ISN nexus
LINKING RESEARCH TO PRACTICE

New era of drug discovery and clinical trials in kidney disease
APRIL 3-6, 2014 – BERGAMO

Program

Program At-A-Glance

Thursday, April 3, 2014

16:30 - 16:40 **Welcome Addresses**
Giuseppe Remuzzi, Italy
Toshio Miyata, Japan

16:40 - 17:10 **Keynote Lecture 1**
Chairs: Kumar Sharma, USA
Retarding renal disease progression: the ingredients of a successful story
Giuseppe Remuzzi, Italy

SESSION 1: NEWER TARGETS (PART 1)
Chairs: Bernardo Rodriguez-Iturbe, Venezuela and Steve Ledbetter, USA

17:10 - 17:30 Bone morphogenic protein (BMP)/ receptors and exosomes
Raghu Kalluri, Boston, USA
17:30 - 17:50 TGF-β for collagen deposition and fibrosis
Kumar Sharma, USA
17:50 - 18:00 Discussion

SESSION 2: IMPLEMENTATION OF CLINICAL TRIALS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
Chair: Raymond Vanholder, Belgium

18:00 - 18:20 Feasibility and hurdles of clinical studies in low-resource settings
Ike Okpechi, South Africa
18:20 - 18:40 Safety issues of clinical research
Vivekanand Jha, India
18:40 - 18:50 Discussion

18:50 - 20:00 **Welcome and Networking Reception**

Friday, April 4, 2014

SESSION 3: NEWER TARGETS (PART 2)
Chair: Agnes Fogo, USA

08:15 - 08:35 FGF23/FGF receptors/Klotho for calcium and phosphate homeostasis
Makoto Kuro-o, USA
08:35 - 08:55 Sirtuin-3 for senescence and aging
Ariela Benigni, Italy
08:55 - 09:15 PAI-1 as a molecule regulating vascular regeneration and senescence
Douglas Vaughan, USA
09:15 - 09:25 Discussion

09:25 - 09:55 **Coffee Break and Poster Viewing**

SESSION 4: COLLABORATION AMONG ACADEMIA, PHARMA AND THE REGULATOR (PART 1)
Chairs: Chih-Wei Yang, Taiwan, Vivekanand Jha, India

09:55 - 10:15 Drug discovery in kidney disease: From serendipity to rationality
Toshio Miyata, Japan
10:15 - 10:35 Regulatory Science and global clinical trials: views of a biostatistician
Masahiro Takeuchi, Japan

10:35 - 10:55 Respective roles of academia and industry: messages from pharma
Seigo Izumo, Japan
10:55 - 11:15 Approach to partnership - academia, pharma, and governmental organization: message from Latin America
Ricardo Correa-Rotter, Mexico
11:15 - 11:35 Approach to partnership - academia, pharma, and governmental organization: message from China
Zhi-Hong Liu, China
11:35 - 11:50 The Kidney Health Initiative: Partnerships for Innovation and Safety
Prabir Roy-Chaudhury, USA

11:50 - 12:20 Keynote Lecture 2
Chairs: Giuseppe Remuzzi, Italy
50 years of nephrology. Much progress but miles to go before we sleep
Barry M. Brenner, USA

12:20 - 13:35 Lunch & Poster Viewing

SESSION 5: REGULATORY SCIENCE

Chairs: Giuseppe Remuzzi, Italy and Toshio Miyata, Japan

13:35 - 13:55 Regulatory issues and strategies by FDA
Aliza Thompson, USA
13:55 - 14:15 Current regulatory issues and strategies by PMDA
Tsuyoshi Ando, Japan
14:15 - 14:35 Regulatory issues and strategies by EMA
Romaldas Maciulaitis, Lithuania

14:35 - 15:05 Keynote Lecture 3
Chairs: Toshio Miyata, Japan
The role of academia in the relation with pharma and regulatory authorities
Silvio Garattini, Italy
15:05 - 15:25 Panel discussion
Chairs: Giuseppe Remuzzi, Italy and Toshio Miyata, Japan

15:25 - 15:45 Coffee Break and Poster Viewing

SESSION 6: CLINICAL ENDPOINTS

Chairs: Dick De Zeeuw, The Netherlands and David G. Warnock, USA

15:45 - 16:05 Kidney volumes and/or GFR in ADPKD trials
Albert Ong, UK
16:05 - 16:25 Specific end points for AKI trials
Raymond Vanholder, Belgium
16:25 - 16:45 Estimated vs measured GFR for disease progression
Piero Ruggenenti, Italy
16:45 - 17:05 Short term changes in multiple on-target and off-target risk markers as a substitute for hard renal endpoints
Hiddo Lambers Heerspink, The Netherlands
17:05 - 17:20 Discussion

Saturday, April 5, 2014

07:00 - 08:00 Meet the Expert Breakfast Session
(Sala Alabastro B, second floor)

SESSION 7: NEWER TARGETS (PART 3)

Chair: David Nikolic-Paterson, Australia

08:15 - 08:35 Renal erythropoietin producing cell for anemia
Masayuki Yamamoto, Japan

08:35 - 08:55 Water channels (aquaporins)
Olivier Devuyst, Switzerland
08:55 - 09:05 Discussion

SESSION 8: ADVANCES ON THE EVALUATION FOR A DRUG NEPHROTOXICITY

Chairs: Claudio Ronco, Italy and Masaomi Nangaku, Japan

09:05 - 09:25 Qualification of safety biomarkers
Frank D. Sistare, USA
09:25 - 09:45 Next generation biomarkers
Joseph V. Bonventre, USA
09:45 - 09:55 Discussion

09:55 - 10:25 Coffee Break and Poster Viewing

SESSION 9: NEWER TARGETS (PART 4)

Chairs: Charles Alpers, USA and Ariela Benigni, Italy

10:25 - 10:45 Glucosylceramide synthase as new target for polycystic kidney disease
Steve Ledbetter, USA
10:45 - 11:05 Immune cells in hypertension: perspectives from experimental data
Bernardo Rodriguez-Iturbe, Venezuela
11:05 - 11:15 Discussion

11:15 - 11:45 Keynote Lecture 4
Chair: Kai-Uwe Eckardt, Germany
Low-dose aspirin, atherothrombosis and cancer: from old trials to new mechanistic hypotheses and new trials
Carlo Patrono, Italy

11:45 - 13:00 Industry Sponsored Lunch Symposium:
Steering through the challenges of diabetic kidney disease – on target or in troubled water?

SESSION 10: BRIDGE OF CLINICAL DATA AMONG RACES

Chairs: Charles Swanepoel, South Africa and Masahiro Takeuchi, Japan

13:00 - 13:20 Lessons from cohort studies
Kai-Uwe Eckardt, Germany
13:20 - 13:40 Australian Kidney Trials Network
Carmel Hawley, Australia
13:40 - 13:50 Discussion

SESSION 11: COLLABORATION AMONG ACADEMIA, PHARMA AND THE REGULATOR (PART 2)

Chairs: Adeera Levin, Canada and Ricardo Correa-Rotter, Mexico

13:50 - 14:10 Toward better, more innovative partnership between industry and academia: messages from pharma
Koichi Minami, Japan
14:10 - 14:30 Toward better, more innovative partnership between industry and academia: messages from pharma
Dennis Andress, USA
14:30 - 14:50 Approach to partnership - academia, pharma, and governmental organization: message from Australia
Vlado Perkovic, Australia
14:50 – 15:00 Patients, research and drugs: a view from the sharp end
Fiona Loud, UK
15:00 – 15:20 Panel Discussion
Chairs: Adeera Levin, Canada and Ricardo Correa-Rotter, Mexico
Discussants: 4 pharma

15:20 - 15:50 Coffee Break and Poster Viewing

SESSION 12: EXPLORATORY CLINICAL TRIALS (NEW DRUGS)

Chairs: Mark Houser, USA and Albert Ong, United Kingdom

15:50 - 16:10 Novel immunosuppressive drugs and biologics
Flavio Vincenti, USA

16:10 - 16:30 Enzyme replacement therapy for Fabry's disease
David Warnock, USA

16:30 - 16:50 In search of novel drugs for polycystic kidney and liver disease
Marie Hogan, USA

16:50 - 17:00 Discussion

SESSION 13: EXPLORATORY CLINICAL TRIALS (CELL THERAPY OR WITH INNOVATIVE DEVICES)

Chairs: Flavio Vincenti, USA and Norberto Perico, Italy

17:00 - 17:20 How to approach cell-based therapy in kidney transplantation
Ton Rabelink, The Netherlands

17:20 - 17:40 CARPEDIEM: a concrete step forward in the 0-25 AKI ISN initiative
Claudio Ronco, Italy

17:40 – 18:00 Balance of Thymosin-beta 4 and AcSDKP- a Novel Target for Fibrosis
Agnes Fogo, USA

18:00 - 18:10 Discussion

Sunday, April 6, 2014

SESSION 14: NEWER TARGETS (PART 5)

Chairs: Makoto Kuro-o, USA and Robert H. Weiss, USA

08:00 - 08:20 SMAD-3 for fibrosis
Hui Yao Lan, Hong Kong

08:20 - 08:40 Histone modifications in kidney disease
Masaomi Nangaku, Japan

08:40 - 09:00 Spleen tyrosine kinase (Syk) in inflammatory kidney disease
David Nikolic-Paterson, Australia

09:00 – 09:20 EGFR and Lipocalin 2 (Lcn2) in CKD progression
Fabiola Terzi, France

09:20 - 09:30 Discussion

09:30 - 09:55 Coffee Break and Poster Viewing

SESSION 15: NEWER EXPERIMENTAL MODELS

Chairs: Olivier Devuyst, Switzerland and Masayuki Yamamoto, Japan

09:55 - 10:15 Zebrafish for renal function and pathophysiology
Karl Tryggvason, Sweden

10:15 - 10:35 What we have learned from novel murine models of diabetic nephropathy
Charles E. Alpers, Seattle, USA

10:35 - 10:55 Translational research in Polycystic Kidney Disease: Lessons learned from animal models
Dorien J.M. Peters, The Netherlands

10:55 - 11:05 Discussion

SESSION 16: SURROGATE BIOMARKERS

Chairs: Joseph V. Bonventre, USA and Frank Sistare, USA

11:05 - 11:25 Clinical Proteomics: from discovery towards implementation and clinical application
Harald Mischak, UK-Germany

11:25 - 11:45 Metabolomics
Robert Weiss, USA

11:45 - 11:50 Discussion

11:50 - 13:00 Lunch and Poster Viewing

SESSION 17: SYSTEM BIOLOGY

Chairs: Mark Cooper, Australia and Karl Tryggvason, Sweden

13:00 - 13:25 Integration of experimental approaches and computational models for new therapeutic targets
John Cijiang He, USA

13:25 - 13:45 Bioinformatics for understanding diabetic nephropathy
Jonathan M. Starkey, USA

13:45 - 13:55 Discussion

SESSION 18: COLLABORATION AMONG ACADEMIA, PHARMA AND THE REGULATOR (PART 3)

Chairs: Zhi-Hong Liu, China and Vivekanand Jha, India

13:55 - 14:15 Approach to partnership - academia, pharma, and governmental organization: message from Taiwan
Chih-Wei Yang, Taiwan

14:15 - 14:35 Approach to partnership - academia, pharma, and governmental organization: message from Africa
Charles Swanepoel, South Africa

14:35 - 14:45 Discussion

14:45 - 15:15 Coffee Break and Poster Viewing

SESSION 19: PROTOCOLS OF CLINICAL TRIALS

Chairs: Carmel Hawley, Australia and Reshma Kewalramani, USA

15:15 - 15:35 The ISN ACCTs initiative
Adeera Levin, Canada

15:35 - 15:55 Common theme in failures: study design, side effects?
Dick de Zeeuw, The Netherlands

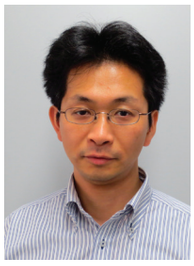
15:55 - 16:00 Discussion

16:00 - 16:10 Close of meeting

Chair & Speaker Biographies

CHARLES ALPERS

Dr. Charles Alpers is a Professor of Pathology and Adjunct Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA, where he also serves as Vice-Chair of Pathology. At the University of Washington, he directs a large renal biopsy pathology service, and his research interests are focused on models of diabetic nephropathy and mechanisms that promote progressive glomerular injury in experimental models of glomerulonephritis. He has a large commitment to enhancing the practice of diagnostic renal pathology and towards training of renal pathologists, and has served as councillor and president of the Renal Pathology Society. Recently, he has been the founding chair of the Glomerular Disease Advisory Group of the American Society of Nephrology, and has co-organized and co-directed the courses in renal pathology at the World Congress of Nephrology meetings in 2007, 2009, 2011, and 2013.



TSUYOSHI ANDO

Dr. Tsuyoshi Ando received Ph.D. in Pharmacology from Tokyo University of Pharmacy and Life Science, and joined the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Evaluation Center of the National Institute of Health Sciences (PMDEC) in 2003 (current PMDA). He was assigned to the Office of Biologics I in the PMDA, and also joined ICH-S7B (Expert) and ICH-Q11 (Topic Leader).
He was seconded to the University of Tokyo Hospital Translational Research Center in 2009, and supported to work toward practical use of basic research in Academia (not only the University of Tokyo).
He was assigned to Deputy Manager, Office of Review Management Pharmaceutical Affairs Consultation Group on R&D Strategy PMDA at the beginning of April, 2012 and transferred to Office of Review Innovation as Deputy Secretariat in September, 2012.

DENNIS ANDRESS

Dennis L. Andress, M.D. is the Senior Medical Director for Renal Development with AbbVie. Prior to his employment at AbbVie he was Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington, Seattle, WA.
Dr. Andress contributed basic and clinical research discoveries related to complications of chronic kidney disease and end-stage renal failure with over 120 publications in peer-reviewed journals. His current interest is in drug development for diabetic nephropathy and he actively participates in early drug discovery opportunities for diseases of the kidney.

ARIELA BENIGNI

Ariela read Biological Science (Biol. Sci. D. Degree, University of Milan) and got the Ph.D. Degree (University of Maastricht). She researched problems of anti-cancer and anti-thrombotic drugs in Milan and in Strasbourg before joining the Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research in Bergamo, Italy, where she has been studying mediators of renal damage in progressive renal injury She is currently the Head of Department of Molecular Medicine and Scientific Secretary of Mario Negri Institute of Bergamo. She acted as Associate Editor of Kidney International, Journal of Nephrology and International Journal of Artificial Organs; actually she is Editor of Expert Opinion on Therapeutic Patents and PeerJ. She was consultant of WHO for study on the evaluation of the predictive ability of angiogenic factors for pre-eclampsia and she has been appointed as Senior Fellow by the University of Oxford, Nuffield Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology. She is the author of more than 230 scientific articles.

JOSEPH BONVENTRE

Dr. Bonventre is the Samuel A. Levine Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Professor of Health Sciences and Technology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is Chief of the Renal Division and Chief of the Biomedical Engineering Division of the Brigham and Women's Hospital.
Dr. Bonventre's research focuses primarily on the study of kidney injury and repair and signal transduction, with a special emphasis on the role of inflammation, biomarkers and stem cells. Dr. Bonventre is past-president of the American Society of Nephrology, founding director of the Kidney group of the Harvard Stem Cell Institute and has been elected to the American Society of Clinical Investigation, the Association of American Physicians and the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering. He has been awarded the Osler Medal of the Royal Society of Physicians and the Bywaters Award of the International Society of Nephrology.

BARRY BRENNER

Barry M. Brenner earned his M.D. degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine in 1962, completed internal medicine residency at the Bronx Municipal Hospital Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine in 1966 and continued his career in research positions at the National Heart Institute, and the University of California, San Francisco before arriving at Harvard as the Samuel A. Levine Professor of Medicine in 1976. Since then, Dr. Brenner has held various positions at the Brigham and Women's Hospital including: Director, Laboratory of Kidney and Electrolyte Physiology, Director, Renal Division 1979-2001 and since 2001, Director Emeritus. During his Directorship, the Brigham Renal Division was voted America's leading nephrology program by U.S. News and World Report, a ranking that continues to the present day. His basic and clinical research has focused on mechanisms of glomerular function in health and disease, for which he is generally considered the world's leading authority. Dr. Brenner has served as officer in many societies including the American Society for Clinical Investigation (Councilor, Vice-President), American Society of Nephrology (Councilor, President), American Society of Hypertension (Founding Member, President), International Society of Nephrology (Councilor and Co-Chair, Commission for Global Advancement of Nephrology), American Association of Physicians (Councilor) and American Association for the Advancement of Science (Chair, Section on Medical Sciences). He has held 25 editorial board appointments, published more than 650 scientific articles, edited 48 books and has participated in over 300 visiting lectures and/or professorships. He has received numerous awards and accolades, including Fellow, Royal College of Physicians, London; Jean Hamburger Award and Amgen Prize, International Society of Nephrology; Richard Bright Award, American Society of Hypertension; Donald W. Selden and David M. Hume Awards of the National Kidney Foundation (USA); Novartis International Award, Council for High Blood Pressure Research, American Heart Assoc; and Homer W. Smith (Basic Science), John P. Peters (Clinical Science) and Robert G. Narins (Teacher/Educator) Awards of the American Society of Nephrology (the sole recipient of all three major awards in the history of the Society. He has also received honorary degrees from Harvard University (A.M., 1977), Long Island University (D.Sc., 1987), Université de Paris, Pierre et Marie Curie (D. Med. Sci., 1992), Universidad Complutense de Madrid (M.D., 2002) and was named Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Pittsburgh in 1995. Dr. Brenner was elected to The American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2003.

MARK COOPER

Chief Scientific Officer, Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute, Melbourne, Australia. Director, JDRF Centre for Diabetes Complications, Melbourne, Australia. Mark Cooper is the Chief Scientific Officer of the Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute as well as the Director of the JDRF Centre for Diabetes Complications at the Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute. He holds honorary appointments as a Professor of Medicine at both Monash University and University of Melbourne. He is a trained endocrinologist with an appointment at the co-located Alfred Hospital. Dr Cooper studied medicine at the University of Melbourne and then completed his physicians training at the Austin Hospital as well as his PhD under Dr George Jerums and Professor Austin Doyle in the University of Melbourne, Department of Medicine, Austin Hospital. Dr Cooper has successfully competed for a large number of peer reviewed grants over the last 15 years from a range of organizations including not only JDRF but also the National Health & Medical Research Council of Australia, National Institutes of Health, National Heart Foundation of Australia, Diabetes Australia and Kidney Health Australia. In 1999, Dr Cooper was awarded the Eric Susman prize from the Royal Australasian College of Physicians for his research in the field of renal and vascular complications of diabetes. In 2005, he was awarded the Australian Diabetes Society (ADS) Kellion Award for outstanding contribution to diabetes research in Australia. In 1999, he was awarded a Centre Grant from JDRF which was subsequently renewed in 2003. He was recently awarded a five year scholars award by JDRF, one of only 2 awarded worldwide. He is the first non-North American to receive this highly prestigious award. This work has now been further supported by a 5 year Australia Fellowship awarded by NHMRC in 2009. Dr Cooper is currently Co-Chair of the JDRF Medical Science Review Committee (Complications Panel). He is regularly invited to international meetings and has over 400 peer reviewed publications.

RICARDO CORREA-ROTTER

Ricardo Correa-Rotter is originary of Mexico City, Mexico. Medical School: National Autonomous University of Mexico. Posgraduate training: Internal Medicine and Nephrology at the Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Medicas y Nutrición Salvador Zubiran, Mexico. Nephrology Fellowship at the University of Minnesota, USA. Present positions: Head of the Department of Nephrology and Mineral Metabolism at the Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Medicas y Nutricion Salvador, Zubirán in Mexico, Professor of Medicine and Nephrology of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, Professor of Nephrology of the Panamerican University in Mexico, member of the Academy of Medicine of Mexico, and National Researcher Level III of the Council of Science and Technology of Mexico. Current international academic positions: Secretary General of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN 2013-). Immediate Past President Latin American Society of Nephrology and Hypertension (SLANH 2009-2012), member of the Postgraduate Education Committee American Society of Nephrology (2008-2013), and member of the Board of KDIGO (Kidney disease initiative for global outcomes). Former relevant national academic positions: former President of the Mexican Institute of Research in Nephrology, former president of the Board of Nephrology of Mexico. Former relevant international academic positions: member of the Council and the Executive Committee of ISN. Editorial positions: member of the editorial boards of Kidney International, Nature Reviews in Nephrology, Nephron Clinical Practice, and Current Opinions in Nephrology. From 2002-2004 Associate Editor of the American Journal of Kidney Diseases. Publications: Authored more than 120 scientific articles in peer-reviewed international journals, over 50 book chapters, and edited two books in nephrology. Areas of Interest: End stage renal disease, progression of kidney disease, renal replacement treatment and nutrition. Epidemiology of renal disease in Latin America.

DICK DE ZEEUW

Dr Dick de Zeeuw earned his MD from the University of Groningen in 1975. He finished his PhD thesis in 1980 on the topic of renal hypertension in the Renal Department of the Groningen University. Trained in clinical and experimental renal research at the Renal Department in Groningen, and trained in Clinical Pharmacology at the University of Dallas (1984-1985). He was Board Certified in 1996 at the University of Groningen. Dr de Zeeuw is currently Professor and Chair of the Department of Clinical Pharmacology with a joint appointment in the Department of Nephrology. He serves (served) on the editorial board of several international journals, including Kidney International, Journal of Hypertension, JRAAS, Current Opinion in Nephrology and Hypertension, Journal of Geriatric Urology and Nephrology, NEPHRON, Clinical Nephrology, NDT Plus. He is Director of the Groningen University (nstitute for Drug Exploration (GUIDE), and member of ISN Council. His research interests include: optimize the current and find new therapy approaches to reduce the progressive loss of cardiovascular and renal function, both in diabetic and non-diabetic renal disease. The role of albuminuria/proteinuria and microalbuminuria as biomarker for cardiac and renal disease progression has his particular interest, not only trying to establish the independent "causal" role of albumin leakage in renal and cardiovascular disease progression, but also to establish intervention strategies that lower albuminuria/proteinuria with the supposed organ protective results. In his "albuminuria" quest he initiated large cohort studies such as PREVEND (general population) and GIANTT (type 2 diabetes), and is involved in the leadership of several clinical trials on preventing diabetic cardiovascular and renal progression such as RENAAL (All receptor antagonist), PLANET (statin), TREAT (EPO), VITAL (vitD), SUN (sulodexide), ALTITUDE (renin inhibition), CANVAS (SGLT2-inhibition), RADAR (atrasentan), BEACON (bardoxolone). Unraveling the reasons for individual therapy resistance and creating a response score to evaluate the total effect of drugs are the topics that he judges to be the important focus for the next decades. He has authored more than 440 international scientific publications and more than 60 book chapters, and received the Lennart Hansson Memorial Lecture Award from the European Society of Hypertension, the International Distinguished Medal from the American National Kidney Foundation, and a special lecture award from the Japanese Society of Nephrology.

OLIVIER DEVUYST

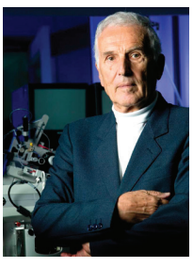
Olivier Devuyst, M.D., Ph.D., is Ordinarius Professor of Physiology and Medicine at the University of Zurich (UZH), Zurich, Switzerland and at the Université catholique de Louvain (UCL) Medical School in Brussels, Belgium. He holds joint appointments in the Division of Nephrology, UniversitätSpital Zurich (USZ) and St.-Luc Academic Hospital (UCL). Olivier Devuyst heads research groups investigating the pathophysiology of inherited kidney diseases and the molecular mechanisms of water and solute transport across the peritoneal membrane. He has been the laureate of several international prizes and has been elected at the Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium in 2005. Since 2008, O. Devuyst coordinates EUNEFRON the European Network for the Study of Orphan Nephropathies. He serves in various Steering Committees and Advisory Boards, and is Associate Editor of Peritoneal Dialysis International and Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation and member of the Editorial Board of Kidney International.

KAI-UWE ECKARDT

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. His major scientific interests lie in the molecular mechanisms and physiological / pathophysiological relevance of oxygen sensing, and the management of anemia. He was 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. Dr. Eckardt serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of the American Society of Nephrology, Kidney International, Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation, the British Medical Journal and the Journal of Molecular Medicine. Since 2009 he is member of the ISN council and chair of the ISN Forefronts Committee. From 2008 until 2011 he served as co-chair of the global organization KDIGO (Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes).

AGNES FOGO

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. Her research interest focuses on progression and potential regression of chronic kidney disease, and is funded by NIDDK. 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.



SILVIO GARATTINI

Silvio Garattini qualified in Medicine in 1954, then appointed lecturer in Chemotherapy and Pharmacology. Founder of the Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research, when it opened in 1963 he was its director. The Institute now has four locations and more than 950 people work there. The Institute has produced about 13,000 scientific publications and 250 volumes. He was a founder of the EORTC. Professor Garattini has acted in various organizations, including the Italian National Research Council; the Ministry of Health “Commissione Unica del Farmaco”; the Committee for Proprietary Medicinal Products of the European Medicine products Agency; he was member of the Board of Istituto Superiore di Sanità; Chairman of the Committee for Research of the Italian Agency for Drugs (AIFA). Vice-President of the Consiglio Superiore di Sanità; President of the Research and Development Commission of AIFA; recently he has been appointed President of the Scientific Committee of the Italian National Center for Diseases’ Prevention and Control. He has received many awards for his work, including the French Legion d’Honneur for Scientific Merit, and the Grande Ufficiale della Repubblica Italiana, the Medaglia d’Oro al Merito della Sanità Pubblica granted by the Italian Ministry of Health.

CARMEL HAWLEY

Associate Professor Carmel Hawley is a consultant nephrologist at Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH), Brisbane, Australia (University of Queensland). She is the inaugural and current chair of the Operations Secretariat of Australasian Kidney Trials network (AKTN) formed in 2005. This collaborative research group has provided the infrastructure and expertise to conduct patient-focused, high-quality, clinical trials in nephrology with the primary focus relating to investigator-initiated studies. The Network has recently published its first completed Randomised Controlled Trial, the HONEYPOT trial (a trial in the peritoneal dialysis cohort) and has a number of other trials underway in Haemodialysis and Chronic Kidney Disease. The progress of the network to date has been recently outlined in Kidney Int, vol.85(1), p. 23-30. The network has been successful in engaging the nephrology community in Australia and New Zealand, and in addition, is active in forming collaborations with leading researchers from other countries. Over the last 5 years Dr Hawley has published over scientific 100 papers and has been awarded numerous grants particularly for the conduct and operational aspects of AKTN trials. Dr Hawley has a diverse clinical practice, is primarily responsible for the facility dialysis unit at Princess Alexandra Hospital and has a particular interest in renal bone disease.

JOHN CIJANG HE

Dr. John Cijiang He got his MD at Shanghai Second medical University and PhD in Physiology at University of Paris VII, France. He was a visiting scientist at NIH in Maryland and The Picower Institute for Medical Research in New York. He completed his medical residency at SUNY down state and clinical nephrology fellowship at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. Currently, he is a tenured full Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology/Systems Therapeutics at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. He holds the title of Irene and Dr. Arthur Fishberg endowed chair of Nephrology. He is the division chief of Nephrology at Mount Sinai Hospital. He was the past President of the New York Society of Nephrology. He has been funded by multiple NIH and VA grants and has published more than 100 papers in the peer-reviewed scientific journals. His major research areas include podocyte biology and pathology, signaling networks in kidney cells, systems biology of kidney disease, and kidney fibrosis. His major clinical interest includes diabetic kidney disease, viral-induced kidney disease, and primary glomerular disease.

MARIE HOGAN

Dr. Marie C. Hogan is a consultant in the Department of Medicine, Division of Nephrology and Hypertension at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. She also has joint appointments in the Department of Medical Genetics and the Division of Pediatric Nephrology at Mayo Clinic. She holds the rank of Associate Professor of Medicine, College of Medicine, Mayo Clinic. Her main clinical interests include cystic, inherited renal and glomerular diseases. Her research interests are urine proteomics, biology of urine exosomes, polycystic kidney disease and liver disease, assessment and management of kidney pain.

MARK HOUSER

Mark is a former Academic Nephrologist who has spent the last 12 years in the Pharmaceutical Industry. Mark worked for J&J for 5 years in various clinical and business development roles before joining a NJ-based start-up company (CorMedix) as Chief Medical Officer. He spent 4 years in that role where he was responsible for managing multiple clinical programs. Mark joined Abbott (now Abbvie) in June, 2011 as Group Project Director responsible for all Clinical Development Programs within the Renal Therapeutic Area. He currently has 2 Project Directors and 5 Medical Directors working in his group. His primary clinical interests are in Diabetes and Diabetic Nephropathy, Progression of CKD, and Acute Kidney Injury.
Mark received his MD degree from the University of Nebraska and an MBA from Arizona State University.

SEIGO IZUMO

Dr. Seigo Izumo is Vice President, Head of Cardiovascular & Metabolic Drug Discovery at Takeda Pharmaceuticals. Previously he served as Senior VP & Head of Cardiovascular Therapeutics at Gilead Sciences, and Global Head of Cardiovascular Research at Novartis. Previously, Dr. Izumo was Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School and Director of Cardiovascular Research, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, and Chief of Cardiology Division and Professor of Internal Medicine and Biological Chemistry, University of Michigan Medical School.
Dr. Izumo's academic research has focused on molecular and genetic basis of cardiovascular system. He has made fundamental contributions to signal transduction of cardiac hypertrophy, signaling mechanisms of angiotensin II, mechanisms of heart failure, genetic controls of heart development and congenital heart disease, and the effects of fluid shear stress on vascular endothelium. He is author/co-author of 197 scientific papers and reviews. Some of his original research papers received more than 1,000 citations.

VIVEKANAND JHA

Professor Vivekanand Jha (MBBS, MD, DM, PhD, FRCP, FAMS), Executive Director, George Center for Global Health India, Professor of Nephrology and Head, Department of Translational Regenerative Medicine and Officer-In-Charge, Medical Education and Research Cell at the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research in Chandigarh. Vivekanand Jha graduated from Patna Medical College, did his postgraduate training in Medicine and Nephrology from the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGI), Chandigarh, India and a basic science research Fellowship at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston.
Secretary of the Indian Society of Nephrology, Executive Committee member and Councilor of International Society of Nephrology, Councilor of the Transplantation Society, Executive Committee member of the

Asian Forum of Chronic Kidney Disease Initiative, member of Committees of International Society of Nephrology, Transplantation Society and International Society of Peritoneal Dialysis including Education Committee and Fellowship Committee. Deputy Editor of the Indian Journal of Nephrology, Subject Editor of Nephrology (official journal of the Asia Pacific Society of Nephrology), Associate Editor of the American Journal of Kidney Diseases and American Journal of Transplantation, Editor of the Cochrane Renal Group and Advisory Boards of several other journal, Section Editor of the Oxford Textbook of Nephrology. Board of Directors of the Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes and a member of KDIGO Guideline Development groups for management of kidney transplant recipients and patients with glomerulonephritis, member of several Task Forces and Expert Committees of the Department of Biotechnology and Indian Council of Medical Research and Review panel of international funding organizations. He has over 220 publications in peer-reviewed journals and 30 chapters in major textbooks. Dr Jha has been elected a Fellow of the Royal college of Physicians (London) and the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India). Over 240 publications in leading journals and textbooks.

RESHMA KEWALRAMANI

Reshma Kewalramani, MD FASN currently serves as Vice-President and Global Head of the Nephrology and Metabolic Therapeutic Area at Amgen. She has broad and deep experience with late stage clinical development and has been involved in studies with adult and pediatric patients representing a variety of disease states including chronic kidney disease, anemia, diabetes, heart failure, primary and secondary hyperparathyroidism. She has particular interest and experience in the areas of anemia and chronic kidney disease and has led or overseen the seminal cardiovascular outcomes trials in these areas including RED HF (Reduction of Events With Darbepoetin Alfa in Heart Failure Trial), TREAT (Trial of Darbepoetin Alfa in Type 2 Diabetes and Chronic Kidney Disease), and EVOLVE (Evaluation of Cinacalcet Therapy to Lower Cardiovascular Events). Reshma has a keen interest in driving innovation in drug development in general, and in Nephrology, in particular. She is a member of the Board of Directors of KHI (Kidney Health Initiative) and serves on the Steering Committee of CTTI (Clinical Trials Transformation Initiative) Reshma's honors and awards include the American College of Physicians Associates Council Award, the American Medical Women's Association Janet M. Glasgow Memorial Achievement Citation, and the Harvard Medical School Excellence in Teaching Award. Reshma is a Fellow of the American Society of Nephrology and received board certification in Internal Medicine in 2001 and in Nephrology in 2003. She is a Phi Beta Kappa, Summa Cum Laude graduate of Boston University and received her medical degree, with honors, from the Boston University School of Medicine. She completed her internship and residency at the Massachusetts General Hospital and her fellowship in Nephrology at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital combined program. Reshma was involved in basic science research in transplantation in the field of co-stimulatory blockade and was a physician in the medical departments of the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

MAKOTO KURO-O

MAKOTO KURO-O is a Professor of Center for Molecular Medicine in Jichi Medical University and an Adjunct Professor of Pathology in University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas (UT Southwestern). He also has an appointment to the Pak Center for Mineral Metabolism in UT Southwestern. He received his MD and PhD from the University of Tokyo, Japan. His major research interests include molecular mechanisms of aging and age-related diseases with special reference to chronic kidney disease.

HIDDO LAMBERS HEERSPINK

Doctor Hiddo Lambers Heerspink is affiliated with the Department of Clinical Pharmacology of the University Medical Center Groningen, the Netherlands. He studied pharmacy at the pharmacy school of the University of Groningen and subsequently received his PhD degree from the medical faculty of the University Medical Center Groningen. He then worked as a post-doctoral fellow at The George Institute in Sydney, Australia where he investigated the effects of blood pressure lowering regimens on renal and cardiovascular outcomes in patients with renal impairment. Based on this work, he received the award for best scientific publication from the Dutch Clinical Pharmacology Association and was awarded a young investigator grant from the Dutch organisation of scientific research in 2011. Since 2010, Doctor Lambers Heerspink has held a position as a Clinical Pharmacologist at the University Medical Center Groningen. His main research interests include optimising current treatment strategies and finding new therapeutic approaches to halt the progression of renal and cardiovascular disease in diabetic disease. His particular clinical research interest is to identify determinants of individual treatment responses and ways to optimize drug response in individual patients. To achieve these goals he is involved in various international clinical trials and analyzes the urine and plasma proteome and metabolome of clinical trial participants to unravel pathways of therapy resistance.

HUI LAO LAN

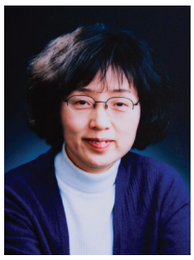
Professor Hui Yao Lan, MD, PhD. Professor Hui Yao LAN is a Professor (chair professor) at the Department of Medicine and Therapeutics; an Assistant Dean (Research) of Faculty of Medicine; an Associate Director of Li Ka Shing Institute of Health Sciences; Director of Inflammatory Diseases Research; and a Principle Investigator of Shenzhen Research Institute, the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Professor Lan received his Medical Degree and Master Degree in Pathology at Sun Yat-Sen University of Medical Sciences, China, and PhD Degree at Monash University, Australia. He previously held a Senior Lecturer (Hon) at Department of Medicine Monash University (Australia); a full Professorship at Department of Medicine, the University of Hong Kong; and a tenured Professor at Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine (USA), Professor Lan's major research interest is TGF-b/Smad signaling in chronic cardiovascular and kidney diseases with focusing on diabetic and hypertensive complications. He published more than 270 publications with more than 8500 citations and h-index 53. Currently, he is an Editorial Board member of J. Am. Soc. Nephrol., International J. of Biological Sciences, Frontiers in Renal and Epithelial Physiology, and an Associate Editors for Nephron Experimental Nephrology and Clinical experimental Pharmacology and Physiology.

STEVE LEDBETTER

Steven Ledbetter is Group Vice President at Genzyme/Sanofi Research and Development Center and responsible for research activities in renal, cardiovascular, pulmonary and joint and bone diseases. Steve has 18 years tenure at Genzyme and has long association with development of TGF-beta antagonists, currently in clinical development. Also within the group are development projects in scleroderma, IPF, ADPKD and OA pain.

ADEERA LEVIN

Dr Levin is a Professor of Medicine, Head Division of Nephrology at the University of British Columbia, and Consultant nephrologist at Providence Health Care/ St Paul's Hospital, in Vancouver Canada. She is the Executive Director of the British Columbia 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 to improve patient care across the continuum. She is active in international activities across the spectrum of kidney activities, and has served as Secretary General of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN), and is now President Elect of ISN. Her major research areas of interest include non traditional risk factors for CVD in CKD patients as well as models of care. She has received numerous teaching and research awards from local and national groups. In 2013, she was awarded the Canadian Society of Nephrology Outstanding Contributions to Canadian Nephrology.
She serves on numerous editorial boards and reviews for all major kidney and medicine journals. She is the Principal Investigator on a large cohort study CAN-PREDDICT, and holds numerous peer reviewed grants. She collaborates with other investigators across Canada and internationally.



ZHI-HONG LIU

Zhi-Hong Liu, professor of medicine, Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering, Dean of Nanjing University School of Medicine, Director, National Clinical Research Center of Kidney Disease, Director of Research Institute of Nephrology, Jinling Hospital, Nanjing University School of Medicine. President of Chinese Society of Nephrology, Councilor of International Society of Nephrology(ISN), a board member of KDIGO (Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes), adjunct Professor of Medicine, Brown University, USA. She is the editor-in-chief of Chinese Journal of Nephrology, and served on editorial boards of different journals, including associated chief editor of AJKD.
She has devoted herself to patient care, research and medical education. Her primary interest is in the field of kidney disease, with special interest in glomerulonephritis, diabetic nephropathy and renal replacement therapy. She has published 450 articles, edited 2 books on kidney disease, and contributed chapters to the textbooks on nephrology. She is the chief scientist of the National Basic Research Program of China (973 Program), and was honored with the National Science and Technology Progress Award of China.

FIONA LOUD

Fiona Loud is Policy Director of The British Kidney Patient Association, a national charity which supports people and their families affected by kidney disease with advice, grant aid, research and funding for multi-disciplinary healthcare professionals. It is the biggest source of grant aid in the UK for kidney patients.
She is co-author of Kidney Health: Delivering Excellence on behalf of 7 national charities, which has developed a series of ambitions to improve kidney care. She was Director, and previously Chair of the former Kidney Alliance and has worked closely with all the main patient and professional kidney organisations in the UK.
She works to promote prevention and early identification of kidney disease, and high quality treatment for all patients at risk from or identified with kidney failure. She meets and works with policymakers and Parliamentarians to inform and influence the development and implementation of Government policy relating to kidney care. She has been and is on a number of NICE Guideline Development and Topic Expert Groups.
Fiona is lay chair of the local Organ Donation Committee for West Hertfordshire. She is also chair of her local Kidney Patient Association. She works to promote kidney health and awareness wherever possible including in the media and in educational DVDs. She uses her experience of kidney disease to inform her work. Fiona spent 5 years on dialysis after her kidneys failed before receiving a transplant from her husband seven years ago. Her background is in IT management, software support and development and project management; it includes IT training and e-learning. She has a degree in English.

ROMALDAS MACIULAITIS

Romaldas Maciulaitis, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (LUHS), Lithuania and European Medicines Agency (EMA), United Kingdom. Member of EMA committees (May 2004 – Present): in charge of national representation of regulatory and scientific competence in scientific committees at EMA since 2004 (member of the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use, CHMP and since 2009 – Committee for Advanced therapies, CAT). Contribution to number of public task forces: Ad hoc working groups for national legislation and implementation of EU law in medicines and bioethics (1994-2009), Efficacy Working Party (since 1998 (since 2011 - Rheumatology-Immunology WP)), nine (Co-) Rapporteurships for scientific evaluations of European centralized marketing authorisation applications serving as an (Co-) Rapporteur and assessor for pharmacokinetic, pharmacodynamic, and clinical parts; five Rapporteurships or contributions to European guidance documents on development of medicinal products (Solid Organ Transplantation, Progression of Renal Failure, Cell Based Medicinal Products, Tissue Engineered Products, Stem Cell Therapies, Cartilage regeneration); Scientific Advises in Scientific Advise Working Party of the EMA and State Medicines Control Agency, (eight scientific advises in biomarkers qualification procedures and medicines developments - in the areas of translational, clinical and regulatory nephrology, solid organ transplantation, cell therapies, and infectious diseases); Cell Based Working Party (2007-2012).
Professor of Lithuanian Health Science University, LHSU (previously Assistant Professor, lecturer, and assistant) (September 1989 – Present): educational and scientific activities: leading one European interuniversity Module in postgraduate pharmaceutical medicines development course (Cooperative European Medicines Development Course) that is co-sponsored by IMI/EC and serves as professor of clinical pharmacology and clinical pharmacy in LUHS. Educated as nephrologist (working at LUHS hospital, Kaunas Clinics for last 11 years); Doctor of Medicine (MD), Internist (September 1984 – June 1990); and Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD), Pharmaceutical Sciences (September 1979 – June 1984)

KOICHI MINAMI

Koichi Minami is responsible for developing the new vendor management function in Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation's Head office in Tokyo, Japan. He graduated in cell physiology and gained his Master's Degree at Kyoto University, Japan. He originally joined Tababe Seiyaku in 1992 as a drug discovery pharmacologist in the cardiovascular therapeutica area. Koichi Minami was Project Manager for clinical studies in Japan and then worked in Mitsubishi Tanabe's London Office for several years. He returned to Japan in 2009 as global lead of a Renal project before moving to his current position.

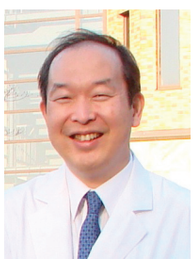
HARALD MISCHAK

Harald Mischak, born 1961 St. Pölten in Austria, received his PhD in technical science from the Technical University of Vienna, Austria, in 1986. Between 1988 and 1993, after postdoctoral work on the Rhinovirus receptor at the University of Vienna (Institute for Biochemistry), he worked as an invited scientist on signalling by protein kinase C and Raf at the Laboratory of Viral Carcinogenesis (funded by the Fulbright Foundation) and as a Schroedinger and Fogarty Fellow at the Laboratory of Genetics of NIH in Bethesda, Maryland, USA. He continued his research on kinases as Group Leader at the GSF, Munich, Germany from 1993-1998. After one year as a scientific group leader at Franz-Volhard Klinikum (MDC) at Berlin-Buch, he worked on the structure of kinases and related molecules at the NIDDK, Bethesda, Maryland, USA. In 1999 he took up a position at the Department of Nephrology at Medical School of Hannover. Here he founded Mosaiques diagnostics and therapeutics AG in 2002, which was started with the aim to identify disease-specific polypeptides. Currently, he holds a position as Professor for Proteomics and Systems Medicine at the University of Glasgow, and he is the chief scientific officer of Mosaiques AG as well as executive director of Mosaiques diagnostics GmbH. He initiated the use of urinary proteomics and capillary electrophoresis coupled mass spectrometry for clinical application, and is a leading authority in clinical proteomics and biomarker identification. Among his achievement in this field are the development of guidelines for clinical proteome analysis, the demonstration of successful application in the diagnosis and prognosis of several diseases, and the effective implementation of proteomics for the detection and monitoring of chronic kidney disease, in clinical trials and for patient management.

The two main focuses of his work are: a) identification, validation, and implementation of proteomic biomarkers, aiming especially at biomarkers associated with chronic kidney disease, and uncovering the molecular changes on a proteomic level that are relevant in, or even cause of, the major diseases mentioned above. This approach is based on the biomarkers identified, but also on addition proteomic, metabolomic and genomic data. Using appropriate bioinformatic approaches, the high-dimensional data will be combined to identify the underlying molecular structures and ultimately develop a molecular model of the respective disease, which in turn will allow identifying the most appropriate therapeutic targets for intervention.

TOSHIO MIYATA

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 Director of the United Centers for Advanced Research and Translational Medicine and Special Advisor to the President, Tohoku University. He currently develops a new cross-disciplinary approach that integrates medical science, biology, structural biology, pharmacology, chemistry, and computer science in order to translate basic research outputs into clinical medicine, especially 'academia-driven drug discovery and clinical development'. Some projects are now at the clinical stage (PAI-1 inhibitor, carbonyl stress inhibitor). He was a member of the Executive Committee and of Council, the International Society of Nephrology.



MASAOMI NANGAKU

Masaomi Nangaku is a professor and head of the Division of Nephrology and Endocrinology, the University of Tokyo School of Medicine, Japan. His research interest includes immunological injury and oxygen metabolism in the kidney. He got the Young Investigator Award of the Japanese Society of Nephrology in 2002, and has given 47 invited talks at international academic meetings. He served as a member of Scientific Program Committee of the 4th, and 5th World Congress of Nephrology, the 42nd annual meeting of American Society of Nephrology (ASN 2009), and ISN NEXUS-fibrosis 2010. He was a chair of the steering committee of ISN NEXUS-vascular damage 2010, and was a co-chair of the theme program committee of the 6th World Congress of Nephrology 2011 in Vancouver. He is a member of the editorial board of many journals, and is currently serving as an associate editor of Kidney International.

DAVID NIKOLIC-PATERSON

David is Head of Laboratory Research at the Department of Nephrology at Monash Medical Centre in Melbourne, Australia. With training in Biochemistry and Immunology, David has a long established interest in the inflammatory and fibrotic mechanisms of acute and chronic kidney disease. His research team is current work focused on the signalling pathways that activate leukocytes in acute renal injury and that activate fibroblasts in renal fibrosis. This involves genetic and pharmaceutical strategies to delineate the function of individual signalling pathway components in animal models of kidney disease with the goal of translating these findings to clinical therapies. His work involves close collaboration with clinical colleagues and the pharmaceutical industry. David has published over 170 papers in the field of Nephrology and is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine at Monash University.

IKECHI OKPECHI

Dr. Ikechi Okpechi is a senior lecturer and Nephrologist at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. He qualified as Physician in Nigeria and obtained his doctoral degree and nephrology training in South Africa. His research interest is in the area of glomerulonephritis (lupus nephritis) in Africans. He is principal Investigator of the Africa Lupus Genetics (ALUGEN) registry in Cape Town. He has published work in his area of research.

ALBERT ONG

Albert Ong is Professor of Renal Medicine, Head of the Academic Unit of Nephrology at the University of Sheffield and Consultant Nephrologist at the Sheffield Kidney Institute. He is also a Principal Investigator at the MRC Centre for Developmental and Biomedical Genetics. His major research interests are in the genetics, molecular pathogenesis and clinical management of autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (ADPKD).

CARLO PATRONO

Carlo Patrono, MD, is Professor and Chair of the Department of Pharmacology at the Catholic University School of Medicine in Rome, Italy. Dr. Patrono trained as a Postdoctoral Fellow in New York with the late Solomon Berson and Nobel Laureate Rosalyn Yalow. Prof. Patrono's main research interest is in the study of platelet activation and inhibition in atherothrombosis and cancer. His research has characterized the human pharmacology of aspirin as an inhibitor of platelet COX-1 and provided the basis for the development of low-dose aspirin as an antithrombotic agent.

He is an elected member of the Association of American Physicians, Royal College of Physicians, European Society of Cardiology, Academia Europaea and Accademia dei Lincei.

He has received the Alexander B. Gutman award from the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, the Distinguished Award in Neuroscience from the Louisiana State University, the 1998 International Aspirin® Award from Bayer AG, the 2007 John Vane Award from the William Harvey Research Institute of the University of London, the 2011 Outstanding Achievement Award of the Eicosanoid Research Foundation, and the 2013 Grand Prix Scientifique awarded by the Institut de France. He serves on the editorial board of Circulation and Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology.

NORBERTO PERICO

Norberto Perico received doctoral degree in Medicine and Surgery at the University School of Medicine in Milan in 1983, and in 1989 the specialization in Clinical Nephrology at the University of Verona. He had one year post-graduate training at the Department of Pharmacology, New York Medical College, Valhalla, USA. In 1984, he began his carrier at the Negri Bergamo Laboratories of the Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research, Bergamo, in the group of scientists and clinicians coordinated and inspired by prof. Giuseppe Remuzzi in the field of chronic nephropathies and kidney transplantation. From January 2000, he is Health Director and Head of Laboratory of Drug Development at the Clinical Research Center for Rare Diseases "Aldo e Cele Daccò" of the Mario Negri Institute. From October 2002, he is member of the Research and Prevention Committee of the International Society of Nephrology. Within this activity, he has been appointed by the Core Team of Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors study (GBD 2010) as Expert member of the Genitourinary Disease group. Currently his major clinical research interests involve the assessment of new treatments for polycystic kidney disease, the evaluation of novel immunosuppressive agents for kidney transplantation and the development of innovative approaches to induce graft tolerance. His 261 publications include original articles and reviews that span in many areas of experimental and clinical nephrology.

VLADO PERKOVIC

Vlado Perkovic is Executive Director of The George Institute, Australia and George Clinical, and a Professor of Medicine at The University of Sydney. He is a Staff Specialist in Nephrology at the Royal North Shore Hospital and has led the development of George Clinical, the global clinical trials arm of The George Institute. His research focus is in clinical trials and epidemiology, in particular in understanding both the cardiovascular risk associated with kidney disease and the impact of interventions that might mitigate this risk. He has been involved in developing Australian and global guidelines in kidney disease, cardiovascular risk assessment and blood pressure management. Vlado holds a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Melbourne and completed his undergraduate training at The Royal Melbourne Hospital. He is a member of the National Health and Medical Research Council Academy; is Chair of the Scientific Committee of the Australasian Kidney Trials Network; and is a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians and of the American Society of Nephrology.

DORIEN PETERS

Dr. Dorien Peters is a molecular geneticist and cellular biologist at the Leiden University Medical Center in the Netherlands. She is head of the Developmental Genetics team at the department of Human Genetics and her research aims to get insight into the genetic, pathophysiologic and functional mechanisms of inherited disorders, most notably Polycystic Kidney Disease. The overall aim is the design of new therapeutic approaches. In the early days she was involved in identification of the human genes that are involved in renal cystic disease pathogenesis. In her initial work, she analyzed a large group of well-characterized ADPKD families and established the relative proportion PKD1 versus PKD2 mutations among ADPKD families. With the identification of key human disease genes, she turned her attention to characterizing the expression of the encoded proteins and defining the cell signaling pathways in which they operate. As part of her investigative portfolio, she has generated several informative and unique mouse models that are providing new insights into the pathogenesis of PKD and are being used in testing therapeutic interventions. To translate fundamental and preclinical research to the clinic she has organized a number of multidisciplinary research networks to enhance fundamental, pharmacologic and clinical insights into PKD. In addition, she has been an impactful leader in the field by organizing conferences that invariably accelerate the exchange of data and knowledge and stimulate new collaborations. She has served as a member of multiple national and international grant review groups and is currently member of the Scientific board of the Dutch Kidney Foundation. In 2013 she received the Lillian Jean Kaplan International Prize for Advancement in the Understanding of Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD).

TON RABELINK

Ton Rabelink is professor of medicine at the University of Leiden. He is currently head of the department of Nephrology and Transplantation and is acting chairman of the department of medicine. He is also the chairman of the Research Institute of Cardiovascular Medicine of Leiden University Medical Center. His main interest has been vascular biology and in particular endothelial cell biology and its implications for renal function. He has published over 300 papers in this field.

GIUSEPPE REMUZZI

Actually Professor of Nephrology and Director of the Department of Immunology and Clinical Transplantation of the Papa Giovanni Hospital XXIII, Bergamo, Italy and Director of the Division of Nephrology and Dialysis of the same hospital. He also directs the Negri Bergamo Laboratories of the “Mario Negri” Institute for Pharmacological Research, a unique group of basic scientists and clinicians devoted to the study of renal disease, with particular focus on progression of renal disease and transplant immunology and tolerance. Particularly far-reaching are his contributions to our understanding of the pathophysiology of Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome and the role of protein trafficking in renal disease progression. He authored and co-authored more than 1065 scientific articles, reviews and monographs. Prof. Remuzzi serves on editorial boards of numerous journals and is member of the International Advisory Board of The Lancet. During his professional career Giuseppe Remuzzi received many national and international awards, among them the ISN Jean Hamburger Award (WCN 2005, Singapore), the John P. Peters Award (ASN 2007, San Francisco) and the ISN AMGEN Award (WCN 2011, Vancouver). He is since june 2013 President of International Society of Nephrology (ISN).

BERNARDO RODRIGUEZ-ITURBE

Bernardo Rodriguez-Iturbe is Professor of Medicine and Director of the Renal Service in the University Hospital and Medical School Maracaibo, Venezuela. His residency in Internal Medicine and Nephrology Fellowship were done in the Graduate Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He 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 is immediate Past-President of the International Society of Nephrology.

CLAUDIO RONCO

Professor Claudio Ronco is currently Director of the Department of Nephrology and Transplantation at the International Renal Research Institute (IRRIV), San Bortolo Hospital, Vicenza, Italy. He graduated in medicine from the University of Padua, Italy, in 1976 and then specialised in nephrology at the University of Padua and in paediatric nephrology at the University of Naples. Professor Ronco has also held positions as an Assistant and Associate Professor at the Division of Nephrology in Vicenza, and Director of the Renal tory of research at the Renal Research Institute and Professor of Medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Beth Israel Medical Centre of New York in 1999 and 2000. He has co-authored 1090 papers, 65 books and 80 book chapters and has delivered more than 650 lectures at international meetings and universities. He is or has been council member of several scientific societies, he is Editor emeritus of the International Journal of Artificial Organs, Editor-in-Chief of Blood Purification and Contributions to Nephrology. Professor Ronco has received numerous awards including the lifetime achievement award for hemo and peritoneal dialysis in 205 and 2012, the honorary membership from the Spanish Society of Nephrology in 2004, the National Kidney Foundation International Medal of Excellence and the ISN Bywaters Award for Acute Renal Failure. He is considered the pioneer in many areas of nephrology including critical care nephrology, CRRT, cardiorenal syndromes and wearable dialysis technology.

PRABIR ROY CHAUDHURY

Prabir Roy-Chaudhury MD, PhD, FRCP (Edin) is a Professor of Medicine at the University of Cincinnati. After graduating from the Armed Forces Medical College, Pune, India, he trained in Internal Medicine and Nephrology at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland and at the Beth Israel Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA. In addition to being an active transplant nephrologist, Dr. Roy-Chaudhury's main research interest is in dialysis vascular access and he currently directs the Dialysis Vascular Access Research Program at the University of Cincinnati. This is a comprehensive, integrated, multi-disciplinary translational program focused on dialysis vascular access, which includes basic science research, clinical research and patient care. This translational research program is funded through the National Institutes of Health, the Veterans Administration research program and through industry grants. Dr. Roy-Chaudhury has received national awards, has published over 140 peer reviewed manuscripts and is a sought after invited speaker both nationally and internationally. Dr. Roy-Chaudhury is actively involved in the public policy and administrative aspects of dialysis vascular access care and hemodialysis as a board member/councilor for the American Society of Diagnostic and Interventional Nephrology, the Renal Network and the Cincinnati chapter of National Kidney Foundation. He is a member of the Interventional Nephrology Advisory Group of the American Society of Nephrology (ASN), a member of the ASN Board of Advisors and a member of the ASN Postgraduation Education Committee. Dr. Roy-Chaudhury is also the American Society of Nephrology co-chair of the Kidney Health Initiative which is a public-private partnership between the ASN and the FDA which aims to bring together nephrologists, industry partners, patient advocacy groups and regulatory agencies; in an attempt to facilitate the passage of drugs, devices and biologics into the kidney disease space.

PIERO RUGGENENTI

Dr. Piero Ruggenenti was born in Milan, Italy in 1958. He holds a MD from the University of Milan in 1983 (Cum Laude), he received specialty training in Cardiology and Nephrology (Cum Laude) at the University of Milan and in Pharmacological Research at the IRCCS - Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche 'Mario Negri' in Bergamo. He completed his internship, clinical and research training at the Negri Bergamo Laboratories of IRCCS - Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche 'Mario Negri' and at the Azienda Ospedaliera Papa Giovanni XXIII, Bergamo. Dr. Piero Ruggenenti is an Assistant-Professor in the Division of Nephrology and Dialysis of the Azienda Ospedaliera Papa Giovanni XXIII, Bergamo, Italy and is Head of the Department of Renal Medicine at the Clinical Research Center for Rare Diseases "Aldo e Cele Daccò" of the IRCCS – Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche 'Mario Negri' in Bergamo. He is member of the Editorial Board of "Journal of Nephrology" and "Current Diabetes Reviews". Dr. Ruggenenti has authored or co-authored about 300 scientific articles, reviews and monographs, especially in the field of renal disease progression, diabetes and chronic complications of diabetes and kidney transplantation, the role of protein trafficking in renal disease progression, mechanisms and treatment of thrombotic microangiopathies and the nephrotic syndrome.

KUMAR SHARMA

Kumar Sharma, M.D., F.A.H.A.. Dr. Sharma is the Director of the Center for Renal Translational Medicine and Institute for Metabolomic Medicine and Professor of Medicine at UCSD in San Diego. He is Chair of the ISN Nexus Symposium, which is an international translational symposium, and previously served as Associate Editor of the American Journal of Physiology-Renal and the journal Diabetes. He completed his MD and Internal Medicine residency at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York. His clinical and research nephrology fellowship was completed at the University of Pennsylvania. He was a past president of the San Diego American Diabetes Association and is a present member of the National Research Council of the American Diabetes Association and the American Society of Nephrology Research Advocacy Committee. Dr. Sharma has had a dedicated and consistent translational approach for diabetic complications for the past 15 years and has expertise in developing phenotype analysis using imaging, molecular and biochemical methods, genomics, microarray, proteomics and metabolomics. His group has had numerous studies linking clinical phenotypes of patients with genomics and biomarkers. His recent studies have employed novel imaging and systems biology approaches to understand novel mechanisms related to obesity-related complications, diabetic kidney disease and novel therapies. His work has had a major impact in the field with respect to novel anti-fibrotic therapies for chronic kidney disease and his group has completed a multi-center NIH funded clinical trial with an oral anti-fibrotic agent. His major focus in the past few years has been to develop novel biomarkers for chronic kidney disease and diabetic complications. In particular, recent metabolomic studies in humans have led to novel insights into the pathogenesis of diabetic complications and the role of the kidney in energy metabolism.

FRANK SISTARE

Dr. Sistare serves as Associate Vice President of the Department of Department of Investigative Laboratory Sciences within Safety Assessment and Laboratory Animal Resources at Merck Research Laboratories. The Department is responsible for genetic toxicology assessments and molecular carcinogenesis investigations; for toxicokinetic support; for implementing directed investigative toxicology research solutions and support for safety lead optimization; for incorporating new in vitro and in vivo safety models and technologies including genomics, proteomics, metabonomics, and genetically engineered animal models; and for providing new translational safety biomarker development support for drug development. He served previously for 15 years in several leadership and management positions with the laboratory research component of the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. He also served or chaired numerous FDA regulatory committees and working groups. Dr. Sistare is a retired Captain from the Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Corps. He is a recipient of the Merck Presidential Fellowship Award, and has received several PHS Unit Commendations, as well as PHS Meritorious Service, Commendation, and Achievement Awards, and CDER and FDA awards for excellence in laboratory research. He earned his BS in Pharmacy from the University of Rhode Island, his Ph.D. in Pharmacology at the University of Virginia, and was awarded a postdoctoral PRAT Fellowship at the National Institutes of Health. He has served as President of the Regulatory and Safety Evaluation Specialty Section of the Society of Toxicology, as Co-Director of the Critical Path Institute's Predictive Safety Testing Consortium (PSTC), as Co-Chair of the PSTC Nephrotoxicity Biomarker Working Group, and currently serves as Chairperson of the PhRMA Clinical and Preclinical Development Committee's Carcinogenicity Key Issue Working Group, Rapporteur of the International Conference on Harmonization S1 Carcinogenicity Expert Working Group, and Chairperson of the PSTC/ FNIH Biomarker Consortium's Clinical Kidney Safety Biomarker Qualification Project Team.

JONATHAN M. STARKEY

Dr. Starkey is an Assistant Professor in the Institute for Translational Sciences and the Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, TX USA. He received an M.D. from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in 2003 and completed an internship in internal medicine at Parkland Memorial Hospital in 2004. In 2011, he completed a post-doctoral fellowship from the National Library of Medicine Biomedical Informatics Training Program. Dr. Starkey later received a Ph.D. in Clinical Sciences from UTMB Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health in 2012. Dr. Starkey's research focuses on the systems biology of diabetic kidney disease and its translation to clinical applications.

CHARLES SWANEPOEL

Charles Swanepoel is an Associate Professor in the Division of Nephrology and Hypertension, Dept of Medicine of the University of Cape Town and Groote Schuur Hospital. His research interests include CKD and he has acted as Principal Investigator in several clinical trials involving patients with CKD. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (Edin) and a member of the International Society of Nephrology. He is author and co-author of publications in Nephron, Nephrology, NDT, Kidney International, American Journal of Kidney Disease, Nature Reviews Nephrology and The Lancet.

MASAHIRO TAKEUCHI

Dr. Takeuchi is a Professor of Biostatistics and Pharmaceutical Medicine at Department of Clinical Medicine, School of Pharmacy at Kitasato University. After obtaining a Doctoral degree from the Department of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health in November 1991, he worked as a Mathematical Statistician and Senior Staff Fellow at the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, US Food and Drug Administration concentrating in the field of Alzheimer's and Oncology. Currently he serves various advisory roles at the Pharmaceutical Affairs and Food Sanitation Council of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), The Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA), The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), National Institute of Biomedical Innovation (NIBIO), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), Japan Surgical Society (JSS), Japan Society of Clinical Oncology (JSCO), Japan Clinical Cancer Research Organization (JACCRO), Japanese Gynecologic Oncology Group (JGOG), Tokyo Cooperative Oncology Group (TCOG), Japanese Center of Pharmaceutical Medicine (JCPM), Global Collaboration Center for Life Innovation (GCC), and the Korea National Enterprise for Clinical Trial (KoNECT). Dr. Takeuchi also serves as an editor for "Clinical Education" and an associate editor for the Journal of Biopharmaceutical Statistics. In May of 2007, he was awarded the 2007 Distinguished Alum Award from Harvard School of Public Health and in November of 2012, appointed as an adjunct Professor in the Department of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health.

FABIOLA TERZI

The goal of my research activity is to study the mechanisms that control the progression of chronic kidney disease (CKD). Towards this goal, during the last 10 years, we have developed several experimental models of CKD in mice from different genetic background and genetically modified animals. Our studies have shown that the susceptibility to progress towards end stage renal disease is genetically determined. In this context, we have shown that EGFR, Lcn2/Ngal and Mitf-A constitute a crucial network that modulates the progression of CKD. Our results also indicated that a particular pattern of cell proliferation underlies the deterioration process. More recently, we have obeserved that the selective activation of specific signaling pathways (i.e. AKT and STAT3) is critical in determining the fate of different nephron segments after an initial injury. Finally, taking advantage of our tight collaboration with the Nephrology departments of Necker hospital, we could extend our experimental findings to the understanding of human CKD and, in particular, we identified a panel of biomarkers that predict the rate of CKD progression.

ALIZA THOMPSON

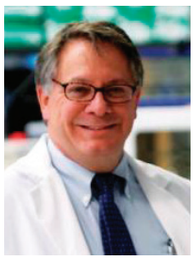
Aliza Thompson is a Medical Officer and Clinical Team Leader in the Division of Cardiovascular and Renal Products, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Dr. Thompson joined the Division of Cardiovascular and Renal Products in 2007. Her team focuses on products being developed for renal-related indications but also reviews products being developed for other indications. She received her medical degree from Johns Hopkins and completed her Internal Medicine and Nephrology training at Columbia University/New York-Presbyterian Hospital. She holds a Master of Science in Biostatistics/Patient Oriented Research Track from the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health.

KARL TRYGGVASON

Karl Tryggvason, MD, PhD, is Professor of Medical Chemistry at Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, and Tanoto Professor of Diabetes Research at Duke-NUS in Singapore. His research concerns the molecular nature, biology and diseases of basement membranes (BM). The main research foci are the composition, biology and diseases of basement membranes, particularly disorders of the kidney filtration system, as well as the biological roles of laminins. Tryggvason has published over 380 research articles. He is a member of the Finnish Academy of Sciences and the Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences, and member of the Nobel Assembly at the Karolinska Institute. He has received several international awards like the American Society of Nephrology Homer Smith Award, and the Louis-Jeantet and Anders Jahre awards. Tryggvason is founder of four companies including Nephrogenex, Inc. (USA) which is initiating a phase 3 clinical trial for a drug against diabetic nephropathy.

RAYMOND VANHOLDER

Dr. Vanholder has published almost 700 papers, including reviews and book chapters, on adequacy of dialysis, uremic toxicity and various topics related to clinical nephrology. He serves as a member of the editorial review board of several journals and is subject editor of Nephrology Dialysis and Transplantation. Up till autumn 2010, he has been chairman of the European Uremic Toxin Work Group (EUTox) and member of the Executive Board and treasurer of Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO).
Up till summer 2011 he was member of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) of the European Renal Association - European Dialysis and Transplantation Association (ERA-EDTA) and chairman of the European Renal Best Practice (ERBP), the guidance body of ERA-EDTA. Before that, he coordinated the European Best Practice Guidelines (EBPG) on hemodialysis. He chairs the Renal Disaster Relief Task Force (RDRTF) of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) and in this function participated as member or coordinator in several international relief operations. Dr.Vanholder was founding president of the Belgian Society of Nephrology (BVN-SBN), is past president of the European Society of Artificial Organs (ESAO) and current president of ERA-EDTA.



DOUGLAS VAUGHAN

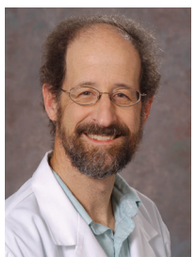
Douglas E. Vaughan, MD, is the Irving S. Cutter Professor of Medicine and Chairman of the Department of Medicine at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago. He also serves as Physician in Chief of Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Prior to moving to Northwestern in 2008, he was Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology, C. Sidney Burwell Professor of Medicine, Chief, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, and Physician in Chief of the Vanderbilt Heart and Vascular Institute at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, in Nashville, Tennessee. Dr Vaughan earned his medical degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School and trained in internal medicine at Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dallas, where he was also Chief Medical Resident. He trained in cardiology as a fellow at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and completed additional post-doctoral training at the Center for Thrombosis and Vascular Research, University of Leuven, Belgium. Dr Vaughan is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology and the Councils for High Blood Pressure Research and Atherosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology of the American Heart Association. He has been elected to membership in the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the Association of American Physicians, and the Association of University Cardiologists. His research program includes basic, translational and clinical research focused on the role of the plasminogen activator system in cardiovascular disease.

FLAVIO VINCENTI

Dr. Vincenti is widely published and has authored or co-authored over 200 articles on transplantation and presented nationally and internationally. He participated in a number of important multicenter clinical trials and was honored by the NKF of Northern California on May 20, 2000 for contributions to transplantation and treatment of renal failure, recipient of AST 2002 Novartis Clinical Science Award and 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award in transplantation by the AST.

DAVID G. WARNOCK

My focus is on the factors, genetic and environmental that contribute to hypertension and chronic kidney disease. The spectrum extends from basic studies of salt and water transport systems to population based studies of the prevalence of CKD and the association with stroke and heart disease. Another focus is inherited disorders of renal function, with a current emphasis on the renal manifestations of Fabry disease. Over 40 patients with Fabry disease have been identified in Alabama and approximately 20 of them have been started on Enzyme Replacement Therapy. A major part of current nephrology practice is focused on management of kidney disease in adults with type 2 diabetes, the most common cause of end-stage renal disease in many parts of the world. I participated as an investigator in the phase 2B studies of bardoxolone methy in the treatment of moderate to severe chronic kidney disease in type 2 diabetics, and now serve as a Senior Medial Advisor to Reata Pharmaceuticals in Irving, Texas as bardoxolone methyl undergoes further testing in partnership with Abbott Pharmaceuticals. I was born in Parker, Arizona on March 5, 1945. I received a BA degree in 1966 from the University of California at Berkeley and my MD degree in 1970 from the University of California, San Francisco. My clinical training was completed at the University of California, San Francisco, including a 1-year research fellowship with Isidore Edelman, MD in the Cardiovascular Research Institute. Following a fellowship with Maurice Burg, MD at the NIH, I returned to UCSF as a faculty member. I served as the Section Chief at the San Francisco VA Medical Center during the last 5 years of my appointment at UCSF. Following a sabbatical with Bernard Rossier, MD at the Institute of Pharmacology in Lausanne, Switzerland, I was recruited to UAB, and served as the Director of Nephrology from 1988 to 2008. I also served at the Director of the Office of Human Research at UAB from May 1, 2005 through September 30, 2008. I then spent a 6-month sabbatical in 2008 at the College de France in Paris with Frederic Jaisser and Pierre Corvol. My research research interests include acid-base physiology, sodium transport mechanisms, chronic kidney disease, diabetes and kidney disease, and inherited renal diseases.

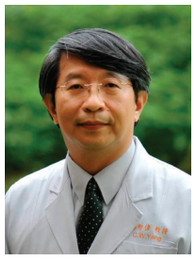


ROBERT WEISS

Dr. Robert H. Weiss is a clinician/scientist nephrologist and cell biologist and is Professor of Medicine at UC Davis and Chief of Nephrology at the Sacramento VA Medical Center. His training was all at several campuses of the University of California. His clinical and research interests are broad and include vascular and hereditary renal disease, as well as both breast and kidney cancer. He was among the first to characterize the role of the cyclin kinase inhibitors in cancer and is the first to utilize metabolomics to search for urinary biomarkers and therapeutic targets in kidney cancer and polycystic kidney diseases. He serves on many Study Sections at the NIH and the DoD, and has an active clinical practice as well as a productive basic science laboratory.

MASAYUKI YAMAMOTO

1979 : MD (Tohoku University School of Medicine) 1983 : PhD (Tohoku University Graduate School) Career: 2007 - Professor, Department of Medical Biochemistry, Tohoku University Graduate School of Medicine, and Special Advisor for the President of Tohoku University. 2008-2012 Dean, Tohoku University Graduate School of Medical Sciences 2012 : Executive Director, Tohoku Medical Mega-Bank Organization Awards: 2011 Leading Edge in Basic Science Award (The Society of Toxicology) 2012 : Uehara Prize (The Uehara Memorial Foundation) Medal with Purple Ribbon (The Emperor of Japan) 2013 : The Academic Award (The Kidney Foundation of Japan) Publications: Komatsu M, et al., Novel regulation of the Nr12-Keapl pathway by the selective autophagy substrate p62. Nature Cell Biol 12, 213-223 (2010) Souma T, et al., Plasticity of renal erythropoietin-producing cells governs fibrosis. JAm Soc Nephrol 24, 1599-1616 (2013) Yamazaki 5, et al.,A mouse model of adult-onset anaemia due to erythropoietin deficiency. Nature Commun 4,1950 (2013)



CHI-WEI YANG

Dr. Chih-Wei Yang is the Dean and Professor of Medicine in College of Medicine, Chang Gung University and Department of Nephrology, Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Taiwan. Dr. Yang established the Chang Gung Kidney Research Center in 2004 aiming to elucidate the pathophysiological mechanisms of common kidney diseases in Taiwan, to develop novel therapeutics, and to enhance international collaboration. The medical center at Chang Gung Memorial Hospital is a 3700 beds teaching hospital and the renal department includes 38 renal physicians in 5 divisions, 190 nurses serving for 1300 hemodialysis and 420 peritoneal dialysis patients. The nephrology program was set to aim for a high quality service, teaching, and research for acute and chronic kidney diseases. Dr. Yang received Distinguished Research Award from National Science Council for his work in infection-related kidney disease particularly leptospirosis in Taiwan. Dr. Yang also served to enhance medical research as Chairman of Medical Research Department and was the Vice Chairman of R&D Committee for Chang Gung Medical Organization. He is the Executive Committee member for ISN and Chair for International Affair Committee at Taiwan Society of Nephrology. Dr. Yang serves as the Councilors for ISN representing East Asia region since 2009 and is a member of Nexus Committee and was involved in several Task Forces for ISN. He wishes to promote the Asian and global link for a better integration to combat kidney diseases.