and rat model for diabetic kidney disease based on his vast clinical experiences. Until now, the number of the papers which were published amount to 400. He is also working variable epidemiologic and clinical informatics-related studies about the early detection and prevention of chronic kidney disease, a big burden of health in our society. Now he has making a great effort on "Enhancement of disease awareness among public and opinion leaders" because it is the key for successful advance of the nephrology community.

Genjiro Kimura, MD, PhD

Japan

Genjiro Kimura is Professor and Chairman at Department of Cardio-Renal Medicine and Hypertension, Nagoya City University Graduate School of Medical Sciences. He studied in Osaka University Medical School, and received MD in 1973 as well as PhD in 1979. He studied abroad 3 times in USA: Laboratory of Kidney & Electrolyte Metabolism, NHLBI, NIH (1976-78), Hennepin County Medical Center, University of Minnesota School of Medicine (1981-82), and Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School (1992-93). After works in National Cardiovascular Center in Osaka since 1978, he has appointments in Nagoya City University as Professor since 1999.
His major research interests are renal mechanisms of hypertension, circadian rhythm of blood pressure and kidney function, salt sensitivity and cardiovascular events, strategies to arrest progressive renal failure. He serves as the editor-in-chief of Clinical and Experimental Nephrology, the official journal of the Japanese Society of Nephrology, and as an editorial board member of several other journals including Nephrology, Hypertension Research and Journal of American Society of Hypertension.

Hiroyuki Kobori, MD, PhD

USA

Hiroyuki Kobori is Associate Professor of Physiology and of Medicine at Tulane University Health Sciences Center. He received his MD degree (1990) and PhD degree (1998) from Keio University School of Medicine in Japan. After completing his residency and fellowships in internal medicine and nephrology in Keio University, he joined Tulane University as a postdoctoral research fellow in 1998. He subsequently became Instructor (2001), Assistant Professor (2003), and Associate Professor (2006). He has been also appointed as the Director of the Molecular Core in Tulane Hypertension and Renal Center of Excellence (2005).
His research interest has been in 1) the role of intrarenal angiotensinogen in the development and in the progression of hypertension and kidney diseases and 2) the potential of urinary angiotensinogen as a novel biomarker of the intrarenal renin-angiotensin system status. His laboratory is actively engaged in a variety of studies from cell studies and animal studies to clinical studies and epidemiological studies.
He is a recipient of distinguished awards including the Young Scholars Award of the American Society of Hypertension, Kidney Council New Investigator Award of the American Heart Association, and a finalist of Harry Goldblatt New Investigator Award of the American Heart Association.

Issei Komuro, MD, PhD

Japan

Professor Issei Komuro is Professor of Medicine and Chairman of Cardiovascular Science and Medicine, Chiba University Graduate School of Medicine and Cardiovascular Medicine, Osaka University Graduate School of Medicine. He is a council member of the Japanese Circulation Society, the Japanese Society of Internal Medicine, the Japanese Society of Hypertension, the International Society for Heart Research, the Japanese Society on Heart Failure and the American Heart Association. He graduated from Tokyo University School of Medicine, Japan, in 1982 and joined the Third Department of Tokyo University School of Medicine in 1984. After studying at Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, USA, between 1989 and 1993, Professor Komuro returned to the Third Department of Tokyo University School of Medicine as an assistant Professor and became a lecturer there in 1998. His main research interests are the pathophysiology of cardiac diseases, cardiac hypertrophy and heart failure, as well as cardiac development and regeneration. Professor Komuro's research activities have won the Bälz Award in 1985, the American College of Cardiology Merck Award in 1990, the Sato Award of the Japanese Circulation Society and the Outstanding Investigator Prize of the International Society for Heart Research. He is also an associate editor of Circulation Research and on the Editorial Boards of Journal of Clinical Investigation, Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology and many other journals.

Valentina Kon, MD

USA

Valentina Kon is Associate Professor in Pediatrics at Vanderbilt University. She completed her nephrology training at The Children's Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Her interest has been in the effects of the renin-angiotensin and endothelin systems on renal physiology and pathophysiology. Recently, she has been interested in the mechanisms underlying accelerated cardiovascular disease in the setting of renal damage with particular interest in the role of the macrophage in this process.

Matthias Kretzler, MD

USA

Matthias Kretzler received his medical training at the University of Heidelberg, Germany and Newcastle upon the Tyne in the U.K. He received his MD/PhD equivalent under the tutelage of Wilhelm Kriz in Anatomy and Cell Biology on the mechanism of glomerular filtration barrier failure followed by a post-doctoral fellowship with Josie Briggs, MD, Juergen Schnermann, MD, and Larry Holzman, MD at the University of Michigan.
After returning to Germany he initiated with a unique research team around the European Renal Cell Study Group what is now a worldwide network of kidney research centers to define molecular mechanism in renal biopsy tissue. These networks allow the generation of comprehensive molecular profiles of human renal disease. In a collaborative group of molecular biologists, clinician-scientists, mathematicians, bioinformaticians, and systems analysts his research team mines these data sets for diagnostic markers, molecular based disease classifications and novel therapeutic targets.
Dr. Kretzler is currently Professor of Internal Medicine-Nephrology and Computational Medicine and Bioinformatics, Principal Investigator of the Nephrotic Syndrome Study Network, Director of the Applied Systems Biology Core at the University of Michigan and Investigator in the National Center for Integrative Biology and Informatics.
He has authored and co-authored more than 130 scientific publications and has received multiple awards, most recently the Young Investigator Award 2009 of the American Society of Nephrology.

Makoto Kuro-o, MD, PhD

USA

Makoto Kuro-o is Associate Professor of Pathology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. He received his MD in 1985 and PhD in 1991 from the University of Tokyo, Japan. After interning for two years, he became a Resident in Internal Medicine at the Tokyo Metropolitan Geriatric Hospital. He subsequently worked as a cardiologist at the University of Tokyo's 3rd Department of Internal Medicine. In an attempt to generate transgenic mouse models for hypertension, he accidentally created a mutant mouse that exhibited complex phenotypes resembling human premature aging syndrome due to insertional mutation of the transgene. He named this mutant mouse *klotho*, a Greek goddess who spins the thread of life, and abandoned his career as a cardiologist to dedicate himself to study the *klotho* mouse. Four years later (1997) Dr. Kuro-o succeeded in identifying the *klotho* gene. This serendipitous discovery made him move to UT Southwestern in 1998. Since then, Dr. Kuro-o's laboratory has revealed multiple functions of Klotho protein, including its involvement in phosphate homeostasis. The long-term goal of his laboratory is to understand molecular mechanisms by which Klotho regulates metabolism and aging.

Theodore Kurtz, MD

USA

Professor Theodore W Kurtz studied medicine at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA, where he received his degree in 1979. He obtained his research training at the University of California, San Francisco, USA, where he received a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Clinical Investigator Award as a postdoctoral fellow in hypertension research. He is currently Professor and Vice Chair of the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Director of the Clinical Chemistry Laboratories at the University of California, San Francisco. Professor Kurtz has been honoured in the field of hypertension with many awards, lectureships, and leadership appointments from the American Society of Hypertension, the International Society of Hypertension, and the American Heart Association including the Novartis Award for Hypertension Research from the AHA Council for High Blood Pressure Research. Professor Kurtz has served on multiple NIH Expert panels and on the Editorial Boards of *Hypertension*, the *Journal of Hypertension* and the *American Journal of Hypertension*. He has been a member of the Executive Committee of the Council for High Blood Pressure Research and served as President of the American Society of Hypertension. Professor Kurtz's research interests include the molecular genetics and therapeutics of hypertension and related cardiovascular and metabolic diseases. His current research focus is on the identification of genes and new therapies for the hypertension metabolic syndrome and the development of transgenic models for these disorders.

Tobias Larsson, MD, PhD

Sweden

Tobias Larsson, MD, PhD, is an associate professor in experimental medicine at Karolinska University Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden. He is currently a staff physician in internal medicine and nephrology and a member of the scientific board at the Nephrology Unit in Karolinska University Hospital.
He received his medical degree 2002 and subsequently presented his award-winning thesis "the role of FGF23 in phosphate homeostasis" 2004 at the Department of Medical Sciences, Uppsala University. He performed parts of his PhD-studies in the Endocrine Unit, Massachussets General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA and completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, USA.
Dr. Larsson's research interest mainly includes bone- and mineral metabolism with particular focus on the molecular physiology of FGF23 and Klotho and its regulation in chronic kidney disease (CKD). He is the principal investigator of several grants, including the Swedish Research Council, Swedish Kidney Foundation, Swedish Society of Medicine and the Novo Nordisk Foundation to study the role of FGF23 in phosphorous metabolism, secondary hyperparathyroidism and cardiovascular disease related to CKD.
Dr. Larsson's research has been published in New England Journal of Medicine, Circulation, Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism, Endocrinology and Kidney International, among others. He is a recipient of several research awards and has served as a reviewer for many leading international medical journals.

James Leiper, PhD

UK

James Leiper is a Medical Research Council research programme leader in Nitric Oxide Signaling. He gained the PhD in biochemistry from The Royal Post-Graduate Medical School, London University in 1994 following which he undertook post-doctoral research at the Medical Research Council Laboratory for Molecular Cell Biology before joining the faculty of the Division of Medicine University College London. His main research focus is on mechanisms that regulate cardiovascular nitric oxide signaling in particular the role of endogenously produced nitric oxide synthase inhibitors. Work in his laboratory spans the disciplines of molecular biology, pharmacology, physiology and genetics.

Adeera Levin, MD, FRCPC

Canada

Dr. Levin is a Professor of Medicine, Consultant nephrologist at the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver Canada.
She has a longstanding clinical and research interest in CKD and cardiovascular disease, and is Director of the Kidney Function Clinic at St Paul's Hospital.
In addition, she is the Executive Director of the BC Renal Agency, which oversees the care, planning and budgets for Kidney services in the province of British Columbia. In this capacity, she has leveraged her epidemiological training, clinical knowledge and health outcomes research to develop an evidence based transparent system which enhances the care of patients across the continuum of care (from identification of CKD through to dialysis, transplant and death).
As an active researcher and mentor, she is involved in a national curriculum development for clinician scientists interested in kidney disease (KRESCENT), and mentors students, residents and nephrology fellows in Vancouver as well. She has over 185 peer reviewed publications, numerous book chapters, and is co-editor of a new textbook "Chronic Kidney Disease: a practical guide to understanding and management". Her major research areas of interest include non traditional risk factors for CVD in CKD patients, with particular focus on anemia, phosphate and vitamin D, and progression of CKD variability.
She is active in international activities across the spectrum of kidney activities including her recent appointment as Secretary General of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN), an executive committee member of the Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO), and co Chair of the Declaration of Istanbul Custodian group (DICG).

Philip K.T. Li, MD, FRCP, FACP

Hong Kong

Prof. Philip Kam-Tao Li is the Chief of Nephrology & Consultant Physician of the Department of Medicine and Therapeutics at the Prince of Wales Hospital (PWH), Hong Kong. He is also the Honorary Professor of Medicine at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Prof. Li is dedicating his efforts to promote nephrology both locally and internationally. He is the Past Chairman of the Hong Kong Society of Nephrology. Currently he is the Executive Committee Member of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN). He is the current President of the Hong Kong Transplantation Society. Prof. Li serves in the Board of Directors for Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcome (KDIGO) and Steering Committee Member for World Kidney Day 2010 as well as the Executive Committee Member of the Asian Forum for CKD Initiatives

Prof. Li has been the Presidents of the Organizing Committees for the ISN 2004 Conference on Prevention of Progression of Kidney Diseases and the 11th International Congress of International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis, 2006 respectively. He is the Scientific Vice President and Program Chair, 2nd Congress of International Society for Hemodialysis, 2009.

Prof. Li will be the Congress President for the World Congress of Nephrology 2013 to be held in Hong Kong.

He serves as the Honorary Secretary at the Hong Kong College of Physicians.

Prof. Li is the founding Editor-in-Chief of the *Hong Kong Journal of Nephrology*, Deputy Editor of *Nephrology* and Editor of the *Nephrology Dialysis & Transplantation and International Journal of Artificial Organs*. He is on the Editorial Boards of *Peritoneal Dialysis International, Nephron Clinical Practice, Chinese Journal of Nephrology, Dialysis & Transplantation, Medical Progress and Indian Journal of Peritoneal Dialysis.* He is a regular reviewer for all the major Nephrology Journals.

He has published over 350 original and review articles in peer-reviewed journals, 2 books and 14 book chapters. He has given lectures to over 75 international congresses and meetings.

His research interests include Peritoneal dialysis (Residual Renal Function, Cardiovascular Disease, Connectology, Peritonitis, Biocompatible solutions Adequacy), Cardiovascular mortality in dialysis patients, IgA nephropathy, Prevention of Progression of Chronic Kidney Disease, Diabetes in renal failure and Immunogenetics of Nephropathies, Drug Pharmacokinetics and Complications after transplantation.

Chih-Ching Lin, MD, PhD

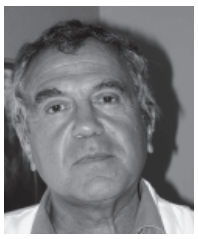
Taiwan

Chih-Ching Lin is Associate professor at School of Medicine of National Yang-Ming University and attending physician at Division of Nephrology, Department of Medicine, Taipei Veterans General Hospital. He received his MD degree from National Yang-Ming University in 1991. After completing his residency and fellowships in internal medicine and nephrology, he was promoted as attending physician at Taipei Veterans General Hospital in 2001 and then joined the faculty of the School of Medicine, National Yang-Ming University in 2007. He received his PhD degree from National Yang-Ming University in 2008. His main research interest has been in the area of vascular biology, especially in the association of genotype polymorphisms with and the mechanisms of the stenosis of vascular access in hemodialysis patients.

Yuh-Feng Lin, MD

Taiwan

Dr. Lin is currently Deputy Dean of Academic Affairs at Shuang-Ho hospital, Taipei Medical University. He graduated from National Defense Medical center, Taiwan in 1982. He had received toxicology fellowship training at university of Virginia in 1989. He had also completed nephrology fellowship training at Tri-Service General Hospital, Taiwan in 1986 and had been promoted to Director of Nephrology and then director of Internal Medicine in 1996 and 2004. He is also currently professor at graduate Institute of Clinical Medicine, Taipei Medical University; at department of Internal Medicine, National Defense Medical center and president of Taiwan Society of Nephrology. His research fields are glomerulonephritis, immunology in acute and chronic renal failure, toxicology, and heat stroke etc. More than one hundred SCI papers had been published in many famous journals, such as KI, NDT, Critical Care Medicine etc. He had also devoted himself in the national project of CKD prevention as well as surveillance system promotion and medical education in recent years.



Gérard M. London, MD

France

Dr. Gérard M. London graduated from medical school of Charles University in Prague in July 1966. He specialized in Nephrology (1967-1971) at Paris Medical School and became the chief of the department of Nephrology-Hemodialysis of the Manhes Hospital (Fleury-Mérogis/Paris), position he still occupies. From 1973 to 1985 he was in charge of the hemodynamic laboratory of Broussais Hospital-Paris. From 1991 to 1998 he was member of the Council of French Society of Nephrology and from 1994 to 1999 of the Council of French Society of Hypertension. Member of the Council of European Renal Association (ERA-EDTA) from 2002 to 2006, he is presently member of the Scientific Council of International Society of Hypertension, and President of ERA-EDTA (European Renal Association – European Dialysis and Transplant Association) for 2008-2011 term.
His main interest concerns cardiovascular physiology and pathophysiology, and he pursues clinical research in the frame of INSERM in Paris.
He published in this field more than 300 publications in peer review journals and several chapters in the books.
Member of International-American-French Societies of Hypertension, and International-European-American and French Societies of Nephrology. Dr. London is presently member of the Editorial Board of Journal of Nephrology, Journal of American Society of Nephrology, Nephrol. Dial. Transplant., Blood Purification.

Hirofumi Makino, MD, PhD

Japan

Dr. Makino is currently Professor and Chairman of the Department of Medicine and Clinical Science, Okayama University Graduate School of Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences. He obtained his medical degree at Okayama University Medical School in 1975 and his Ph.D. from Okayama University Graduate School of Medicine in 1983. He was an invited professor at Northwestern University (Professor Yashpal S. Kanwar) in Chicago from 1984 to 1986, where he investigated on the role of heparan sulfate proteoglycans in various glomerular diseases. He is the author of more than 250 peer-reviewed scientific publications dealing with, e.g., the delineation of several mechanisms involved in the genesis of diabetic nephropathy, with glomerular hyperfiltration, and with angiogenesis during the progression of kidney disease. He is a principal investigator for 'INNOVATION study', a clinical study proving the efficacy of angiotensin II blocker, telmisartan, to prevent the progression to the overt proteinuria in Japanese patients with type 2 diabetes. He is also an editorial board member of several prestigious journals including *Kidney International, American Journal of Physiology*, etc, and a member of the ISN/Collaborative Study Group-Meeting on Lupus Nephritis. He is at present the President of the Japanese Society of Nephrology.

Ziad A. Massy, MD, PhD

France

Ziad A. Massy is Professor of Pharmacology at the University of Picardie Jules Verne, Staff physician of the Nephrology Department at Amiens University Hospital, Coordinator of Clinical Research Centre, and Director of Research Unit INSERM ERI-12 at the University of Picardie Jules Verne, Amiens, France. Prof. Massy is a current member and co-chairman of European Uremic Toxins (EUTox) group. He is on the editorial boards of Kidney Interantional, Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation, Journal of Renal Nutrition, Journal of Nephrology, and Néphrologie et Thérapeutique (elected Editor in Chief since 2007). He is also on the editorial boards of Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation Educational for kidney and blood pressure related disorders (Electronic continuous medical education program of the Council of the European Renal Association [ERA-EDTA]), and Hypertension Dialysis and Clinical Nephrology (an official electronic education program of the RPA and the ASN). His research areas of special interest include cardiovascular disease, hyperlipidemia, vascular calcifications, uremic toxins, oxidative stress, chronic renal failure, and chronic renal allograft nephropathy. He published several original articles, reviews, and chapters of books in his domain of interest.

Seiichi Matsuo, MD, PhD

Japan

Seiichi Matsuo is Professor of Nephrology of Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine, and Director of Nagoya University Hospital. He also serves as Vice President of Nagoya University, one of the leading universities in Japan. He had studied at State University New York at Buffalo in 1982-1984 under supervision of now-dead Professor Giuseppe Andres. He has contributed to clarification of the mechanisms of complement-mediated tubule-interstitial injury. Recently, as a member of Executive Committee of Japanese Society of Nephrology (JSN), he has promoted chronic kidney initiatives in Japan. He is currently serving as a principal investigator of Research

Project on Progressive Renal Diseases funded by Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), as well as Asian Collaborative Study on Common GFR Estimating Equation (ACOS-CG-FREE) funded by Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). His laboratory is also challenging degenerative medicine, peritoneal dialysis, and a unique growth factor, Midkine.

Todd N. McAllister, PhD

USA

Dr. McAllister has a Ph.D. in BioMedical Engineering from the University of California, San Diego. He is the co-founder and CEO of Cytograft Tissue Engineering, Inc. Dr. McAllister has been an early proponent of tissue engineered self-assembly approaches that do not require synthetic scaffolds. Dr. McAllister has also pioneered a novel business strategy within Regenerative Medicine, taking Cytograft's lead product, the Lifeline™ Vascular Graft from inception to commercial licensure in Europe on less than $10M in private equity.
Dr. McAllister's is also the co-Director of the Center for Regenerative Medicine at the St. Joseph's Translational Research Institute in Atlanta, where he oversees a broader range of cell-based cardiovascular repair technologies. He also serves on several advisory boards.

Toshio Miyata, MD, PhD

Japan

Toshio Miyata is Professor (Executive Advisor to the Dean), Center for Translational and Advanced Research, Tohoku University Graduate School of Medicine, Sendai, Japan. Prof. Miyata was born in 1961 in Japan and took M.D. and Ph.D. at Nagoya University School of Medicine in 1986 and 1991, respectively. He is a member of Royal Academy of Medicine in Belgium. Among more than 250 published contributions in English include the identification of genes and attendant molecular disorders in various hereditary diseases, the delineation of mechanisms involved in the genesis of diabetic nephropathy and their prevention, of the molecular abnormalities of uraemic toxicity (carbonyl stress) and their treatment, of the roles of bioactive molecules and their inhibition (PAI-1, oxygen sensor, megsin, etc). His lab currently develops a new research area that combines medical science, structural biology, chemistry, pharmacology, and computer engineering to translate several molecules identified by basic research into clinical medicine.

Takahiko Nakagawa, MD, PhD

USA

Dr. Nakagawa is an associate professor of medicine at division of renal disease and hypertension of University of Colorado Denver. Recently, Dr. Nakagawa group has been focusing on the mechanisms involved in the development of diabetic nephropathy. He has documented that diabetic eNOS knockout mice develop the advanced features of human diabetic nephropathy, including mesangiolysis, glomerular microaneurysm, and arteriolar hyalinosis while many diabetic animal models develop only early features of diabetic nephropathy. It suggests that endothelial dysfunction, especially eNOS deficiency, could be a key factor for the development of diabetic nephropathy. One of the important issues on diabetic nephropathy is the role of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF). Interestingly, VEGF is deleterious in diabetic nephropathy while it is beneficial in non-diabetic renal disease. Dr. Nakagawa now attempts to address a mechanism for this diverse effect. He is also interested in metabolic syndrome and hypertension. His studies are involved in the role of fructose, uric acid, and diuretics.

Recent publication:

1. **Nakagawa T**, Sato W, Sautin Y, Glushakova O, Croker B, Atkinson MA, Tisher CC, Johnson RJ. Uncoupling of VEGF with NO as a Mechanism for Diabetic Vasculopathy. J Am Soc Nephrol. 2006;17:736-45.
2. **Nakagawa T**: Uncoupling of the VEGF-Endothelial Nitric Oxide Axis: An explanation for the paradoxical effects of VEGF in diabetic nephropathy. Am J Physiol-Renal Physiol; 292: F1665-F1672, 2007
3. **Nakagawa T**, Sato W, Heinig M, Glushakova O, Clarke T, Campbell-Thompson, Yuzawa Y, Atkinson MA, Johnson RJ, Croker B. Diabetic eNOS knockout mice develop advanced diabetic nephropathy. J Am Soc Nephrology 2007 18;2:539-50.
4. Sato W, Kosugi T, Zhang L, Roncal C, Heinig M, Campbell-Thompson M, Yuzawa Y, Atkinson MA, Grant MB, Croker B, **Nakagawa T**; The Pivotal Role of VEGF on Glomerular Macrophage Infiltration in Advanced Diabetic Nephropathy. Lab Invest 88: 949-61, 2008
5. **Nakagawa T**, Kosugi T, Haneda M, Rivard C, Long D. Abnormal angiogenesis in diabetic nephropathy. Diabetes 2009;58 1471-1478. PMID: 19564458; PMC2699857
6. Kosugi T, Nakayama T, Li Q, Chiodo VA, Zhang L, Campbell-Thompson M, Grant M, Croker BP, **Nakagawa T**. Soluble-Flt-1 Gene Therapy Ameliorates Albuminuria, but Accelerates Tubulointerstitial Injury in Diabetic Mice. Am J Physiol Renal Physiol. 2009 Dec 16. PMID: 20015944

7. Kosugi T, Heinig M, Nakayama T, Matsuo S, **Nakagawa T**. eNOS Knockout Mice with Advanced Diabetic Nephropathy have less Benefit from Renin-Angiotensin Blockade than from Aldosterone Receptor Antagonist. Am J Pathol 2010;176 619-629. PMID: 20042665
8. Nakayama T, Kosugi T, Gersch M, Connor T, Sanchez-Lozada LG, Lanaspa MA, Roncal C, Perez-Pozo SE, Johnson RJ, **Nakagawa T**. Dietary Fructose Causes Tubulointerstitial Injury in the Normal Rat Kidney. Am J Physiol Renal Physiol. (In Press)
9. Nakayama T, Sato W, Yoshimura A, Zhang L, Kosugi T, Campbell-Thompson M, Kojima H, Croker BP, **Nakagawa T**. Endothelial von Willebrand Factor release due to eNOS deficiency predisposes to thrombotic microangiopathy in mouse aging kidney. Am J Pathol (In press)
10. **Nakagawa T**. Aldosterone breakthrough in patients on an ACE inhibitor. Nature Rev Nephrology (In press)

Masaomi Nangaku, MD, PhD

Japan

Masaomi Nangaku graduated from the University of Tokyo School of Medicine, Tokyo, Japan, in 1988. He worked at University of Washington Medical Center, Seattle, U.S.A. as a visiting scientist from 1994 to 1996. He is currently a faculty member of the division of nephrology and endocrinology, the University of Tokyo School of Medicine. He has been working on immune-mediated kidney injury and tubulointerstitial injury as a final common pathway to end stage renal disease. He revealed a pathogenic role and detailed molecular mechanisms of chronic hypoxia and renal anemia as a crucial mediator of progression of chronic kidney disease. He got the Young Investigator Award of the Japanese Society of Nephrology (JSN) in 2002, and has been serving as a member of Scientific Program Committee of the 4th, 5th, and 6th World Congress of Nephrology (WCN), the 42nd annual meeting of American Society of Nephrology (ASN), and NEXUS-fibrosis 2010 in Geneva.

Akira Nishiyama, MD, PhD

Japan

Akira Nishiyama is a Chairman and Professor of Pharmacology at Kagawa University Medical School, Kagawa, Japan. He earned his M.D. (1993) and Ph.D. (1999) in Pharmacology, Kagawa University Medical School. He had been recruited as an Associate Professor (2002) in the Department of Pharmacology at Kagawa University Medical School and Visiting Assistant Professor (2001) or Adjunct Faculty (2002~) in the Department of Physiology at Tulane University Health Sciences Center. In 2007, Dr. Nishiyama was promoted to the rank of Chairman and Professor in the Pharmacology at Kagawa University Medical School.
His recent work has also focused on the role of intrarenal renin-angiotensin-aldosterone in the pathophysiology of hypertension and cardio-renal injury. He is the recipient of the Hoecht Marion Roussel Excellence in Renal Research Award from the American Physiological Society (1999), the Best Trainee Award from the American Federation for Medical Research (AFMR)/ Society for Clinical Investigation (SCI) (2000), Bristol Squibb Recognition Awards for Young Investigators from the American Society of Hypertension (2001), Young Investigator Award from the Japanese Pharmacological Society (2002), Young Investigator Award for Japanese Fellow from the American Heart Association, High Blood Pressure Council (2002), Young Investigator Award from Japanese Association of Cardiovascular Pharmacology (2002), Young Investigator Award from the Japanese Society of Toxicology (2004), Okamoto Research Award from Japan Vascular Disease Research Foundation (2005), Young Investigator Award from the Society of Cardiovascular Endocrinology and Metabolism (2005), The Harry Goldblatt Award in Cardiovascular Research Award Finalist from the American Heart Association, High Blood Pressure Council (2006), etc.

Kosaku Nitta, MD, PhD

Japan

Kosaku Nitta is Professor in the Department of Medicine, Kidney Center, Tokyo Women's Medical University. He graduated from Fukushima Medical University in 1981. He joined the Department of Medicine, Kidney Center, Tokyo Women's Medical University as a resident, in 1982. He earned his PhD and became a Research Fellow at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, USA, in 1989. In 1999, he assumed the position of assistant professor of the Department of Medicine, Kidney Center, Tokyo Women's Medical University. From the 2005, he has been serving as professor at the Kidney Center.

Hans Oberleithner, MD

Germany

Hans Oberleithner is Professor of Physiology and a member of the medical faculty of the University of Münster, Germany. After completing his MD studies in 1975 at the University of Innsbruck, Austria, he worked as a clinician for some time, and then gravitated towards basic sciences. Between 1979 and 1981, he worked as a Fogarty Fellow in the Department of Cellular and Molecular Physiology at Yale University, New Haven, USA. He earned his "venia legendi" in 1982 at the Institute of Physiology, University of Innsbruck, and then moved to the University of Würzburg, Germany. There, as an associate professor, he set up an electrophysiological laboratory to study mechanisms of ion transport across cell membranes. During a sabbatical year at Yale University in 1992, he applied atomic force microscopy (AFM) to study living kidney cells. Fascinated by this versatile technique, he established an AFM laboratory in Würzburg for the study of cellular and molecular mechanisms. In 1997, he was appointed to full professor at the University of Münster and chairman of the Institute of Physiology II. In addition, he is an elected member of the advisory board of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) and a guest lecturer in nanophysiology and nanomedicine at various universities worldwide. Together with colleagues, postdocs and students, he built up an AFM laboratory in Münster that combines electrical, fluorescence and high-resolution scanning probe techniques to investigate physiological processes at the nanoscale. He collaborates with a number of international AFM laboratories in both academia and industry. Most of his energy is spent in establishing and expanding the application of AFM techniques in the relevant fields of biology, physiology and medicine. His current interest is in the aldosterone action of the vascular system.

Ton Rabelink, MD, PhD

Netherland

Ton J Rabelink, MD, PhD, is professor of Medicine at the Leiden University Medical Center. He received his MD PhD degree from Utrecht University. After completing his residency and fellowships in internal medicine and nephrology he joined faculty of Utrecht Medical School in 1993. He subsequently became chairman of medicine in the University Hospital Utrecht from 1999 to 2004. In 2004 he moved to Leiden University Medical Center and became head of the department of Nephrology and Transplantation. His main research interest has been in the area of vascular biology and its implications for renal function and development of cardiovascular disease in patients with renal disease.

Eberhard Ritz, MD, PhD

Germany

Eberhard Ritz is affiliated with the Department of Internal Medicine, Ruperto Carola University Heidelberg. He studied medicine in the medical schools of Heidelberg, Munich and Montpellier and then worked at the Department of Internal Medicine Zürich (Switzerland) and subsequently as an NIH postdoctoral fellow at the Department of Biochemistry, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. Since 1967 he has worked in the Department of Internal Medicine University of Heidelberg where he was promoted to become Professor of Internal Medicine in 1974 and Chief of the Division of Nephrology in 1977. He is Emeritus since 2003.
His main interests concern calcium metabolism in renal failure, hypertension and the kidney, diabetic nephropathy and cardiac problems in renal failure. He is past-president of the Gesellschaft für Nephrologie and past-council member of the European Renal Association. He was president of the World Congress of Nephrology in June 2003 in Berlin. He is an honorary member of the European Renal Association and of the Australian, British, Czech, French, Italian, Polish, Spanish and South African Societies of Nephrology. He is a member of the American College of Physicians and the Royal College of Physicians both in London and in Edinburgh. He is recipient of the distinguished investigator medal of the National Kidney Foundation, the Wissenschaftspreis der Deutschen Hochdruckliga and the Bundesverdienstkreuz of the German government. He is Dr.h.c. of the Silesian School of Medicine, the Pomeranian School of Medicine and of Semmelweis University Budapest/Hungary, and recipient of the Jacob Henle medal of the University of Göttingen. He received the John P. Peters award of the American Society of Nephrology in 2003. He is editor-in-chief emeritus of Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation and past-associate editor of the Journal of the American Society of Nephrology. He is immediate past-president of the International Society of Nephrology.

Bernardo Rodríguez-Iturbe, MD

Venezuela

Bernardo Rodriguez-Iturbe is Professor of Medicine and Director of the Renal Service and Transplantion Program in the University Hospital and Medical School of the Universidad del Zulia, Maracaibo, Venezuela. He received his medical (Summa Cum Laude) and Doctorate degrees from the Universidad de Zulia and had postgraduate studies in the Graduate School of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. His residency in Internal Medicine and Nephrology Fellowship were done in the Graduate Hospital in Philadelphia. After his postgraduate training he returned to his home country and served in several capacities in the Medical School, including Chairman of Medicine and Medical Director in the University Hospital from 1981-1983. Recently he has been appointed Director of the Center for Biomedical Research of the Instituto Venezolano de Investigaciones Científicas (IVIC)-Zulia. He is Emeritus Researcher in the Venezuelan program for Scientific and Technological Research and has received several career awards, including the Laureate Award from the American College of Physicians, the International Medal from the National Kidney Foundation (USA), the National Science Award in Venezuela, the Lorenzo Mendoza Fleury Award from the Fundación Polar, the Victor Raúl Miatello Award from the Latin American Society of Nephrology and Hypertension and the Luis Hernando International Nephrology Award from the Fundación Iñigo Álvarez de Toledo (Madrid). He was immediate Past-President in the Latin American Society of Nephrology and Hypertension as is President of the International Society of Nephrology. His main research interests are Post-streptococcal Glomerulonephritis and the role of renal inflammation in the progression of chronic renal disease and in pathogenesis of salt sensitive hypertension.

Sei Sasaki, MD, PhD

Japan

Sei Sasaki is Professor of Nephrology at the Tokyo Medical and Dental University. He graduated from the same university and subsequently received MD and PhD. He joined the Department of Nephrology where he was promoted to professor and chairman since 2002. He also worked as a research fellow at the Department of Nephrology at University of California San Francisco in 1979. His main fields of research are epithelial transport in the kidney and water electrolytes disorders. His laboratory has identified aquaporin-2 water channel (AQP2) and other aquaporin family members and explored their roles in diseases. His laboratory is also working on pathophysiological roles of WNK kinases in hypertension.

Kumar Sharma, MD

USA

Kumar Sharma is Professor of Medicine at University of California, San Diego and at the Veterans Administration San Diego Healthcare System. He is the director of the Center for Renal Translational Medicine at UCSD/VASDHS. After completing medical school and internal medicine residency at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, he completed his nephrology clinical training at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He went on to do a 3 year nephrology research fellowship at Penn and joined Thomas Jefferson University in 1995. He was the Genzyme endowed Professor of Medicine at Thomas Jefferson University and Director of the Cell and Molecular Biology Lab of Nephrology and Center for Diabetic Kidney Disease before joining UCSD in 2007.
Kumar is a leading translational researcher whose major area of interest is diabetic and obesity related cardiovascular and renal complications as well as chronic kidney disease. His studies have identified several key mediators of early and progressive kidney disease associated with diabetes and obesity. His landmark studies demonstrating the role of the growth factor, TGF-b, have led to the development of clinical applications using approaches to block TGF-b for human diabetic nephropathy. In addition, Dr. Sharma has been involved in his own anti-fibrotic approaches for patients with advanced diabetic nephropathy and recently completed an NIH-funded randomized clinical trial. Most recently, Dr. Sharma's group has identified a key role for the hormone adiponectin to play a role in the early proteinuria associated with obesity. His studies have been published in the JCI, PNAS, JBC, PlOS-Medicine, JCB, AJP-Renal, JASN and Kidney International. He was recently appointed as Chair of the ISN Nexus Symposia which promotes translational research in kidney disease by bringing together researchers, clinicians, and industry. He is Associate Editor for the American Journal of Physiology-Renal and on the Editorial Board of several journals, including the Journal of Clinical Investigation. He has received the Merck Young Investigator Award and the JDRF Mary Jane Kugel Award. He was recently awarded as Outstanding Foreign Investigator in Diabetes Complications by the Japanese Society of Diabetes Complication. He has continuous NIH funding since 1996 and presently has several NIH grants, ADA and JDRF support for his research.

Takashi Shimada, PhD

Japan

Takashi Shimada is Research Scientist at the Kyowa Hakko Kirin Co., Ltd. He received his PhD degree from Kyoto University. He joined Kirin Brewery Co., Ltd., former company of the Kyowa Hakko Kirin, in 1997. Since then he has worked in the area of phosphate metabolism. In an effort to identify an unknown molecule called "phosphatonin" that has been believed to govern phosphate metabolism in vertebrates, he cloned fibroblast growth factor 23 as a causative factor for a rare bone disease associated with hypophosphatemia, tumor-induced osteomalacia. This discovery provided many insights into understanding of mineral metabolism and related diseases. From 2008 he has been at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School as a Visiting Scholar, and is continuing his research on FGF23, focusing on its relevance to various diseases of mineral metabolism, including renal disease.

Tetsuo Shoji, MD, PhD

Japan

Tetsuo Shoji is affiliated with the Department of Metabolism, Endocrinology and Molecular Medicine, Osaka City University Graduate School of Medicine, Osaka, Japan. He studied medicine in the medical school of Osaka City University, and then worked at Osaka City University Hospital. He is interested in metabolic and endocrine alterations as factors affecting cardiovascular outcome in patients with CKD. He is a member of the Japanese Society for Dialysis Therapy (JSDT), the Japanese Society of Nephrology, the Japan Atherosclerosis Society, the Japan Diabetes Society, and others. He is the recipient of the Society Award from JSDT. He is currently serving as a member of several JSDT activities including the Committee of Japanese Renal Registry (CRDR), the JSDT CVD Guideline Workgroup, and the JSDT CKD-MBD Guideline Workgroup.

Ravi Thadhani, MD, MPH

USA

Dr. Thadhani has two major areas of interest: hypertension, diabetes and preeclampsia in pregnancy and dialysis mortality. His focus is to bring novel therapies and diagnostics to patients with renal failure in hopes to improve outcomes. He is currently working on therapeutic strategies to alleviate the symptoms of preeclampsia. He is also focused on the cardiovascular and infectious consequences of defective vitamin D signaling in subjects with renal failure. His team has performed several hypothesis-generating observational studies suggesting that therapy with activated vitamin D sterols is associated with improved survival among patients with renal failure. In addition to his studies, Dr. Thadhani is the course director for "Introduction to Clinical Research", a course for undergraduates at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, course director for "Intensive Review of Internal Medicine" at the MGH, and course director for "Core Medicine at the MGH" at Harvard Medical School. He has served as a reviewer for and has published in several journals including *New Engl J Med*, the *Lancet, J Am Soc Nephrol, Kidney Int*, and *J Clin Endocrinol Metab*. He is an active member of the Clinical Research Section of the American Society of Nephrology and the National Kidney Foundation, and reviews grants for these organizations and the National Institutes of Health.

Yasuhiko Tomino, MD, PhD

Japan

Dean, Graduate School of Medicine
Dean, Faculty of Medicine
Professor, Division of Nephrology, Department of Internal Medicine
Juntendo University, Tokyo, Japan

Kimio Tomita, MD

Japan

Professor Kimio Tomita is presently Chairman of the Department of Nephrology at Graduate School of Faculty of Life Science in Kumamoto University. He graduated Tokyo Medical and Dental University in 1973. He trained Nephrology at the Department of Internal Medicine II in Tokyo Medical and Dental University from 1973 to 1994. He also trained as a research fellow at NIH from 1982-85 under the auspices of Dr. M. Burg, Dr. M. Knepper and Dr. J. Pisano. He became Professor and Chairman of Internal Medicine III at Kumamoto University in 1994. In 2003, he became Chairman at present University. Professor Tomita has interest in renal physiology, electrolytes transport in tubule and hypertension. He is especially interested in sodium regulation and hypertension. He is a member of directors of Japanese Society of Nephrology and Japanese Society of Internal Medicine. He is the Director of General Meeting of Japanese Society of Nephrology at Yokohama in 2012.

Robert Toto, MD

USA

Dr. Robert Toto is the Mary M. Conroy Professor of Kidney Disease and Director of Clinical Nephrology and Patient-Oriented Research in Nephrology at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas. He received his MD degree from the University of Illinois in Chicago in 1977 and did his Internal Medicine training at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. He completed his nephrology training at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas in 1983 and joined the full-time faculty immediately thereafter.

Dr. Toto is nationally and internationally known for clinical research and teaching. He has awarded numerous teaching awards from Medical Students and Residents at UT Southwestern Medical Center and is a regular speaker at National and International Nephrology meetings on a variety of topics in renal disease. He has served on program committees for the American Society of Nephrology, the International Congress of Nephrology and the National Kidney Foundation and is actively involved with training and research policy development at the National level through the American Society of Nephrology and National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Toto has authored more than 100 original articles and textbook chapters related to diagnosis and management of hypertension and kidney diseases. His published work includes pathophysiology of hypertensive and diabetic renal diseases, dyslipidemia in chronic kidney disease, novel risk factors for diabetic nephropathy, anemia in patients with chronic kidney disease and dialysis-related morbidity and mortality and other complications of kidney disease. He has served on the editorial boards of Kidney International, Journal of American Society of Nephrology, the American Journal of Kidney Disease and Nephrology, American Journal of Nephrology, Nephrology Dialysis and Transplantation and Current Opinion in Nephrology and Hypertension.

Dr. Toto's research interests include detection, prevention and treatment of progressive kidney diseases including diabetes and hypertension. He has been involved with major federally supported clinical trials in nephrology including the African-American Study of Kidney Disease (AASK trial), the HEMO study, the Reduction in Endpoints in NIDDM with the Angiotensin Antagonist Losartan and the Irbesartan in Diabetic Nephropathy Trial and the Trial to Reduce cardiovascular Events with Aranesp Therapy. He has conducted original research on the diagnosis and management of diabetic nephropathy the leading cause of kidney disease.

Haiyan Wang, MD

China

Haiyan Wang is the Professor of Medicine at Peking University First Hospital. She is the current President of Peking University Institute of Nephrology and the Director of Key Laboratory of Nephrology, National Ministry of Health, China.

Professor Wang is very active in the academic area of national and international nephrology and internal medicine. She acts as the Vice President of Chinese Medical Association. She was the President of Chinese Society of Internal Medicine, President of Clinical Group of National Postdoctoral Committee, Ministry of Education; and the Executive Councilor of International Society of Nephrology (ISN). She has been awarded as the distinguished investigator medal of the National Kidney Foundation in 2006. Her main research interest is in epidemiology, molecular mechanisms and intervention of the progression of chronic kidney diseases.

Christoph Wanner, MD, PhD

Germany

Christoph Wanner is Professor of Medicine, Chief of the Division of Nephrology since 1994 and Director of the Center of Clinical Research since 2003 at the University Hospital of Würzburg. He received his MD PhD degree from Freiburg University. His main interest has been the area of kidney disease related metabolism, dyslipidemia, inflammation and cardiovascular disease. He has served as the principal investigator of the 4D Study, a randomized controlled trial in type 2 diabetic patients on hemodialysis on the effect of statin therapy. He is also steering committee member and central European coordinator of the SHARP Study. He has published more than 350 articles of whom 290 are cited in pub-med. Dr. Wanner serves as editor-in chief, subject editor and member of the editorial review boards of many journals. He also serves as chairman of the ERA-EDTA (European Renal Association – European Dialysis and Transplant Association) Registry and Congress President of the 2010 joint ERA-EDTA / German Society of Nephrology Congress in Munich, Germany. Dr. Wanner is a member of the ERBP (European Renal Best Practice) workgroup and of the KDIGO (Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcome) Board of Councilors.

Tsuyoshi Watanabe, MD, PhD

Japan

Tsuyoshi Watanabe is Professor of nephrology and endocrinology/metabolism at the Department of Internal Medicine, Fukushima Medical University, Fukushima, Japan. He received MD and PhD degree from University of Tokyo. After completion of residency and fellowship in internal medicine, he was engaged in basic research on the metabolism and functions of lipid mediators in the vasculature and kidney at the Department of Medical Chemistry, Kyoto University School of Medicine, Japan, and the Department of Biochemistry, Michigan State University, USA, from 1981 to 1986. Subsequently, he worked as a faculty member (assistant professor from 1986 to 1992 and associate professor from 1992 to 1997) at the First Department of Internal Medicine, University of Tokyo, where he continued research projects on lipid mediators in the kidney and also extended his research field to the genetic background and pathogenesis of diabetic nephropathy besides clinical and educational duties. He took the present position on 1997. Since then, he has been working as the chairperson at the Department of Nephrology and Endocrinology/Metabolism, Fukushima Medical University, where his research interests have been the pathogenesis of diabetic vascular complications, the therapeutic approach for IgA nephropathy, the genetic background and pathophysiology of salt sensitive hypertension, and the epidemiological studies on chronic kidney disease (CKD).

Myles Wolf, MD, MMSc

USA

Myles Wolf, MD, MMSc, is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine in Miami, Florida. He is a staff nephrologist at the University of Miami and Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami and the Director of Clinical Research in the Nephrology and Hypertension Division of the University of Miami.
After receiving his medical degree from the State University of New York-Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY, Dr. Wolf completed an internship and residency in Internal Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital and then a fellowship in Nephrology at MGH/Brigham and Women's Hospital. In 2002, Dr. Wolf received his Masters of Medical Sciences in Clinical and Physiological Investigation from Harvard Medical School. Dr. Wolf was on the faculty of Harvard Medical School between 2002 and 2008 while in the Renal Unit of the Department of Medicine at the MGH where he also served as an Associate Program Director of the MGH Internal Medicine Residency Training Program.
Board-certified in internal medicine and nephrology, Dr. Wolf's research interests include the metabolism of vitamin D, calcium, phosphorus, PTH and FGF-23 across the spectrum of chronic kidney disease. He is the principal investigator of grants from the National Institutes of Health to study the role of FGF-23 in phosphorus metabolism, secondary hyperparathyroidism, and cardiovascular disease in chronic kidney disease.
Dr. Wolf's research has been published in The New England Journal of Medicine, Journal of the American Society of Nephrology, Kidney International and Circulation, among others. He is the recipient of numerous research and teaching awards, has served as a reviewer for several journals and is a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of the American Society of Nephrology.

Chih-Wei Yang, MD

Taiwan

Chih-Wei Yang is currently the Chairman of Internal Medicine and Professor/Director of Department of Nephrology, Chang Gung Memorial Hospital at Linkou, Taiwan.
He studied medicine in Taipei Medical College and then worked at the Department of Internal Medicine at Chang Gung Memorial Hospital since 1985. He subsequently received his basic science training at Renal Cell Biology Section at NIDDK, NIH, USA as a visiting associate from 1990-1994. After returning to Department of Nephrology at Chang Gung Memorial Hospital as a nephrologist, he was promoted to Professor of Internal Medicine in 1999 and then Director of the Department of Nephrology in 2003. Chang Gung Memorial Hospital is a 4000 beds teaching hospital and the department includes 38 renal physicians in 5 divisions, 190 nurses serving for 1300 hemodialysis and 420 peritoneal dialysis patients. The nephrology program was established to aim for a high quality service, teaching, and research for acute and chronic kidney diseases. Dr. Yang established the Kidney Research Center in 2004 to elucidate the pathophysiological mechanisms of common kidney diseases in Taiwan, to develop novel therapeutics, and to enhance international collaboration. Dr. Yang has been an editorial member of *Kidney International* and was awarded Outstanding Research from National Science Council in 2008 for his contribution in infection-related kidney disease particularly leptospirosis.
Dr. Yang also contributes to enhance medical research as a Chairman of Medical Research Department and was appointed as Vice Chairman of R&D Committee for Chang Gung Medical Foundation in 2007. He is the Executive Councilor in Taiwan Society of Nephrology and became Councilor of ISN in 2009. He wishes to promote Asian and global link for a better integration to combat chronic kidney diseases in this region and to further commit to global ties and collaboration for ISN initiatives.

Charles van Ypersele de Strihou, MD, PhD

Belgium

Training:

1957-1959	Fellow, Department of Medicine, Université Catholique de Louvain (Professor Hoet)
1959-1960	Fellow, Hôpital Necker (Professor Hamburger) Paris
1960-1962	Research Fellow, Renal Laboratory (Professor W.B. Schwartz) Tufts University Medical School, Boston
1963-1966	Established investigator, F.N.R.S. (Belgium)

University and Hospital appointments:

University of Louvain Medical School

1966-1967	Assistant Professor of Medicine
1967-1972	Associate Professor of Medicine
1972-1975	Professor of Medicine
1975-1998	Full Professor of Medicine
1998-2003	Invited Professor
1998-	Emeritus Professor

University of Louvain Hospitals

1967-1973	Chef de Clinique Adjoint - Department of Medicine
1973-1977	Head Renal Service, Cliniques Universitaires St. Pierre (Leuven)
1977-1998	idem - Cliniques Universitaires St. Luc (Brussels)
1998-2003	Consultant - Cliniques Universitaires St. Luc (Brussels)

University of Louvain

1992-1996	Member of the Academic Senate
1997-1998	President of the University's Research Council

Honors:

1959	Lauréat "Concours des bourses de voyages"
1959-1960	Fellow SPECIA Foundation
1960-1961	Fellow Belgian American Educational Foundation
1961-1962	Fellow U.S. Public Health Service and Charlton Memorial Fellow of Tufts University Medical School
1965	NATO Fellow
1968-1969	Visiting Professor, Faculté Universitaire Notre Dame de la Paix à Namur
1974	Visiting Professor, University of Southampton Medical School
1987	Associate Member Académie Royale de Médecine
1988	Honorary Fellow American College of Physicians
1992	Honorary Fellow Royal College of Physicians, London
1992	Honorary Fellow Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh
1995	Member Académie Royale de Médecine
1997	Doctor Honoris Causa - University of Basel, Switzerland
2001-2002	Vice-Président Académie Royale de Médecine
2003	Président Académie Royale de Médecine

Carmine Zoccali, MD, FASN

Italy

Carmine Zoccali is Director of the Department of Nephro-Urology and Transplantation of the Ospedali Riuniti Reggio Cal, Italy and Director of the Division of Nephrology, Hypertension of the same hospital. He is also Chief of the Clinical Epidemiology and Pathophysiology of Hypertension and Renal Diseases Unit of CNR-IBIM in Reggio Cal and postgraduate professor of Nephrology.

Interests of Dr. Zoccali span from clinical epidemiology, progressive kidney diseases, CKD and ESRD, hypertension and uremic toxicity. He has published 352 papers in peer reviewed journals and has received international awards from the Kidney Foundation and the Borrelli and Dorso foundations. Dr. Zoccali serves as member of the editorial board or as associated editor all major journal of nephrology and hypertension including JASN, cJASN, Kidney International, Nephrology Dialysis and Transplantation, Journal of Hypertension, Hypertension. He has been named honorary member to the Spanish society of Nephrology and the Polish Society of Nephrology. Dr. Zoccali chaired the ERA-EDTA Registry of Dialysis and Transplantation from 2003 to 2009 and was the President of the Italian Society of Nephrology from 2006 to 2008.