We dedicate this year’s report to EVERY member of the Division for their tireless work advocating for and providing the best care to our patients, supporting each other, and continuing to move the field of nephrology forward.
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**MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF**

Welcome to our 19th Annual Report. This year’s report summarizes our endeavors in the areas of administration, patient care, research, education, and policy. 2020 was quite a year—the COVID-19 pandemic, racial unrest and injustice, and the political environment all contributed to a difficult year. We were tested in ways we could never have imagined and accomplishing our research and educational missions became more challenging. However, as a Division we came together to provide outstanding clinical care and still make progress in achieving our research and education mission. I feel honored to be able to work in a Division with such committed and caring people. I am optimistic there is light at the end of the tunnel and 2021 will be a better year.

Typically, our Annual Report cover honors an individual or a small group. However, this extraordinary year it is only fitting to honor EVERYONE in the Division for their tireless work advocating and providing the best care for each of our patients, supporting each other, and continuing to move the field of nephrology forward. Pages 6-9 describe in words and in pictures some of the amazing Division efforts during the pandemic and how we supported each other during these unprecedented times.

In staffing news, we were excited about several promotions: Francisca Martinez, Kidney and Blood Pressure Center (KBPC) in Boston, and Sharyn Moussawee, Pratt Medical Group Nephrology and Hypertension in Concord, were promoted to Practice Manager; and Sarah Couture was promoted to Clinical Research Associate. In early 2021, Krista Boisclair was promoted to Research Operations Manager. Two new positions contributed to our goal of continuously improving patient care. Anna B. Dutton, PharmD, BCACP provides on-site clinical pharmacy services to our outpatients and Jahdeya Morgan, Contact Center Coordinator, fields all of our KBPC clinical calls to increase coordination, quality of care, and patient experience. We were sad to say goodbye to Dawa Dolma after nearly 6 years as the KBPC Medical Assistant, but thrilled that she is pursuing her dream of becoming a nurse. We were fortunate to hire Jennifer Irvin, who had interned in the KBPC, to replace Dawa. Several new research staff were also hired including: Sarah Levine, Nicole Merullo, Phoenix Turoci, and Amy Wyle. Chicago Holman also joined the Division as a biller and an assistant to Drs. Drew, Inker, and Weiner. In October after decades of providing outstanding care to patients in our clinics, both Drs. Levey and Perrone stepped down from providing routine outpatient care. We are pleased that Dr. Perrone will still see new PKD outpatient consults. Dr. Levey also stopped attending on the inpatient service in 2020.

Dr. Inker and the KBPC staff undertook the enormous effort of transitioning the KBPC from in-person visits to telehealth visits. Long-planned clinical initiatives also started in the KBPC. Drs. Drew, Gordon, Inker, and Miskulin started the Center for Glomerular Disease and our collaboration with the Division of Palliative Care enhanced our patient care services by having palliative care specialists available to see patients in the KBPC.

Research funding remains extremely competitive, with overall funding decreasing slightly over last fiscal year. I am happy to announce that the Division received 5 new grants or contracts in 2020 with more to come for fiscal year 2021! Additionally, publications were incredible (123 print and 17 epubs)! Dr. Inker was appointed as a member of the NKF-ASN Task Force on Reassessing the Inclusion of Race in Diagnosing Kidney Diseases. The task force’s charge is to ensure that GFR estimation equations provide an unbiased assessment of kidney function so that patients, clinicians, laboratories, and public health officials can make
informed decisions to ensure equity and personalized care for patients with kidney diseases.

Despite this year’s challenges, our commitment to education remains strong. The newly revamped Renal Course made its debut in March and I am extremely grateful to Dr. Gilbert for spearheading this effort. I am also proud of our faculty for receiving numerous education awards: Drs. Dad, Gilbert, Levey, and Wright received the TUSM 3rd Year Class Citation for Excellence in Teaching; Drs. Dad, Gilbert, and Levey received Outstanding Lecturer in the Pre-clerkship Years Awards for the 2019-2020 academic year; and Dr. Gilbert received the Class of 2020 Citation for Excellence in Teaching. Dr. Miskulin was appointed to the Editorial Board of CJASN as an Associate Editor.

Division members continued our storied history of receiving awards and honors. Dr. Levey was named a 2020 Clarivate Analytics Highly Cited Researcher for the 7th year in a row. He also received the title of Honorary Member in the European Renal Association-European Dialysis and Transplant Association (ERA-EDTA). During the 50 years of the history of ERA-EDTA only 21 others have received this recognition. Dr. Inker received the ASN Distinguished Mid-career Researcher Award. Dr. Meyer will receive an NKF Honors Award in March 2021. Boston Magazine reported what we all already know - we have some of Boston’s Best Doctors! Congratulations to Drs. Gilbert, Inker, Levey, Meyer, Miskulin, Perrone, Sarnak, and Weiner.

Philanthropic donations were especially heartwarming this year when the family of Mrs. Roukous, a long-time patient, had donations in memory of her directed to the Inker Fund. We continue to rely on funds from the Friedman endowed chair and thank all the donors of charitable contributions to our philanthropic funds such as the Driscoll Family Endowed Fund in Nephrology, the Inker Family Fund, the Dr. Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman Professorship in Medicine, the William B. Schwartz Nephrology Fund, the Dr. John T. Harrington Endowed Fund, and the Hortense “Diddy” Seybolt Fund for Staff Enrichment in Nephrology. We greatly appreciate these contributions, as the funds provide necessary assistance to continue our mission.

I would again like to thank Dr. Michelle Richardson for her dedication and tremendous effort in preparing this year’s Annual Report.

As always, I hope you enjoy learning about our activities, and I welcome your feedback.

Sincerely yours,

Mark J. Sarnak, MD, MS
Chief, William B. Schwartz Division of Nephrology, Tufts Medical Center
Dr. Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman Professor of Medicine
**DIVISION FAMILY TREE**

**2020 Additions**

The Division family grew in 2020 by 2 babies! In the past 14 years, 50 babies have joined the Division. The current count is boys—26; girls—24.

---

Manya born to Nitender and Aruna Goyal
May 15th
7 lbs 9.3 oz; 20”

Nathan Alexander born to Felix and Nicole Collado
joins big sister Natalia
May 17th at 6:06 am
7 lbs 13 oz; 21”
DIVISION’S COVID-19 PANDEMIC EXPERIENCE

The Division has long been known for its sense of family and collaborative approach to patient care and supporting each other. Those long-term traditions served us incredibly well when we were confronted with the COVID-19 pandemic that brought challenges none of us ever imagined. Every single member of the Division contributed to our not only surviving the challenges of the pandemic, but thriving through them.

Outpatient Care Examples

- Under the leadership of Dr. Inker and Fran Martinez, the KBPC implemented telehealth visits with many of those visits being with our outstanding group of PAs. In record time, the clinic staff worked incredibly hard to develop and maintain a new system along with teaching patients how to use apps and software to participate in telehealth visits.
- Through strong teamwork, outpatient clinical volume was maintained. A special thanks to our PA team!
- Patient Care Technicians in the dialysis unit gave patients recovering from COVID-19 infection a Certificate of Triumph.
- DCI Boston implemented a new shift to care for patients who tested positive for COVID-19 to prevent hospitalizations and facilitate hospital discharge.
- Drs. Meyer and Weiner instituted protocols in the dialysis unit for screening patients, caring for persons under investigation, and dialyzing patients who tested positive for COVID-19.

During the PPE shortage, paper bags were hung along the hallway to hold N95 masks when not in use.

Amwell telehealth software trial run
**Inpatient Care**

- We had the privilege of caring for one of our own hospitalized with COVID-19. Nick Athienites, former fellow, was a patient early on in the pandemic and was treated at Tufts Medical Center. His experience was remarkable and written about in many news articles. ([www.bostonherald.com/2020/05/20/coronavirus-survivor-massachusetts-doctor-who-was-on-ventilator-is-back-home-after-miraculous-recovery/](http://www.bostonherald.com/2020/05/20/coronavirus-survivor-massachusetts-doctor-who-was-on-ventilator-is-back-home-after-miraculous-recovery/)) Dr. Athienites was also nominated as the “Clinician of the Year” by the Plymouth and Norfolk Districts of the Mass Medical Society.

- In the spring, Dr. Levey chaired and Dr. Perrone was a member of the Tufts MC Adult Crisis Standards of Care Task Force.

- Dr. Wright helped develop CVVHD protocols to reduce filter clotting.

- Research Fellows attended in COVID-19 intensive care units.

- The dialysis nurses worked diligently as front-line health care workers.

- Nephrologists attended on Pulmonary and Infectious Disease inpatient services.

- Dr. Sarnak was a member of the Pull Team that rounded daily to expedite patient flow in the Medical Center.

---

**Nick Athienites, MD—Former Fellow**

**Overnight CVVHD machines with clotted filters**

**Tents on Bennett Street intended for overflow patient care. Fortunately, never used.**

**Dr. Meyer holding “home-made” (aka bootleg moonshine) dialysate.**
**Division’s COVID-19 Pandemic Experience**

### Education
- Dr. Perrone and Chad Stevenson, RN presented COVID-19 and PKD – Your Questions Answered in a national webinar for the Polycystic Kidney Disease Foundation.
- In the spring, Dr. Weiner presented an ASN podcast on COVID-19: The Situation in Boston.
- Alison Kaprove, PA-C presented a Harrington Rounds on Telehealth Q&A.
- Dr. Weiner presented on COVID-19 and Kidney Policy at Kidney Week Reimagined.

### Public Policy
- Dr. Weiner worked to get dialysis access surgery considered as an “essential” service during the pandemic, resulting in a statement from CMS to this effect.
- Dr. Weiner is a member of the ASN’s COVID-19 Outpatient Dialysis Subcommittee.
- In early 2021, Dr. Weiner advocated for dialysis patients to rank high on the priority list for the COVID-19 vaccination.
Division’s COVID-19 Pandemic Experience

Supporting Each Other

- Ticco Robinson, PA nominated Qina Li, a Patient Service Coordinator in the KBPC, for a contest held by Jet Blue for essential workers. She won 2 tickets to anywhere Jet Blue flies!
- Geneva Tucker was exceptionally thoughtful in making sure that everyone had what they needed from air purifiers to laptops and equipment, schedules for shared spaces, or cleaning supplies.
- On a beautiful fall day, the fellows and their families went apple picking.
- COVID McSparkles the 19th, a pink plastic unicorn, appeared to brighten our days and make us smile.
- The dialysis unit staff videoed their line dances and shared with all to spread cheer. They are a talented bunch!
- Daily lunch gatherings were converted to Zoom check-in meetings to provide employee connection and emotional support.
- In lieu of our annual in-person Division Holiday Party, we celebrated virtually by playing 2 Lies and A Truth and playing fun videos that showcased Division members’ talents.
- Although the planning for Andy Levey’s 70th birthday party came to an abrupt halt, we celebrated with a socially distant reception with balloons and cupcakes.
Dear Mark and Geneva:

We want to take this opportunity to honor and thank you for your leadership and most of all, your SUPPORT during the pandemic. You lead with complete dedication and are always advocating for us. We thank you for supporting us and our families. You always show humility in your roles and inspire us to continually work as a team. Thank you for all you do!

Sincerely,

All of us in the Division of Nephrology

Supporting us and our families
Understanding how to empower others
Proving to always look out for us
Passionate and lead by example
Outstanding, compassionate leaders
Respected for your incredible work ethic
True heroes to us!
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Multiple events in 2020 brought the societal problems of racial injustice and racial health disparities to the forefront. Wellforce, Tufts Medical Center, Tufts Medical Center Physicians Organization, Tufts University School of Medicine and the Division all have committed to initiatives to address diversity, equity, and inclusion. Select examples include: Wellforce hiring Rosa Colon-Kolacko, PhD, MBA, CDM, SHRM-SCP as the first Vice President and Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer; forming student- and employee-led committees and taskforces; inviting outside experts to speak at Grand Rounds; and reviewing and modifying academic teaching materials to be more representative.

Some of the events and initiatives that Division members participated in are highlighted below.

White Coats for Black Lives

Tufts Medical Center hosted a White Coats for Black Lives rally and many Division members attended.

GFR Estimating Equations

- Dr. Inker has held a leadership role in many of the debates, presentations as well as the research regarding the implications of including race as a variable in GFR estimating equations as well as development of new equations that do not incorporate race. Select examples include:
  - Member of the NKF-ASN Task Force on Reassessing the Inclusion of Race in Diagnosing Kidney Diseases. The interim and final reports are expected in spring 2021. Based on the Task Force’s initial work, a March 2021 press release stated “the leaders of NKF and ASN agree that 1) race modifiers should not be included in equations to estimate kidney function and 2) current race-based equations should be replaced by a suitable approach that is accurate, inclusive, and standardized in every laboratory in the United States. Any such approach must not differentially introduce bias, inaccuracy, or inequalities.”
  - Participated in a panel discussion at the prestigious Bowman Society Lecture at the University of Chicago “Race & Renal Function Calculations” (https://pritzker.uchicago.edu/resources/bowman-society).
  - Leading analyses to examine the impact of removing the race coefficient from GFR estimates on performance vs. measured GFR, CKD prevalence, and risk prediction.

- In continuation of their long-time work on estimating kidney function, Drs. Levey and Inker published several articles on the topic of including race as a variable in estimating GFR, including in
early 2021 a Perspective piece in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. A quote from the NEJM Perspective offers sage advice:

“While we await guidance from the NKF-ASN task force in the next several months, the search for a better equation remains a highly complex process with no universally accepted outcome. Broad consensus is important; a uniform method for computing and reporting the eGFR would facilitate communication and development of best practices. The ideal race-free solution will prioritize accuracy to avoid generating, maintaining, or worsening disparities. Future kidney function estimation should be shaped by evidence from clinical researchers, social context from activists and historians, and ultimately, consideration of patient care and preferences.”

### ASN Town Hall for Training Directors

- Dr. **Gilbert** is developing a Town Hall for ASN on Disparities in Kidney Disease and Kidney Outcomes for fellowship training program directors. The Town Hall will address health equity by improving cultural competency, creating a diverse workforce, and exploring the implications of including race in GFR estimation equations.

### Educational Videos for Patients

- Drs. **Meyer** and **Goyal** and **Veronika Testa, RN** are developing videos for the NKF New England to educate the Asian-American community about kidney failure. Video topics include kidney failure, dialysis, and kidney transplantation. The slides will first be translated into Chinese (and later into other languages) and will be narrated by a Mandarin-speaker, and in another version, by a Cantonese-speaker. The English language versions will be adapted for non-Asian American audiences.

### Service on DCI Committees

- **Chad Stevenson RN**, DCI Boston Nurse Manager, has been appointed to the OneDCI Committee. OneDCI’s goal is to commit to achieving diversity, equity, and inclusion within DCI. OneDCI believes that in pursuit of DCI’s broader mission, “the care of the patient is our reason for existence”, it is vital to recruit, promote, and retain a diverse group of employees. They are striving to help create a climate of respect and cultural sensitivity that is representative of our current and future employee population and their successes.
- Dr. **Meyer** has been appointed to a DCI committee to look at issues of racial disparity and equity in DARWIN, the DCI medical information system.
Medical Volunteer Trip—Kathy Quinn, RN to Uganda

Pre-pandemic, Kathy Quinn, RN, a DCI dialysis nurse, and her friend Cathy traveled to Uganda with a missionary program from the University of Scranton. Kathy’s focus in Uganda was to learn about health issues affecting Uganda and educating the local hospitals on health practices used in the US.
2020 NEW CLINICAL FELLOWS

Vladimir Mushailov, MD
Medical School: New York Medical College
Residency: Tufts Medical Center
Hobbies/Interests: Spending time with family and friends
Why Tufts MC? I chose Tufts Medical Center because of the supportive environment. The faculty are really invested in your career and they advocate for you. This is important to me because having the support takes away the stress of being in training.

Silvia Titan, MD
Medical School: Universidade de São Paulo Faculdade de Medicina, São Paulo Brazil
Hobbies/Interests: Traveling and spending time with family
Why Tufts MC? I chose Tufts Medical Center because of the faculty. The faculty is composed of experts with wonderful qualities that really help you to have all the tools you need to have a successful career.

2020-2021 FELLOW CLASS

L to R: Silvia Titan MD, Wendy McCallum MD, MS, Erin Flanagin MD, Bethany Roehm MD, MS, Vlad Mushailov MD, Caroline Hsu MD
**Division Overview**

The William B. Schwartz Division of Nephrology is comprised of full-time and part-time physicians, scientists, and staff to support our clinical, research, educational, and administrative endeavors. The Division is an integral part of the Tufts Medical Center, Tufts University School of Medicine (TUSM), and Tufts University communities. As listed in the Staffing section, many Division members have other appointments within Tufts Medical Center, TUSM, and the Tufts University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. In addition, the Division also enjoys a close and long-term relationship with Dialysis Clinic, Inc. (DCI), the largest not-for-profit provider of dialysis care in the United States, and the National Kidney Foundation (NKF). In a broader organizational structure, Division members are also active participants within their professional organizations. Through these relationships, the Division is able to provide excellent patient care, perform high-level research, educate students and practitioners about kidney disease, and influence public policy relating to the diagnosis and treatment of kidney diseases.

**Location**

The Division maintains off-site and on-site ambulatory, dialysis, and inpatient operations, with administrative and research operations located on the Tufts Medical Center Boston campus. Drs. **Cohen**, **Dad**, **Drew**, **Gilbert**, **Gordon**, **Joseph**, **Meyer**, **Miskulin**, **Weiner**, and **Wright** provide care at our off-site affiliates. The location of activities performed both on-site at Tufts Medical Center and at off-site affiliates are listed in Table 1 and Table 2, respectively.
Table 1: On-site Locations of Division Activities at Tufts Medical Center

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Floor</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kneeland Street</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Kidney and Blood Pressure Center (KBPC) and KBPC staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Outpatient Dialysis Services provided by DCI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5th and 6th</td>
<td>Division operations and physician and research staff offices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floating</td>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Inpatient dialysis services provided by DCI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Primary location for inpatient ward service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Off-site Clinical Nephrology Activities Affiliated with Tufts Medical Center

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Off-site Practices</th>
<th>Services Offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Pratt Medical Group Nephrology and Hypertension, Concord MA</td>
<td>• Outpatient nephrology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Emerson Hospital, Concord MA</td>
<td>• Inpatient consultation and dialysis services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• DCI Walden Pond, Concord MA</td>
<td>• Outpatient dialysis services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reading MA and hospital-based clinics at Lawrence Memorial in Medford MA and</td>
<td>• Outpatient nephrology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MelroseWakefield in Melrose MA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center, Hospitals—MelroseWakefield Healthcare in Melrose</td>
<td>• Inpatient consultation and dialysis services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA and Whidden in Everett MA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• DCI Ball Square in Somerville MA; Malden MA, Medford MA, Saugus MA, and Stoneham</td>
<td>• Outpatient dialysis services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA dialysis units</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staffing

Physician Staff
Mark J. Sarnak, MD, MS
- Chief
- Director, Research Training Program
- Dr. Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman Professor of Medicine
- Professor of Medicine
- Chief Emeritus
- Dr. Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman Professor of Medicine Emeritus
- Assistant Professor of Medicine
- Chief, Nephrology Services and Acute Dialysis Medical Director at MelroseWakefield Healthcare
- Associate Medical Director, DCI Ball Square

Andrew S. Levey, MD
- Professor of Medicine
- Chief Emeritus
- Dr. Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman Professor of Medicine Emeritus
- Assistant Professor of Medicine
- Chief, Nephrology Services and Acute Dialysis Medical Director at MelroseWakefield Healthcare
- Associate Medical Director, DCI Ball Square

Michael B. Cohen, MD
Taimur Dad, MD, MS  
Assistant Professor  
Associate Director, Fellowship Program  
Associate Program Director, Department of Medicine  
David A. Drew, MD, MS  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Scott J. Gilbert, MD  
Professor of Medicine  
Professor, Tisch College, Tufts University  
Director, Fellowship Program  
Craig E. Gordon, MD, MS  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
Nitender Goyal, MD  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Director, Kidney Transplantation  
Lesley A. Inker, MD, MS, FRCP(C)  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
Director, Kidney Blood Pressure Center  
Director, Kidney Function Evaluation Center  
Director, Quality Improvement  
Alin A. Joseph, MD, MS  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Medical Director, DCI Walden Pond  
Associate Medical Director, DCI Ball Square  
Amy B. Kuhlik, MD  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Dean for Student Affairs, TUSM  
Eduardo Lacson, Jr., MD, MPH  
Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine  
Senior Medical Director, Clinical Science and Quality Initiatives DCI  
Klemens B. Meyer, MD  
Professor of Medicine  
Director, Dialysis Services  
Medical Director, DCI Boston and DCI Ball Square  
Associate Medical Director, DCI Walden Pond  
Dana C. Miskulin, MD, MS, FRCP(C)  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
Ronald D. Perrone, MD  
Professor of Medicine  
Professor, Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI)  
Scientific Director, Clinical and Translational Research Center  
Monika Pilichowska, MD, PhD  
Associate Professor of Pathology and Medicine  
Daniel E. Weiner, MD, MS  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
Associate Medical Director, DCI Boston  
Director of Research  
Seth Wright, MD, MS  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Director, Continuing Medical Education  

**Special and Scientific Staff**

Michelle M. Richardson, PharmD, BCPS, CPXP  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Director, Division Communications  

**Clinical Pharmacy Specialist**

Anna B. Dutton, PharmD, BCACP  
Department of Pharmacy  

**Courtesy Physician Staff**

Vaidyanathapuram S. Balakrishnan, MBBS, MD, FRCP(UK)  
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Chief, Division of Nephrology  
Director, Dialysis Services  
Department of Medicine  
St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center  
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TUSM Academic Dean at SEMC
Adjunct Physician Staff

Carmen Castaneda-Sceppa, MD, PhD  
Professor  
Dean, Bouve College of Health Sciences  
Northeastern University

Miguel Cendoroglo, MD, PhD  
Chief Medical Officer  
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Professor of Health Services and Systems Research  
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Martin Wagner, MD, MS  
Institute for Clinical Epidemiology and Biometry  
University of Würzburg, Germany  
Würzburg, Germany

Faculty Emeritus

Jerome P. Kassirer, MD  
Distinguished Professor

Management Staff

Geneva Tucker, MBA  
Division Administrator  
William B. Schwartz Division of Nephrology, Pratt Medical Group  
Division of Palliative Care, Pratt Medical Group  
Nephrology and Hypertension, Concord, and Pratt Medical Group  
Nephrology at Mystic Medical Group, Medford

Krista Boisclair, MS  
Research Operations Manager  
Divisions of Nephrology and Infectious Disease  
Tufts Medical Center  
Stuart B. Levy Center for Integrated Management of Antimicrobial Resistance  
Tufts Medical Center and Tufts University

Nicole Collado  
Manager, Education Programs

Francisca Martinez  
Practice Manager  
Kidney and Blood Pressure Center, Tufts Medical Center

Sharyn Moussawee  
Practice Manager  
Pratt Medical Group Nephrology and Hypertension, Concord
Faculty Descriptions

**MARK J. SARNAK, MD, MS, FASN**

Dr. Sarnak is Chief of the Division of Nephrology and Professor of Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine (TUSM). His research focuses on cardiovascular disease and its risk factors in chronic kidney disease (CKD), aging and kidney disease, cognitive function and CKD, and novel biomarkers of CKD. Dr. Sarnak’s research is funded by the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Sarnak is a previous recipient of the Shaul Massry Distinguished Lecture Award from the National Kidney Foundation and the Distinguished Faculty Award from TUSM. Dr. Sarnak’s clinical specialties are in cardiovascular disease in patients with kidney disease, management of CKD, dialysis, hypertension, kidney transplantation, and kidney stones. He recently chaired the Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) Controversies Conference for Coronary Artery Disease and Valvular Disease in Kidney Disease and was a member of the Steering Committee for both the KDIGO Controversies Conference on Heart Failure in CKD and Blood Pressure in CKD. He was a member of the KDIGO Kidney Blood Pressure Guideline Update that took place in 2019-2020, which will be published in 2021. He is Chair of the Cardiovascular Impact of Home Dialysis Therapies in Patients with End Stage Kidney Disease: A Scientific Statement from the American Heart Association, which will take place in 2021-2022.

**ANDREW S. LEVEY, MD**

Dr. Levey is Professor of Medicine and Dr. Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman Professor Emeritus at Tufts University School of Medicine and Chief Emeritus, William B. Schwartz Division of Nephrology at Tufts Medical Center. Dr. Levey’s research interests include measurement and estimation of kidney function and epidemiology of CKD. Dr. Levey has a long history of participating in multicenter clinical trials and cohort studies. For the past 20 years, he has been at the forefront of the development of equations to estimate glomerular filtration rate (GFR) from serum creatinine, cystatin C, and novel filtration markers using large databases, including the widely-used Modification of Diet in Renal Disease (MDRD) Study and Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration (CKD-EPI) equations. He is the founding director of CKD-EPI and is a founding member of the Chronic Kidney Disease Prognosis Consortium (CKD-PC). The use of GFR estimating equations to estimate kidney function and inform prognosis has transformed research, clinical practice, and public health in CKD.

Dr. Levey is a widely recognized authority on clinical practice guidelines in CKD and has contributed to guideline development, implementation, quality improvement, and public policy in this area. He was Principal Investigator of the Division’s NIDDK-supported training grant (T32) in clinical trials, epidemiology, and outcomes research from 1999-2018. He was Editor-in-Chief of the *American Journal of Kidney Diseases* from 2007-2016.

He received the Distinguished Faculty Award in 2004 and the Zucker Family Prize for Research in 2019 from TUSM and the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2013 from Boston University School of Medicine. The National Kidney Foundation honored him with the President’s Award in 1998, the Garabed Eknoyan Award in 2002, and the David W. Hume Award in 2011. The American Society of Nephrology honored him with the Belding H. Scribner Award in 2013. He was elected to the Association of American Physicians in 2016. The European Renal Association/European Dialysis and Transplant Association awarded him Honorary Membership in 2020. He also has been recognized by Thomson Reuters and Clarivate as a highly cited researcher (top 1% most cited works in the field) yearly since 2014.

**VAIDYANATHAPURAM S. BALAKRISHNAN, MBBS, MD, FRCP (UK)**

Dr. Balakrishnan is Chief of Nephrology at St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center (SEMC). His clinical and translational research interests have been in the areas of inflammation, biocompatibility, and oxidative stress in hemodialysis; and genetic factors and mitochondrial DNA injury and function in CKD. Over the past three years, Dr. Balakrishnan has led quality improvement initiatives at SEMC pertaining to anemia management in ESRD, immunization, vascular access monitoring, and CRRT. Dr. Balakrishnan is an Associate Professor of Medicine at TUSM and a faculty member of the Tufts University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

**MICHAEL B. COHEN, MD**

Dr. Cohen practices primarily at MelroseWakefield Hospital. He consults in both the inpatient and outpatient settings on the care of patients with kidney disease, hypertension, and those treated with hemodialysis and
peritoneal dialysis. Dr. Cohen is Chief of Nephrology Services and Medical Director of the Acute Dialysis Program at MelroseWakefield Healthcare and the Associate Medical Director at DCI Ball Square. He is also teaches medical students, residents, and fellows in nephrology.

**Taimur Dad, MD, MS**

Dr. Dad joined the Division faculty in 2018 as an Assistant Professor at TUSM and the Associate Director, Nephrology Fellowship. He graduated from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore in 2011 followed by completing both his Internal Medicine Residency and Chief Residency at Tufts Medical Center in June 2015. He then participated in the Nephrology Fellowship at Tufts Medical Center during which he completed a Master’s in Clinical and Translational Research from the Tufts University School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences. Since 2019 he has been the Associate Program Director for Internal Medicine at Tufts Medical Center and has been part of the Coaching Faculty at TUSM. He is also the co-course director for the Clinical Reasoning course taught to TUSM students during their pre-clinical years.

His research thus far has focused on the evaluation of patient experience in dialysis. His clinic is located at the offsite practice at Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Medford. Additionally, he attends on both the nephrology ward and consult inpatient services at Tufts Medical Center.

**David A. Drew, MD, MS**

Dr. Drew joined the Division of Nephrology in 2015 after completing his clinical and research nephrology fellowship at Tufts Medical Center. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Medicine with the majority of his effort focused on clinical research. At present, he is the Principal Investigator for a K23 award from the NIDDK that examines the role of FGF-23 and klotho with cognitive impairment and stroke in patients with kidney disease and is a co-investigator for a R21 grant examining if intravenous iron can be used as a contrast agent to obtain high resolution magnetic resonance images of the kidney. His overall research focus is on mineral metabolism (in particular the utility of FGF-23 and klotho as biomarkers), cognitive impairment and vascular disease and how these conditions impact patients with CKD. He has ongoing research projects with several large clinical cohorts including the Systolic Blood Pressure Intervention Trial, Health Aging and Body Composition Study, and the Chronic Renal Insufficiency Cohort. Prior support includes a Ben J. Lipps research fellowship from the American Society of Nephrology (2012-2014) and a pilot award from the NIH-funded CKD Biomarkers Consortium (2017-2018). Dr. Drew is an Associate Editor of *Kidney Medicine*, a journal started in 2018 by the National Kidney Foundation. Dr. Drew serves as a member of the Tufts University/Tufts Medical Institutional Review Board which meets monthly to review ongoing research projects at Tufts. Dr. Drew is a co-investigator with Drs. Inker and Weiner for several ongoing clinical trials being conducted at Tufts Medical Center.

His clinical practice is primarily at Tufts Medical Center, providing outpatient and inpatient care in general nephrology. He has a clinical interest in patients with glomerular disease and patients with monoclonal gammopathy of renal significance, the latter of which he participates in a multi-specialty clinic with Hematology specialists.

**Scott J. Gilbert, MD, FASN**

Dr. Gilbert is the Director of the Fellowship Training Program and coordinates house staff nephrology education. At Tufts Medical Center, he oversees resident rotations on the inpatient Ward and Consult Services, and in the outpatient Kidney and Blood Pressure Center (KBPC). At TUSM, Dr. Gilbert is course director of the 1st year Renal Course and coordinates the 4th year Consultative Nephrology elective. Dr. Gilbert directs the required Objective Structured Clinical Examination for all 3rd year students. He sits on the steering committees for the TUSM Learning Communities, the Community Service Learning requirement, and Educational Strategic Planning. Dr. Gilbert is active in pre-medical mentoring at Tufts University as faculty advisor of MAPS (Minority Association of Pre-medical Students), an organization for under-represented minorities with an interest in the health professions, and KDSAP (Kidney Disease Screening and Awareness Program), a student-run organization that provides blood pressure, blood glucose, and urinalysis screening in underserved communities in the Greater Boston area. In 2019, he became coach for 10 TUSM students who he will follow and “coach” through their 4 years of medical school and be involved in team-based educational activities. Dr. Gilbert is co-Editor of the *Primer on Kidney Diseases*, and chair of the ASN.
Workforce and Training Committee. His **clinical interests** are the treatment of CKD, renal artery stenosis, hemodialysis, and transplantation. Dr. Gilbert is a Professor of Medicine at TUSM.

**Craig E. Gordon, MD, MS**
Dr. Gordon returned to Tufts Medical Center in 2018 after 10 years at Boston Medical Center where he was an Associate Professor Medicine and served as the Training Program Director for the Nephrology Fellowship. Dr. Gordon serves in a variety of teaching roles at Tufts Medical Center including developing a novel Integrated Cases course for second year medical students. In 2019, he became a coach for 10 TUSM students who he will follow and “coach” through their 4 years of medical school and be involved in team-based educational activities. Dr. Gordon also served as the Associate Director of the Evidence Review Team and Assistant Project Director for the 2018 Update to the KDIGO Clinical Practice Guidelines on Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) in Chronic Kidney Disease and the 2020 KDIGO Clinical Practice Guidelines on the Care of the Kidney Transplant Candidate. He will also serve as Assistant Project Director for an upcoming Focused Update of the KDIGO Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) in Chronic Kidney Disease Guideline. Dr. Gordon’s **clinical/research interests** focus on polycystic kidney disease, HCV in patients with CKD, and thrombotic microangiopathoy (TMA), and he has developed a multidisciplinary TMA team at Tufts Medical Center. Additionally, Dr. Gordon evaluates patients in the Center for Polycystic Kidney Disease, potential kidney transplant donors and recipients in the transplant clinic, and is involved in the management of patients with all forms of glomerulonephritis through the newly formed Center for Glomerular Disease at Tufts Medical Center. Dr. Gordon also serves as Associate Editor of *Kidney Medicine*, a journal of the National Kidney Foundation. Dr. Gordon is an Associate Professor of Medicine at TUSM.

**Nitender Goyal, MD**
Dr. Goyal joined the Division in 2016 after completing his nephrology training at Tufts Medical Center and transplant nephrology training from University of Minnesota Medical Center. In 2017, he assumed the role Medical Director of Kidney Transplantation. Dr. Goyal primarily provides care for kidney transplant recipients and kidney donors. His **research interest** includes long-term kidney allograft outcomes, noninvasive biomarkers for monitoring kidney allograft health, and live donor outcomes. Dr. Goyal is also interested in hospital administration and operations and is pursuing Master of Business Administration from University of Chicago Booth School of Business. He is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at TUSM.

**Lesley A. Inker, MD, MS, FRCP(C)**
Dr. Inker’s **primary research interests** are in kidney function measurement and estimation, endpoints for clinical trials of kidney disease progression, and epidemiology, outcomes, and practice management related to CKD. She is the co-principal investigator of CKD-EPI, a collaborative effort with the NIDDK to use pooled individual patient data to address central questions in the epidemiology of CKD, including developing improved GFR estimation equations and evaluating surrogate endpoints for kidney disease progression in clinical trials ([https://www.tuftsmedicalcenter.org/Research-Clinical-Trials/Institutes-Centers-Labs/Chronic-Kidney-Disease-Epidemiology-Collaboration/Overview](https://www.tuftsmedicalcenter.org/Research-Clinical-Trials/Institutes-Centers-Labs/Chronic-Kidney-Disease-Epidemiology-Collaboration/Overview)). As part of this later work, she led the analytical team to evaluate alternative albuminuria and estimated GFR based outcome as part of an FDA-EMA-NKF scientific workshop held March 2018 ([https://www.kidney.org/CKDEndpoints](https://www.kidney.org/CKDEndpoints)), and is very active in continuing investigations in this field. Dr. Inker is currently investigating novel markers for estimation of GFR, prognosis of adverse outcomes in patients with CKD, is a co-investigator on the Chronic Kidney Disease Biomarker Consortium (Bio-Con), a collaborative effort with the NIDDK to develop and validate novel biomarkers for chronic kidney disease, and investigation of medication induced adverse events in CKD as co-principal investigator on a NIDDK funded grant. She is the site principle investigator for trials in Alport syndrome ([https://www.tuftsmedicalcenter.org/ClinicalTrials/Search?q=&area=Alports+Syndrome&dept=&gender=&age=](https://www.tuftsmedicalcenter.org/ClinicalTrials/Search?q=&area=Alports+Syndrome&dept=&gender=&age=)) and IgA nephropathy ([https://www.tuftsmedicalcenter.org/ClinicalTrials/Nephropathy-1183952?q=&area=&dept=&gender=&age=](https://www.tuftsmedicalcenter.org/ClinicalTrials/Nephropathy-1183952?q=&area=&dept=&gender=&age=)). Dr. Inker is the inaugural chair of the steering committee for the NKF Patient Network, the first national kidney disease patient registry ([https://www.kidney.org/nkf-patient-network](https://www.kidney.org/nkf-patient-network)). In 2020, Dr. Inker was asked to be a member of the NKF-ASN Task Force on Reassessing the Inclusion of Race in Diagnosing Kidney Diseases. Dr. Inker’s **clinical interests** are general nephrology, GFR measurement and estimation, detection and treatment of CKD, geriatric nephrology, HIV-associated kidney disease, glomerular disease, Alport
syndrome, monoclonal gammopathy of renal significance, and pregnancy and kidney disease. She is the Director of the Kidney and Blood Pressure Center, the Kidney Function Evaluation Center, and Quality Improvement for the Division. She recently joined the Medical Advisory Board for the Alport Syndrome Foundation (https://www.alportsyndrome.org/about-us/medical-advisory-committee/).

Bertrand L. Jaber, MD, MS, FASN, FNKF

Dr. Jaber is Chair of Medicine at SEMC. He also serves as Medical Director for the Steward Health Care Network at SEMC. His prior clinical and translational research efforts focused on the utility of genetic and biomarkers for the prediction and severity of acute kidney injury, early detection and adverse clinical outcomes. He has also conducted meta-analyses on preventive and treatment strategies for acute kidney injury and chronic kidney disease, including the role of more frequent dialysis. More recently, Dr. Jaber has been leading and implementing quality improvement initiatives at SEMC aimed at improving quality of care in the hospital and ambulatory settings, with a focus on population health management, preventive care, management of at-risk populations, care coordination, and patient experiences of care. Dr. Jaber is a Professor of Medicine at TUSM and a faculty member of the Tufts University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

Alin A. Joseph, MD, MS

Dr. Joseph earned her MD from Drexel University’s College of Medicine and her MS from Tufts University. She completed her internal medicine residency (2011) and clinical-research fellowship in nephrology (2014) at Tufts Medical Center. She then joined the Tufts Medical Center Division of Nephrology as a member of the clinical staff. Her nephrology practice is primarily in the outpatient setting at the Pratt Medical Group Nephrology and Hypertension office in Concord, MA. She also provides care to outpatients at Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Medford, MA. In 2018, Dr. Joseph assumed the role of Medical Director at DCI Walden Pond and is the Associate Medical Director at DCI Ball Square. She is the Consultant Nephrologist at Emerson Hospital and Assistant Professor of Medicine at TUSM.

Amy B. Kuhlik, MD

Dr. Kuhlik is the Dean for Student Affairs at TUSM. She maintains a clinical practice within the Division by holding one half-day clinic a week and also attending on the nephrology consult service several weeks a year. Dr. Kuhlik’s clinical specialties are CKD, pregnancy, and polycystic kidney disease.

Eduardo Lacson, Jr., MD, MPH, FACP, FASN

Dr. Lacson is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine at TUSM. His research interest covers late CKD and ESRD, with focus on care quality, quality improvement, and patient safety. His work covers epidemiological studies, translational research, and clinical performance measurement in health policy. He has served on multiple CMS Technical Expert Panels in dialysis care and international KDIGO consensus conferences. Dr. Lacson is currently Senior Medical Director for Clinical Science and Quality Initiatives for DCI and is a representative on several committees (Non-Profit Kidney Care Alliance, the Kidney Health Initiative, and a delegate of the CDC Making Dialysis Safer Coalition); a member of the ASN National Transforming Dialysis Safety QAIE Committee; and a member of the editorial board of the American Journal of Kidney Diseases. He was the editor of the inaugural edition of the NephSAP on prevention and control of infections in outpatient hemodialysis units (2019). He is co-chair of the Kidney Health Initiative workgroup elucidating cramping as a patient-reported outcome and a member of the workgroup on data standards. He has been focused on issues related to patient care quality and clinical operations for DCI during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nicolaos E. Madias, MD, FASN

Dr. Madias is the Maurice S. Segal, MD Professor of Medicine at TUSM and the Academic Dean of TUSM at SEMC. Dr. Madias is interested in the broad field of acid-base and electrolyte metabolism. He is pursuing projects on various acid-base disorders, the epidemiology and management of dysnatremias, and the role of sodium and potassium in the pathogenesis of hypertension.
KLEMENS B. MEYER, MD
Dr. Meyer is Director of Dialysis Services at Tufts Medical Center, Medical Director at DCI Boston and DCI Ball Square, Associate Medical Director at DCI Walden Pond and Professor of Medicine at TUSM. Dr. Meyer’s clinical interests are CKD and dialysis. His teaching interests involve the techniques of interpersonal care and end-of-life care. Dr. Meyer’s research interests are dialysis informatics, the measurement of patient experience, and the quality of care. He is also actively involved in data-driven quality improvement activities. In his capacity as DCI’s Medical Director for Information Systems, Dr. Meyer participates in the development and operations of both medical and business information systems. Dr. Meyer participated in the leadership of the ESRD Network of New England for 2 decades and served as President of the Board of Directors of the National Forum of ESRD Networks. He is a member of the Renal Disease and Detoxification Committee of the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation. In 2014, Dr. Meyer received the TUSM Distinguished Faculty Award. In 2016, he received the Nancy Johnson Heart Award from DCI. In 2021, he will receive an NKF New England Honors Award.

DANA C. MISKULIN, MD, MS, FRCP(C)
Dr. Miskulin’s research interests include blood pressure and volume management in hemodialysis patients and interventions to slow autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (ADPKD). Her clinical interests are in general nephrology and polycystic kidney disease. She collaborates closely with DCI’s Quality Management group and has published pivotal trials in dialysis. In 2020, she was appointed as an Associate Editor for the Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology. Dr. Miskulin is an Associate Professor of Medicine at TUSM.

RONALD D. PERRONE, MD, FASN, FNKF
Dr. Perrone has a long-standing and wide-ranging interest in translation of basic science discoveries to clinical medicine. Starting with a laboratory focused on epithelial transport, he subsequently focused on work with immortalized epithelia including human intrahepatic biliary epithelium, human polycystic liver cysts, and human bladder. His present work focuses on clinical research in polycystic kidney disease and the role of total kidney volume as a biomarker in response to clinical therapies. Dr. Perrone was a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Polycystic Kidney Disease Foundation from 1999 to 2016 (Chairman from 2006-2010) and frequently lectures at national and local patient meetings. He served as Co-Investigator with Dr. Levey in the pilot and planning phases (Phase I and II) of the MDRD study and played a fundamental role in the validation and use of the 125I-iothalamate protocol used for the MDRD and other clinical trials of progressive kidney disease.

Dr. Perrone has had a major role in global and national clinical trials for ADPKD. He served as site PI and member of the steering committee for the TEMPO 251 and REPRISE studies of tolvaptan in ADPKD. Dr. Perrone was site PI and member of the steering committee for the NIDDK-sponsored HALT PKD study. Dr. Perrone and colleagues at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, and the University of Pittsburgh received a 5-year grant from the Department of Defense to study metformin as a clinical intervention in ADPKD (TAME PKD). This trial has completed its recruitment goals and will report results next year. Dr. Perrone is co-Principal Investigator and co-chair of the steering committee for the Sanofi PKD trial of venglustat (STAGED-PKD), site PI of the Kadmon PKD trial of tesevatinib, and site PI of the Reata PKD trial of bardoxolone (Falcon).

Over the past 10 years, Dr. Perrone has been integral to the formation of the PKD Outcomes Consortium and has been the principal individual involved in bringing together the contributors from academia, pharma, NIH, FDA, CDISC, and C-Path. He has led this large and diverse consortium that is creating the groundwork for validation of total kidney volume as a clinical trial and regulatory endpoint in ADPKD. This consortium created a CDISC SDTM therapeutic area data standard for ADPKD, which is freely available for use for clinical trials and registries of ADPKD (http://www.cdisc.org/therapeutic#polycystickidneydisease). Total kidney volume has been approved as a clinical enrichment biomarker for inclusion of subjects in clinical trials of ADPKD by both the US Food and Drug Administration (http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM458483.pdf) and the European Medicines Agency (http://www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en_GB/document_library/Regulatory_and_procedural_guideline/2015/07/WC500190205.pdf). Dr. Perrone’s goal, enhanced by prior experience in epithelial biology, clinical trials, dietary modification, and translation of basic discoveries to clinical care, is to improve outcomes in chronic kidney disease, particularly polycystic kidney disease.
Dr. Perrone was the Transplant Medical Director at Tufts Medical Center for many years, a position that transitioned to Dr. Goyal in October 2017. Dr. Perrone is the Scientific Director of the Clinical and Translational Research Center (CTRC), under the auspices of the Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute. The CTRC is the main site for clinical research studies at Tufts Medical Center. His role is to provide scientific leadership and facilitate research activities in the CTRC.

**Monika Pilichowska, MD, PhD**

Dr. Pilichowska's primary appointment is in the pathology department at Tufts Medical Center. She is board certified in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology and Hematopathology and is a member of the Renal Pathology Society. Dr. Pilichowska has a special interest in kidney diseases and interprets kidney biopsies in patients with medical kidney disease and kidney transplants. She conducts a kidney biopsy conference at regular intervals for Division members. Her research includes kidney involvement in lymphoproliferative disorders, autoreactive B-cell clones in systemic lupus erythematosus, and IgA nephropathy.

**Michelle M. Richardson, PharmD, BCPS, CPXP**

Dr. Richardson is a member of the Special and Scientific Staff. Her research and programmatic interests involve assessing patient-based outcomes of health-related quality of life (HRQOL) and patient experience in patients with kidney disease. Since 1994, she has directed the Outcomes Monitoring Program (OMP) for DCI. The OMP was the first program of its kind to routinely use patient-reported outcomes in clinical care. She is co-chair of the ASN Kidney Health Initiative workgroup elucidating skeletal muscle cramping in dialysis patients as a patient-reported outcome. In 2017, Dr. Richardson co-chaired the Patient-reported Outcome Technical Expert Panel convened by the University of Michigan Kidney Epidemiology and Cost Center and the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services. She is also the Director of Communications, produces this Annual Report, and maintains the Division’s web site.

**Daniel E. Weiner, MD, MS, FASN, FNKF**

Dr. Weiner’s current research focuses on advanced kidney disease and dialysis care. Working with DCI, he led a large pragmatic trial of oral protein supplement use in hemodialysis patients, called the HELPS-HD Study; the trial randomized more than 10,000 participants nationally and was completed in 2020. Additional research evaluates the effect of traditional and non-traditional cardiovascular disease risk factors on cerebrovascular and cardiovascular disease outcomes, including cognitive function in people with kidney disease, patient experience in dialysis, patient decision making in advanced CKD, and advanced heart failure therapies in people with CKD. Dr. Weiner, in collaboration with Dr. Keren Ladin at Tufts University, is the co-principal investigator on a mixed methods clinical trial evaluating decision making in advanced CKD, funded by PCORI. He is the past recipient of an R01 from the NIDDK to investigate the role of exercise in people with advanced kidney disease, including factors by which exercise may improve physical and cognitive health. Previously, he received a Carl W. Gottschalk Research Scholar Grant from the American Society of Nephrology and a K23 Career Development Award from the NIDDK. Additionally, he led Tufts’ involvement in the multicenter NIH-funded Systolic Blood Pressure Intervention Trial (SPRINT), which helped elucidate the appropriate blood pressure goal for antihypertensive treatment in non-diabetic adults. He has been an investigator in major trials of SGLT2 inhibitors in diabetic kidney disease at Tufts. He is collaborating with public health researchers from Boston University and George Washington University to investigate CKD among workers in rural Nicaragua.

Dr. Weiner is the Associate Medical Director of DCI Boston and is the Medical Director of Clinical Research for DCI. In 2018, Dr. Weiner became the inaugural editor of the National Kidney Foundation journal, *Kidney Medicine*. From October 2006 to December 2016, Dr. Weiner was the Deputy Editor of the *American Journal of Kidney Diseases* and he currently is AJKD’s Policy Forum editor. Dr. Weiner is the co-Editor of the National Kidney Foundation’s *Primer on Kidney Diseases*, 6th, 7th, and the upcoming 8th editions. Dr. Weiner is currently the recent past chair of the American Society of Nephrology Quality Committee and represents the ASN at Kidney Care Partners. He was the chair of the 2016 Program Committee for the NKF Spring Clinical Meeting and a member of the 2015 NKF KDOQI Hemodialysis Guideline update workgroup. He was named to the NKF’s Scientific Advisory Board beginning in 2021. He has participated in several KDIGO and NKF KDOQI workshops and workgroups in 2018, 2019, and 2020, discussing controversial issues in dialysis and in cardiovascular diseases in people with kidney disease. He has participated in
multiple technical expert panels to develop metrics for kidney care. He was awarded the ASN’s Distinguished Midcareer Leader Award in November 2019.

Dr. Weiner’s clinical specialties are general nephrology, hypertension, and home and in-center dialysis. Dr. Weiner was the past Chair of the Curriculum Committee at TUSM. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2014.

**SETH WRIGHT, MD, MS**

Dr. Wright joined the Division as clinical staff in 2013 and is the Director of Continuing Medical Education. His clinical practice is primarily at Tufts Medical Center, providing outpatient and inpatient care for issues of general nephrology and internal medicine. He has spearheaded the use of kidney ultrasound at Tufts Medical Center. His research focuses on the medical issues facing patients undergoing long-term outpatient dialysis, including infections. He has been the recent recipient of many teaching awards. In 2018, he received the Outstanding Teaching in the Clerkship Years Award from TUSM students. In 2020, he received both the 2019-2020 Excellence in Teaching Citation from the TUSM 3rd year students and the inaugural Fellows’ Choice Award from the graduating clinical nephrology fellows.

**Division Staff**

Members of the support staff sustain the Division’s administrative, clinical, and research operations. Geneva Tucker, the Division Administrator, supervises about 22 personnel in the Division. The support personnel are diverse and each staff member brings specialized knowledge and skills to their respective positions. All administrative and clinical staff function as teams supporting operations and each other. Personnel are cross-trained, enabling each team to support day-to-day operations and each other, when the need arises. The ambulatory support staff works very closely with our physicians, fellows, staff nurse, physician assistants, and transplant nurse practitioners to provide high-quality care and customer service to our patients. The Division Administrator also provides administrative support to the Division’s Fellowship program, currently staffed as 7 Clinical and Clinical Research/Training Grant full-time equivalents.

**Administrative Support Staff**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff Member</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicole Collado</td>
<td>Manager, Education Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorna Davies</td>
<td>Administrative Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago Holman</td>
<td>Temporary Administrative Assistant and Biller</td>
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## Pratt Medical Group Nephrology and Hypertension, Concord

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sharyn Moussawee</td>
<td>Practice Manager</td>
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## Kidney and Blood Pressure Center Staff

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<tr>
<th>Staff Member</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alyson (Aly) Carey, MS, PA-C</td>
<td>Physician Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antonia Correia</td>
<td>Practice Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawa Dolma, CMA</td>
<td>Medical Assistant/Practice Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Irvin, CCMA</td>
<td>Medical Assistant/Practice Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alison Kaprove, MS, PA-C, CAQ</td>
<td>Physician Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qina Li, CMA</td>
<td>Medical Assistant/Practice Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Francisca Martinez</td>
<td>Practice Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jahdeya Morgan</td>
<td>Contact Center Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jenny Moy</td>
<td>Practice Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lahticco Robinson, MPA, PA-C</td>
<td>Physician Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alissa Stubinski, MS, PA-C</td>
<td>Physician Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finna Tam</td>
<td>Practice Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veronika Testa, RN</td>
<td>Staff Nurse</td>
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## Research Support Staff (i.e., Assistants, Associates, & Statisticians)

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<tr>
<th>Staff Member</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arushi Agarwal</td>
<td>Clinical Research Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juhi Chaudhari</td>
<td>Clinical Research Associate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara Couture</td>
<td>Clinical Research Associate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Diamond</td>
<td>Clinical Research Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victoria Himaras</td>
<td>Clinical Research Coordinator</td>
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<td>Sarah Levine</td>
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<td>Raabia Malik</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riley Marotta</td>
<td>Research Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole Merullo</td>
<td>Clinical Research Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leah Meyer</td>
<td>Clinical Research Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jonathan (Shiyuan) Miao</td>
<td>Clinical Research Associate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lucy Ren</td>
<td>Clinical Research Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phoenix Turoci</td>
<td>Clinical Research Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Wang</td>
<td>Clinical Research Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Wyle</td>
<td>Clinical Research Coordinator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Research Administration

Krista Boisclair, MS was promoted in early 2021 to Research Operations Manager for the Divisions of Nephrology and Infectious Disease and the Stuart B. Levey Center for Integrated Management of Antimicrobial Resistance. She is responsible for assisting investigators and research staff in all aspects of managing grants and coordinating research activities of the Division. Research activities of the Division are discussed in more detail starting on page 39.

2020 Faculty and Staff Changes

Staff Changes

Research

- Sara Couture was promoted to Clinical Research Associate and is working with both Drs. Inker and Sarnak on various research projects.
- Sarah Levine started in June as a Research Coordinator and is focusing on the DART Trial. She replaced Lucy Ren who started medical school.
- Arushi Agarwal came back for a short summer stint of 5-6 weeks to help with transitioning before returning for her 2nd year of medical school.
- Nicole Merullo and Phoenix Turoci both started as Research Coordinators in November 2020 to work for Dr. Perrone on the PKD trials. They are replacing Raabia Malik and Victoria Himaras.
- Amy Wyle started in November 2020 as a Research Coordinator for Drs. Inker, Miskulin, and Weiner. She replaced Laura Diamond.
- In early 2021, Krista Boisclair was promoted from Research Administrator III to Research Operations Manager.

Clinical

- Both Francisca Martinez, KBPC Boston, and Sharyn Moussawee, Pratt Medical Group Nephrology and Hypertension in Concord, were promoted to Practice Manager in 2020.
- Mary Nguyen, RN accepted the position of Nurse Manager for Home Dialysis at DCI Ball Square in Somerville. Mary has been a valued member of the home treatment program for 5 years. She assumed her new responsibilities after her return from maternity leave on March 1, 2020.
- Agnes Rawski, RN resigned as Nurse Manager of the DCI Ball Square outpatient dialysis center after nearly 9 years in that position. Agnes is now a staff nurse at Lahey DCI Hospital Services. Maria Serra, RN is the new DCI Ball Square Nurse Manager.
- After nearly 6 years as a Medical Assistant/Practice Coordinator Dowa Dolma left the KBPC to pursue her nursing degree full time. Jennifer Irvin, who was an intern in the KBPC, was hired in December to fill the MA role.
- Jahdeya Morgan was hired as the KBPC Contact Center Coordinator. She fields all of our KBPC clinical calls. Having one dedicated person for this important job will increase care coordination, quality of care, and patient experience.

Administration

- Chicago Holman was hired as a temporary Biller and Administrative Assistant to Drs. Drew, Inker, and Weiner.

Service

Service to Tufts Medical Center

- Dr. Dad is a member of the Tufts Medical Center Patient Experience Committee.
- Drs. Dad and Gilbert are members of the Graduate Medical Education Committee.
• Dr. **Drew** is a member of the Tufts Health Sciences Campus Investigational Review Board.
• Dr. **Gilbert** serves on the Internal Medicine Residency Clinical Competency Committee, the Internal Medicine Residency Curriculum Committee, and in 2017 he was appointed to the Graduate Medical Education Accreditation Subcommittee.
• Drs. **Gilbert**, **Levey**, **Sarnak**, and **Weiner** are members of the Tufts Medical Center Internal Medicine Residency Selection Committee.
• Dr. **Goyal** is the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) Primary Physician for the Kidney Transplant Program at Tufts Medical Center.
• Dr. **Inker** is a member of the Quality of Care Committee and Care Improvement Council and the Ambulatory Patient Safety Task Force.
• Dr. **Perrone** is the Scientific Director of the Clinical and Translational Research Center (CTRC). Dr. **Weiner** is a Portal Navigator for the Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI). Dr. **Jaber** is a member of the CTSI Steering Committee. Dr. **Sarnak** is a member of the CTSI Scientific Training and Review Committee.
• Drs. **Sarnak** and **Weiner** are members of the Clinical Research Program Advisory Committee for the Fellowship Program in the Institute for Clinical Research and Health Policy Studies.
• Dr. **Sarnak** is a member of the Physician Trustee Selection Committee.
• **Veronika Testa, RN** is a member of several Tufts Medical Center committees including the: Adult Outpatient Specialty Nursing Committee; Ambulatory Advisory Committee; Magnet Steering Committee; Medical Assistant Council; Medication Safety Committee; Nursing Informatics Council; and Regulatory Readiness Committee.

**Service to Tufts University/TUSM/Tufts University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences**

• Dr. **Dad** is a member of the LCME Self-Study Task Force.
• Dr. **Gilbert** serves on the Learning Community Steering Committee and the Community Service Learning Effort Steering Committee, and the Educational Strategic Planning II Steering Committee.
• Dr. **Gilbert** chairs the Objective Structured Clinical Examination Committee, the Curriculum Integration Committee, the Pre-Clinical Course Directors Committee, and the Educational Strategic Planning II Renal Course Committee.
• Dr. **Gilbert** is the faculty advisor for the Tufts University Kidney Disease Screening and Awareness Program and the Minority Association of Pre-Health Students.
• Dr. **Gordon** is a member of the Curriculum Committee.
• Dr. **Jaber** is a member of the Committee on Committees.
• Dr. **Weiner** is a member of the Tufts University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Programs and Faculty Committee, the Clinical and Translational Sciences Advisory Committee, and the Admissions Committee.

**Service to Professional Organizations**

• Dr. **Gilbert** is a member of the Panel for Accreditation Appeals in Nephrology Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.
• Dr. **Gilbert** also serves on many ASN committees: Nephrology Training Program Directors Executive Committee, William and Sandra Bennett Clinical Scholars Grant Committee, Mentor-Mentee
Education Resources Project, and the Match Oversight Task Force. He chairs the Workforce and Training Committee and the Executive Committee.

- Dr. Gilbert is a member of Association of Specialty Professors Council Alliance of Academic Internal Medicine.
- Dr. Goyal was an Abstract Reviewer for the 2020 American Transplant Congress.
- Dr. Inker leads the efforts with the National Kidney Foundation to revise the International Classification of Disease in the United States to be consistent with current kidney disease standards.
- Dr. Inker is a member of the National Institute for Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Disease (NIDDK) National Kidney Disease Education Program, Laboratory Work Group.
- Dr. Inker is a member of the Medical Advisory Committee of the Alport Syndrome Foundation.
- Dr. Inker chairs the Steering Committee of the newly formed NKF Patient Network, the first-ever national registry for CKD patients. For 2 years, ending in 2019, she was Chair, Scientific Advisory Board for National Kidney Foundation CKD Patient Registry.

- In 2020, Dr. Inker was appointed as a member of the NKF-ASN Task Force on Reassessing the Inclusion of Race in Diagnosing Kidney Diseases. This joint task force is incorporating concerns of the patients, the public, and kidney professionals as it examines the scientific and ethical issues relative to use of race as a variable in GFR estimating equations. The interim and final reports are expected to be published in spring 2021.
- Dr. Inker is the co-chair of the Developing Treatments for Early Stages of Common, Chronic Kidney Diseases: Clinical Trial Considerations. This scientific workshop is cosponsored by the National Kidney Foundation and US Food and Drug Administration.
- Dr. Jaber reviewed abstracts for the Hemodialysis and Frequent Dialysis Category for Kidney Week Reimagined 2020.
- In 2020, Alison Kaprove, PA-C was a member of the 2021 NKF Spring Clinical Meeting Planning Committee for the Nephrology Advanced Practitioner Program. This was the 3rd year in a row that she has participate in Spring Clinical Meeting planning.

- Dr. Lacson is a member of the ASN National Transforming Dialysis Safety QAIE Committee.
- Dr. Lacson is DCI's representative on the following committees: Kidney Health Initiative, Non-Profit Kidney Care Alliance, and the CDC Making Dialysis Safer Coalition.
- Dr. Levey is a member of the KDIGO Executive Committee and the NKF Scientific Advisory Board.
- Dr. Meyer is the Medical Director for the DCI Information Systems and the Outcomes Monitoring Program. He is also a member of the Medical Information System Steering Committee.
- Dr. Meyer is a member of the Renal Disease and Detoxification Committee for the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation, the American Association of Kidney Patients Medical Advisory Board, and the USRDS Expert Advisory Committee.
- Dr. Perrone is Co-Executive Director of the Polycystic Kidney Disease Outcomes Consortium.
- In 2020, Dr. Perrone ended his tenure as chairman of the External Advisory Committee for the Kansas University PKD Core Center, chairman of the External Advisory Committee for the Mayo Translational PKD Center, and as a member of the External Advisory Committee for the University of Maryland PKD Core Center.
- Drs. Perrone and Gilbert are members of the NKF New England Medical Advisory Board.
- Dr. Perrone is chairing the SONG-PKD Pain Workshop.
- Dr. Weiner is a member of the ASN’s COVID-19 Outpatient Dialysis Subcommittee.
- Dr. Weiner is a member of the ASN Policy and Advocacy Committee, the ASN Quality Committee, and is the ASN representative for Kidney Care Partners.
- Dr. Weiner is also a Grant Committee Member of DCI’s Paul Teschan Research Committee, Medical Director of Clinical Research, and a member of the DCI Medical Director Research Committee and Quality Management Committee.

Service in Guideline Development and Controversies Conferences
- Dr. Gordon was a member of the evidence review team for the KDIGO Clinical Practice Guideline on the Evaluation and Management of Candidates for Kidney Transplantation published in April 2020.
- In 2020, the KDIGO consensus conference workgroup published the Nomenclature for Kidney Function and Disease Conference Report and Glossary. Dr. Levey was the Chair and Drs. Inker and Weiner were conference participants. The purpose of the conference was to standardize and refine kidney-related nomenclature through a precise and patient-centered glossary that aligns communication in clinical practice, research, and public health. Elements of the glossary are being included in online updates to the recently published *AMA Manual of Style*.
- Dr. Levey was a participant in the KDIGO Consensus Conference on Harmonizing Acute and Chronic Kidney Disease Definition and Classification.
- Dr. Perrone is a member of the KDIGO Guideline Working Group for Polycystic Kidney Disease.
- Dr. Sarnak was a participant in the KDIGO Controversies Conference on Central & Peripheral Arterial Diseases in CKD.

Service in Kidney Health Initiative Workgroups
- Drs. Lacson and Richardson co-chair the Kidney Health Initiative Workgroup to Develop Measures for Muscle Cramping in Dialysis Patients to Spur Development of Devices and Medicines for Treating this Vexing Condition.

Service in Technical Expert Panels
Patient Care
2020 Patient Care Initiatives

- In response to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions in the spring, the entire KBPC staff quickly pivoted to be able to offer our outpatients telehealth visits.
- In 2020, Drs. Levey and Perrone stepped back from attending in weekly outpatient clinics. Dr. Perrone is still seeing attending an initial evaluation clinic for patients with PKD. Dr. Levey is no longer attending on the inpatient service. We are fortunate that they remain Division members and are available for clinical consultation.
- We partnered with our palliative care physician colleagues, Drs. Rachel Bernstein and Elizabeth Figuracion, to provide palliative care services and care to our patients with CKD in the KBPC.
- The Center for Glomerular Disease was initiated in 2020 and is intended to provide comprehensive diagnosis and treatment of kidney glomerular disorders across multiple specialties. Drs. Drew, Gordon, Inker, and Miskulin use an evidence-based approach combined with individualized decision making to make appropriate treatment decisions for each patient. The have experience diagnosing and treating the most common glomerular diseases and also genetic glomerular diseases including Alport syndrome and thin basement membrane disease.
- Anna Dutton, PharmD, BCACP joined the Division as the pharmacist for the outpatient KBPC and hemodialysis unit. Originally from Memphis, Dr. Dutton attended the University of Tennessee for pharmacy school and did her PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at Regional One Health in Memphis. She was then a Staff Pharmacist at University of Cincinnati Medical Center for a year and then did their Ambulatory Care PGY2 Pharmacy Residency followed by a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in the Internal Medicine Clinic, where she ran an anticoagulation clinic and pharmacotherapy clinic for 3 years. She and her husband have two daughters. In the KBPC and DCI dialysis unit she is working to optimize medication adherence, serve as a drug information resource, and help coordinate medication access efforts. One initiative she is working on is transitions of care follow up after dialysis patients are discharged from the hospital or other healthcare facility.

Continuing Patient Care Initiatives—Outpatient
Kidney and Blood Pressure Center
Outpatient clinical activities take place primarily in the KBPC, directed by Dr. Inker. There are currently nine half-day-a-week clinics staffed by Drs. Drew, Gilbert, Inker, Kuhlik, Levey, Meyer, Miskulin, Perrone, Sarnak, Weiner, and Wright.

The KBPC emphasizes a multi-disciplinary approach to kidney disease. Collaboration with the Division of Transplant Surgery, Department of Urology, Division of Palliative care, the DCI outpatient dialysis unit, and the Frances Stern Nutrition Center improve the quality of care delivered. The KBPC specializes in the diagnosis and management of CKD, PKD, hypertension, glomerular diseases, monoclonal gammopathy of renal significance, advanced heart failure, kidney transplantation, kidney stones, and peritoneal dialysis. Ambulatory blood pressure monitoring, subcutaneous erythropoietin administration and tolvaptan REMS services are offered by the KBPC. We have a dedicated renal dietician, Haewook Han PhD, RD, who sees patients weekly. Quarterly nutrition meetings are held and are open to both patients and family members. New in 2020, the clinic has a dedicated clinical pharmacist. Anna Dutton, PharmD, BCACP is working with all members of the KBPC to provide clinical pharmacy services like enhancing medication adherence, being a drug information resource for patients and clinicians, and coordinating access to complex medications.

Many clinical studies for patients with CKD occur in the clinic, including studies of polycystic kidney disease, blood pressure target in CKD, Alport syndrome, IgA nephropathy, diabetes, dyslipidemia management in CKD, lupus nephritis (in conjunction with the Division of Rheumatology), transplant immunosuppression,
cardiovascular disease in transplantation, computerized assessment of health-related quality of life, genetic predisposition to progression, and kidney function evaluation (see below). Active clinical trials can be found at https://www.tuftsmedicalcenter.org/ClinicalTrials/Search.aspx?q=&area=&dept=Nephrology&gender=&age=

A dialysis education program is provided to patients. Jane Maxim, RN and Mary Nguyen, RN, DCI Ball Square Home Dialysis Nurse Managers, the DCI Ball Square Home Program staff, and Veronika Testa, RN collaborate to provide these sessions. The Kidney Replacement Options Meetings are facilitated discussions held every quarter for CKD Stage 4 and Stage 5 patients who would benefit from open discussion of hemodialysis (center-based vs. home-based), peritoneal dialysis, and kidney transplantation. The meeting is open to both patients and family members.

**Kidney Function Evaluation Clinic**
The Kidney Function Evaluation Center, under the direction of Dr. Inker, is a Boston-wide resource for confirmatory tests for GFR estimated from creatinine. Patients whose estimates of GFR using creatinine are not thought to be accurate are referred to the Center for measurement of GFR using plasma clearance of iohexol. GFR is estimated using both creatinine and cystatin C and a report is sent to the referring physicians providing a complete interpretation of the GFR values. For example, this service may be useful in patients who will be undergoing chemotherapy with agents that are cleared by the kidneys, potential kidney donors with high muscle mass who are thought to have falsely low estimated GFR, patients being evaluated for heart transplant, or patients with CKD who have low muscle mass who have symptoms that could be consistent with uremia.

**Center for Polycystic Kidney Disease**
In 2006, Dr. Perrone opened The Center for Polycystic Kidney Disease at Tufts Medical Center (https://www.tuftsmedicalcenter.org/patient-care-services/Departments-and-Services/Nephrology/Clinical-Care-Services/Center-for-PKD.aspx)

This multidisciplinary clinic offers comprehensive, coordinated care for patients with PKD. The Center’s physicians are internationally recognized experts in treating and managing the complications of PKD. In addition to Drs. Perrone, Gordon, and Miskulin and Alyson Carey, PA-C of the Division of Nephrology, physicians from transplant surgery, cardiothoracic surgery, urology, neurosurgery, and clinical genetics participate in the Center. Areas of expertise include providing coordinated care for chronic kidney disease including dialysis and transplantation, treatment of hypertension, and evaluation and management of the complications of liver and kidney cysts including chronic pain, kidney stones, and cardiovascular issues including intracranial aneurysms. Dr. Perrone and colleagues are experts in the use of tolvaptan for ADPKD and are all REMS-certified.

Multidisciplinary consultations are provided in collaboration with Gennaro Carpinito, MD, Urologist-in-Chief and Charles M. Whitney Professor and Chairman, Department of Urology; Adel Malek, MD, Chief, Division of Neurovascular Surgery; Jeffrey Cooper, MD, Chief, Transplant Surgery; Sajani Shah, MD, Surgeon, Bariatric and Minimally Invasive Surgery; Michael Tarnoff, MD, Surgeon, Minimally Invasive Surgery Center; Dallas Reed, MD, Chief of Genetics, and Laurence H. Brinckerhoff, MD, Division of Thoracic Surgery. This center also addresses the complications of PKD resulting in kidney transplants, aneurysm repair, video thorascopic splanchnicectomy for relief of intractable cyst pain and laparoscopic cyst reduction.

The PKD Center holds an outpatient clinic where Drs. Perrone, Miskulin and Gordon and Alyson Carey PA-C see new patients referred specifically for expert advice regarding complications of cystic disease. This clinic
meets biweekly and is staffed in rotation by a physician and clinical or research fellows. This clinic provides a unique opportunity for trainees to see the wide range of complications in this disease.

Drs. Perrone, Gordon, and Miskulin also participate in clinical trials for patients with PKD including tezervatib (Kadmon), TAME (metformin), venglustat (STAGED-PKD, Sanofi), antiMIR17 (Regulus), and bardoxolone (Falcon, Reata).

**Kidney Transplantation Program**

New evaluations of potential kidney transplant recipients are performed in a single morning or afternoon session by a multidisciplinary team consisting of transplant coordinator, transplant nephrologist, transplant surgeon, social worker, dietician, and pharmacist. The Division of Nephrology has established a specific kidney transplant follow-up clinic for recent kidney transplant recipients on Tuesday mornings staffed by Dr. Goyal. Potential living donors are also evaluated in one-half day session by Drs. Gordon and Goyal on Mondays and Thursdays. The kidney transplant program has excellent overall outcomes.

**Kidney Ultrasound**

Dr. Seth Wright is spearheading the use of kidney ultrasound as a new patient care initiative offered by the Division. In 2018, he attended the Ultrasound for Nephrologists course and mini-fellowship at Emory University under the tutelage of Dr. Charlie O’Neill.

Bedside or "point-of-care" ultrasound has rapidly become a staple of clinical care in emergency departments, intensive care units, and is expanding into internal medicine practice. Approximately 10-15% of Nephrology training programs have ultrasound as part of their practice or training programs. In 2019, the Division took steps to join this group, having acquired an ultrasound for the KBPC. We are currently developing outpatient and inpatient curricula for interested trainees for 2020-2021, under the guidance of a trained faculty member. Potential applications in the outpatient setting include early triage for potential obstruction; basic imaging for pre-biopsy planning; and evaluation of the patency vascular access for dialysis. On the inpatient side, arrangements have been made for nephrology fellows will be able to participate in both the didactic and hands-on training already offered for critical care fellows, including the imaging of standardized patients. This training will facilitate assessment of volume status in critically ill patients, potential sites for temporary dialysis catheter placement, and allow rapid evaluation for urinary obstruction.

**Home Dialysis**

The Division of Nephrology treats almost one-third of its dialysis patients by home dialysis. We participate in a regional home dialysis program, directed by Dr. Meyer, which treats about 50 patients by peritoneal dialysis and home hemodialysis at DCI’s Ball Square facility in Somerville. Jane Maxim, RN, the program’s Nurse Manager retired in early 2020 after nearly 40 years of caring for dialysis patients. Mary Nguyen, RN assumed the nurse manager position when Jane retired. The nurse manager leads a team of four nurses, a dietician, and a social worker. In addition to English, the nurses speak Cantonese, Mandarin, and Vietnamese. We offer urgent start peritoneal dialysis and respite home hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis for patients relying on family members to assist with their treatment. The program prides itself on its flexibility, training patients on evenings and weekends when necessary, and making accommodations to minimize the disruption of patients’ lives by dialysis treatment. The nurses have become expert at training the staff of long-term care facilities, and maintaining their skills. The program won DCI’s 2013 Darwin Peterson Award for the best peritoneal dialysis program throughout DCI’s national network of more than 200 dialysis facilities. Drs. Cohen, Joseph, Meyer, Miskulin, and Weiner hold monthly home dialysis clinics at DCI Ball Square and fellows also rotate through the clinics.
Table 3: Outpatient Dialysis Facilities Affiliated with Tufts Medical Center

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dialysis Program</th>
<th>Medical Directors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tufts Medical Center</td>
<td>DCI Boston</td>
<td>Klemens B. Meyer, MD, Medical Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Daniel E. Weiner, MD, MS, Associate Medical Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerville</td>
<td>DCI Ball Square</td>
<td>Klemens B. Meyer, MD, Medical Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Michael B. Cohen, MD, Associate Medical Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Alin A. Joseph, MD, MS, Associate Medical Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>DCI Walden Pond</td>
<td>Alin A. Joseph, MD, MS, Medical Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Klemens B. Meyer, MD, Associate Medical Director</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Outpatient Dialysis Facilities**

Table 3 lists the dialysis programs affiliated with the Division of Nephrology. Since 1986, the dialysis program at Tufts Medical Center has been operated by Dialysis Clinic, Inc. (DCI, [www.dciinc.org](http://www.dciinc.org)), a national not-for-profit dialysis organization which sets the national benchmark for quality of care. Recent highlights of our facilities’ performance, as reported by the University of Michigan Kidney Epidemiology and Cost Center in July 2020, include:

**DCI Walden Pond:** A vaccination rate of 92% that is significantly higher than the national, state and Network 1 averages and a Standardized Fistula Rate (SFR) for prevalent patients of 82%, which is also higher than the national, state, and Network average SFR.

**DCI Ball Square:** The Standardized 1 Transplantation Ratio (STR) is 2.31, which is 131% higher than expected for this facility and higher than the state or Network 1 averages. In addition, the 2019 age-adjusted percent waitlisted at this facility is 42.1%, which is 24% higher than the national adjusted percentage and higher than the state and Network 1 averages.

**DCI Boston**

Drs. Meyer and Weiner direct the DCI Boston dialysis program located at Tufts Medical Center. Their predecessors were Dr. John Harrington (approximately 1971-1980), Dr. Levey (1980-1990), and Dr. Paul Kurtin (1990-1992). The DCI Boston in-center hemodialysis facility at 35 Kneeland Street treats approximately 100 patients. The unit operates 5 shifts, including one of the few evening shifts in Greater Boston. Chad Stevenson, RN serves as Nurse Manager, and Ferdie Cigaral, RN is the Assistant Nurse Manager. Kathleen Murray, MSW is the social worker and Poonhar Poon, MS, RD is the dietitian. Drs. Meyer’s and Weiner’s offices are adjacent to the dialysis unit, and the other dialysis attending physicians and fellows have offices one floor above. Physical proximity makes frequent patient contact practical and facilitates interaction between physicians and dialysis staff. Physicians round on each patient shift at least once a week.

**DCI Ball Square (Somerville MA)**

Dr. Meyer is the Medical Director and Drs. Cohen and Joseph are the Associate Medical Directors at DCI Ball Square in Somerville. In addition to the large home program, DCI Ball Square treats approximately 85 in-center hemodialysis patients. Dr. Tony Dash opened this program in 1999, and directed it until June 2015, when he relocated to his home town of Seattle WA. Maria Serra, RN serves as Nurse Manager of the in-center hemodialysis program.

**DCI Walden Pond (Concord MA)**

DCI Walden Pond opened in 2003. Dr. Meyer directed the unit from 2006 to 2018; since 2018, Dr. Joseph
has served as Medical Director. DCI Walden Pond treats 45 hemodialysis patients; John D’Antonio, RN serves as Nurse Manager.

**Continuing Patient Care Initiatives—Inpatient**

Every 14 days, the Division’s nephrologists rotate responsibility for care of patients hospitalized on the inpatient nephrology service at Tufts Medical Center. The nephrology and dialysis staff work closely with the nursing staff on North 7, the inpatient nephrology floor, to maintain continuity of care. In addition, all Division attending physicians participate in the inpatient nephrology consultation service. The consultation service responds to over 70 requests monthly for evaluation of acute kidney injury, chronic kidney disease, fluid and electrolyte disorders, glomerulonephritis, hypertension, and solid organ and bone marrow transplant-related issues. The nephrology consultation service also provides expertise for all forms of renal replacement therapy, including but not limited to hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, and continuous renal replacement therapy (CVVHD and SCUF). Under the supervision of staff physicians, Division fellows perform all temporary access procedures required for initiating hemodialysis, including ultrasound-guided femoral and central catheter insertions.

**Kidney Transplantation**

The Tufts Medical Center Kidney Transplant Team performed 23 kidney transplants in 2020 (3 living donor, 20 deceased donor). Figure 1 shows the change in the number of kidney transplants over time.

Dr. Goyal is the Medical Director of the Tufts Medical Center Kidney Transplant Program. Tufts Medical Center is also an active participant in the UNOS Kidney Paired Donation Project that has centralized the coordination of sharing by mismatched donor-recipient pairs so as to allow regional and national paired-donor exchanges. Patients who have received kidney transplants are seen weekly in the KBPC in the initial months following the transplant, thereafter at increasing intervals. The transplant team at Tufts Medical Center has conducted more than 1,300 kidney transplants. In 2021, the kidney transplant program will celebrate its 50th anniversary.

**Inpatient Dialysis**

Inpatient hemodialysis is performed in the Floating 7 inpatient hemodialysis unit and in Tufts Medical Center intensive care units. DCI, the hospital’s inpatient dialysis provider, assigns nurses to perform inpatient hemodialysis treatments and to oversee and facilitate CVVHD treatments in the intensive care units. Dr. Wright directs the CVVHD program. Linda Courtemanche, RN manages the inpatient hemodialysis/CVVHD program, which she joined in 1986. The staff perform both pediatric and adult intermittent hemodialysis and CVVHD.
Inpatient peritoneal dialysis is performed in intensive care units and on the North 7, an inpatient adult medicine ward, by trained nursing staff. Margaret (Peggy) Davoren, RN provides peritoneal dialysis nursing education for staff on North 7 and throughout the hospital. The inpatient care of peritoneal dialysis patients admitted from the DCI Ball Square program is closely coordinated with their ongoing outpatient care. In 2020, nurses and physicians who take care of hospitalized dialysis patients reconstituted a workgroup, which meets monthly, to improve their care.

**Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy**

In 2018, Dr. Perrone stepped down as director of the continuous renal replacement therapies (e.g., continuous venovenous hemodialysis and slow continuous ultrafiltration) program. Dr. Wright assumed the role of director of the program, which uses NxStage System 1 machines to perform continuous venovenous hemodialysis (CVVHD). These therapies support critically ill patients who have developed acute kidney injury as a complication of their underlying illnesses, other treatments, or surgery. The COVID-19 pandemic along with growing solid organ and bone marrow transplantation, cardiac surgery, and oncology programs increased utilization of continuous renal replacement therapies.

**Division Quality Improvement**

The division remains committed to improving the quality of care both for our patients and patients throughout the institution. Dr. Inker is Director for Quality Improvement for the Division.

**Morbidity and Mortality Rounds**

Morbidity and Mortality rounds are held approximately six times a year and provide the opportunity for fellows and attending physicians to discuss issues related to problems in knowledge or delivery of care that lead to undesired patient outcomes, with the goal to develop systems to avoid these problems in the future.

**Community Service/Patient Education**

Division staff members actively participate in community projects, particularly in neighboring Chinatown. In addition to health screenings, the Division has focused on education for health care providers, patients, and the general community. In 2020, opportunities for community service were drastically decreased.

- Early in the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Perrone and Chad Stephenson, RN (DCI Boston Nurse Manager) presented a national webinar sponsored by the PKD Foundation to answer questions about the impact of COVID-19 on PKD, dialysis, transplantation, and stress.

**2020 Patient Care Awards and Honors**

- Boston Magazine reported what we all already know - we have some of Boston's Best Doctors! Congrats to Drs. Gilbert, Inker, Jaber, Levey, Meyer, Miskulin, Perrone, Sarnak, and Weiner who were listed in the Boston Magazine Best Doctors issue published in January 2021.

- Dr. Meyer will receive a 2021 NKF Honors Award from the NKF New England at its virtual gala on March 20\textsuperscript{th}. The NKF Honors award recognizes outstanding Nephrologists/Scientists with a lifelong contribution to the discipline of nephrology. This year, the NKF New England is honoring nephrologists that have made an impact in reducing health disparities in the New England community.
Research
Research conducted in the Division is focused on solving clinical problems. Each research project has a domain expert, in most cases a nephrologist, a methods expert, and collaborators from other disciplines. The location of the Division offices, the KBPC, and the DCI Boston dialysis unit on 3 adjacent floors in the same building has been a major reason contributing to the Division’s success in performing clinical research.

Division members collaborate with methods experts to use the research methods appropriate for epidemiology, clinical trials, development of clinical practice guidelines, and outcomes. We collaborate with domain experts to focus on the research areas of: CKD, assessment of kidney function, aging, nutrition, dialysis and transplantation, progression, polycystic kidney disease, acute kidney injury, and hypertension.

2020 New Research Grant Awards

Figure 2, Table 4, and Table 5 illustrate the research grant awards received by Division members.

![Graph illustrating research grant awards received by Division members from FY16 to FY20.](image-url)
Table 4: New Research Grant Awards Received in 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PI</th>
<th>Award Source/Years</th>
<th>Type of Award</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drew</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Federal Subcontract</td>
<td>Quantitative Renal Imaging for Chronic Kidney Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inker</td>
<td>NKF</td>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration Clinical Trial Consortium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarnak</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Federal R01</td>
<td>Acute Declines in Kidney Function During Blood Pressure Interventions in CKD and Association with Kidney and Cardiac Outcomes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weiner</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Federal Subcontract</td>
<td>Integrated Mineral Metabolism Treatment Strategies in Patients on Dialysis</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Federal Subcontract</td>
<td>Reducing Chronic Pain and Opioid Use in Hemodialysis</td>
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**Total Amount and Type of Research Grant Awards**

Table 5 shows ongoing research grant awards received by Division members before 2020.

Table 5: Ongoing Research Grant Awards Received Prior to 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
<th>Award Source</th>
<th>Type of Award</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Year of Award</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dad</td>
<td>DCI</td>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>Psychometric and Qualitative Evaluation of the In-Center Hemodialysis Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (ICH CAHPS)</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drew</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Federal K23</td>
<td>The Association of FGF-23 and Klotho with Cognitive Impairment and Cerebrovascular Disease in Chronic Kidney Disease</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inker</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Federal U01</td>
<td>CKD Biomarker Consortium-Phase 2: Risk Markers in Blood</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inker</td>
<td>Reata</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>A Phase 2/3 Trial of the Efficacy and Safety of Bardoxolone Methyl in Patients with Alport Syndrome</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inker</td>
<td>Retrophin</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>Sparsentan for the Treatment of Primary IgA Nephropathy: A Study to Support the Application of Early Change in Proteinuria as a Surrogate Endpoint for Accelerated Approval and eGFR slope as the Confirmatory Endpoint</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inker</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Federal Subcontract</td>
<td>Medication Use and Adverse Events in CKD</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inker</td>
<td>Omeros</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Phase 3 Study of the Safety and Efficacy of OMS721 in Patients with Immunoglobulin A (IgA) Nephropathy (ARTEMIS-IGAN)</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inker</td>
<td>Reata</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>A Phase 2 Trial of the Efficacy and Safety of Bardoxolone Methyl in Patients with Rare Chronic Kidney Diseases</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inker</td>
<td>DCI</td>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>Accuracy of GFR Estimates in Advanced Heart Failure</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inker</td>
<td>Reata</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>An Extended Access Program to Assess Long-term Safety of Bardoxolone Methyl in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease.</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inker</td>
<td>NKF</td>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>Joint Analyses of GFR Slope and Change in Albuminuria</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 5: Ongoing Research Grant Awards Received Prior to 2020 Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
<th>Award Source</th>
<th>Type of Award</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Year of Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Levey</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Federal Subcontract</td>
<td>Chronic Kidney Disease Prognosis Consortium</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miskulin</td>
<td>DCI</td>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>Prepared Meals to Prime and Perpetuate Reduced Dietary Sodium Intake in Hemodialysis (PePeR DISH)</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perrone</td>
<td>DOD</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>Metformin as a Novel Therapy for Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perrone</td>
<td>Kadmon</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>A Double-blind Randomized Parallel Group Study of the Efficacy and Safety of Tesevatinib in Subjects with Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perrone</td>
<td>Sanofi</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>Multicenter, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Two Stage Study to Characterize the Efficacy, Safety, Tolerability and Pharmacokinetics of GZ/SAR402671 in Patients at Risk of Rapidly Progressive Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease (ADPKD)</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perrone</td>
<td>Reata</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>A Phase 3 Trial of the Efficacy and Safety of Bardoxolone Methyl in Patients with Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarnak</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Federal U01</td>
<td>Beyond the Glomerulus: Novel Clinical Markers of Kidney Health and Prognosis</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarnak</td>
<td>NIH/NIDDK</td>
<td>Federal T32</td>
<td>Epidemiology, Clinical Trials and Outcomes Research</td>
<td>1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarnak</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Federal Subcontract</td>
<td>Role of Mitochondrial Health in Acute and Chronic Kidney Disease in Older Adults</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weiner</td>
<td>Baxter</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>A Multi-center, Prospective, Randomized, Controlled, Open-label, Parallel Study to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of the Theranova 400 Dialyzer in End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Patients</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weiner</td>
<td>AstraZeneca</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>A Study to Evaluate the Effect of Dapagliflozin on Renal Outcomes and Cardiovascular Mortality in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weiner</td>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>Federal Subcontract</td>
<td>Integrated Mineral Metabolism Treatment Strategies in Patients on Dialysis</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weiner</td>
<td>Ardelyx</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>A 26-week, Phase III, Open-label Study with a 12-week, Placebo-controlled, Randomized Withdrawal Period Followed by an Open-label Long-term Safety Extension to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Tenapanor to Treat Hyperphosphatemia in End-stage Renal Disease Patients on Hemodialysis and Peritoneal Dialysis</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weiner</td>
<td>PCORI</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>Promoting Autonomy and Improving Shared Decision-Making for Older Adults with Advanced Kidney Disease</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weiner</td>
<td>Cara Therapies</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>An Open Label, Multicenter Study to Evaluate the Safety and Effectiveness of the Intravenous CR845 in Hemodialysis Patients with Moderate-to Severe Pruritus</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weiner</td>
<td>Ardelyx</td>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>A Randomized, Double-Blind Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy of Tenapanor as Adjunctive Therapy to Phosphate Binders in End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Patients with Hyperphosphatemia</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2020 Division Publications**

**2020 Print Publications**

A total of 123 print publications and 17 epublications were authored and/or co-authored by Division members in 2020. An asterisk beside a name indicates a current trainee as an author.


11. Cohen-Bucay A, Ramirez-Andrade SE, Gordon CE, Francis JM, Chitalia VC. Advances in BK Virus Complications in Organ


### 2020 Epublications


Research Leadership Roles

- Dr. Sarnak is an ad hoc reviewer for the National Institutes of Health.
- Dr. Weiner is the chair of the Data Safety Monitoring Board for the SPIRIT Trial.
- Dr. Weiner is the co-chair of the Adjudications Committee of the VALOR-CKD study.
- Dr. Weiner is a member of the Protocol Committee of the HOPE Trial and in 2020, he started as a member of the FRONTIER Trial Steering Committee.
- Dr. Weiner was a 2019-2020 grant reviewer for KidneyX and a non-permanent member of the Kidney, Nutrition, Obesity and Diabetes Study (KNOD) study section.

2020 Research Awards and Honors

- Dr. Levey was named a 2020 Clarivate Analytics Highly Cited Researcher for the 7th year in a row!! Very few researchers earn this distinction. Selection criteria are based on production of multiple highly cited papers in the last decade. A highly cited paper is defined as papers ranking in the top 1% by citations, considering both year and field of publication.

- Dr. Levey received the title of Honorary Member in the ERA-EDTA (European Renal Association-European Dialysis and Transplant Association). During the virtual congress, he gave a plenary session and received the society’s highest honor. The title of Honorary Member is given by the Society to an extremely limited number of persons for the great contributions that they have given, during their career, to Nephrology and the Society. During the 38 year history of ERA-EDTA, only 21 people have received this recognition.
Dr. Inker received an ASN Distinguished Researcher Award. ASN established the Midcareer Awards Program in 2019 to recognize midcareer clinicians, educators, health professionals, and researchers who have made outstanding contributions to nephrology and/or demonstrated exemplary service to the society. The award presentation took place during the plenary session at Kidney Week Reimagined in October.
M23 Renal System

SYLLABUS

RENAL SYSTEM COURSE DIRECTORS:
SCOTT GILBERT, MD
MONIKA PILICHOWSKA, MD

First Year
Spring Semester 2020
Academic Year 2019-2020
The Division is committed to graduate and post-graduate education. Local and national initiatives involve all members of the Division. National efforts stem largely from leadership and participation in basic and clinical research, service to national organizations and boards that establish standards in clinical practice and educational testing, and speaking engagements at local, national, and international conferences. Our local education initiatives are focused on our affiliations with TUSM, Tufts University of Dental Medicine (TUSDM), the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, and the Tufts University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. The nephrology textbook *Primer on Kidney Diseases* and the open-access, online journal *Kidney Medicine* are edited in the Division.

### 2020 Education Initiatives

- After months of planning, the new Renal Course as part of the TUSM curriculum redevelopment debuted in March 2020. The course moved from a 3-week experience in August to September of the second year to a 4-week experience in March of the first year. Dr. Gilbert led a team including Drs. Dad, Goyal, and Wright and created a format directed at Millennial learners by eliminating lectures and using contact time to apply material through team-based learning activities, patient presentations, small group discussions, anatomy and pathology labs, and clinical symposia on CKD and kidney transplantation. The students rated the new format and content very highly.

---

The Division was well-represented at the 2020 ASN Kidney Week Reimagined!

- **7 Faculty Presentations**
- **22 Posters**
Visiting Professors, Faculty, and Guests

Table 6 lists the 9 virtual visiting professors or visiting faculty in the Division this year.

Table 6: 2020 Visiting Professors and Visiting Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visiting Professor/Faculty</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Martin Pollak, MD</strong>&lt;br&gt;Professor of Medicine&lt;br&gt;Chief, Division of Nephrology&lt;br&gt;Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center</td>
<td>APOLI-associated Kidney Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Orlando Gutierrez, MD, MMSc</strong>&lt;br&gt;Hilda B. Anderson Endowed Chair in Nephrology&lt;br&gt;Professor of Medicine&lt;br&gt;University of Alabama, Birmingham</td>
<td>The Old and New About Dietary Phosphorous Consumption in the Modern Era</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meghan E. Sise, MD, MS</strong>&lt;br&gt;Instructor in Medicine&lt;br&gt;Massachusetts General Hospital</td>
<td>Hepatitis C Virus in Patients with Kidney Disease and Kidney Transplant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Laurence H. Beck, Jr., MD, PhD</strong>&lt;br&gt;Associate Professor of Medicine&lt;br&gt;Boston University School of Medicine</td>
<td>Membranous Nephropathy: Just When You Thought You Knew It All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Finnian R. Mc Causland, MBBCh, MMSc, FRCPI</strong>&lt;br&gt;Associate Physician, Brigham &amp; Women’s Hospital&lt;br&gt;Co-Director, Master of Medical Sciences in Clinical Investigation&lt;br&gt;Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School</td>
<td>Anaemia as ESRD Approaches New Insights on an Old Problem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Martha Pavlakis, MD, FAST, FASN</strong>&lt;br&gt;Director, Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation&lt;br&gt;Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center</td>
<td>Sexuality, Contraception, and Pregnancy in Transplant Patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sushrut S. Waikar, MD</strong>&lt;br&gt;Norman G. Levinsky Professor, Medicine&lt;br&gt;Chief, Division of Nephrology&lt;br&gt;Boston University</td>
<td>Diagnostic Testing in Nephrology, 2020 and Beyond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ashtar Chami, MD</strong>&lt;br&gt;Assistant Professor of Medicine&lt;br&gt;Emory University School of Medicine</td>
<td>Management of the Failed Allograft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eugene Rhee, MD</strong>&lt;br&gt;Chief, Division of Nephrology&lt;br&gt;Massachusetts General Hospital</td>
<td>Novel Kidney Anabolic Functions Revealed by Unbiased Profiling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continuing Education Initiatives

- As part of the new TUSM curriculum, Drs. Dad, Gilbert, and Gordon participate in a Coaching Program for TUSM students. This 4-year commitment between the faculty member and 10 medical students establishes longitudinal faculty member-student relationships with a goal is to assist and enhance each student’s personal, professional, and academic development in becoming a physician.
Table 7: Longstanding Graduate-level Teaching Initiatives by Division Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Personnel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TUSM</td>
<td>Renal Pathophysiology Course</td>
<td>Dr. Gilbert, Course Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Renal Ward Service</td>
<td>Division Attendings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to Clinical Reasoning</td>
<td>Dr. Dad, Course Co-Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Integrative Cases</td>
<td>Dr. Gordon, Course Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3-part Clinical Nephrology Series for</td>
<td>Dr. Gilbert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Internal Medicine Clerkship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consultative Nephrology</td>
<td>Dr. Gilbert, Course Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medical Education Elective</td>
<td>Dr. Gilbert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Selective Program Mentor</td>
<td>Dr. Weiner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lecture in Pathobiology</td>
<td>Dr. Perrone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coaching Program</td>
<td>Drs. Dad, Gilbert and Gordon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tufts University School of Dental Medicine</td>
<td>Lectures on topics related to hypertension and nephrology</td>
<td>Dr. Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy</td>
<td>Lectures on kidney disease, hypertension and nephrology</td>
<td>Drs. Meyer and Weiner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Francis Stern Nutrition Center at Tufts Medical Center</td>
<td>4-week experiential rotation in DCI Boston dialysis unit</td>
<td>Poonhar Poon, RD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 8: Longstanding Postgraduate-level Teaching Initiatives by Division Members

| Institution                                      | Role                                                                 | Personnel                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------|                                                                     |                                               |
| Tufts University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences | Mentor fellows during their independent research and thesis preparation in pursuit of a Masters of Science degree | Drs. Inker, Lacson, Levey, Meyer, Miskulin, Perrone, Sarnak, and Weiner |
| Tufts Medical Center                              | Renal Ward Service Nephrology Consultation Service Intern and Resident Teaching | Division Attendings                           |
|                                                  | KBPC senior medical residents                                         |                                                |
|                                                  | Morning Report and Noon Conference                                    |                                                |
|                                                  | Evidence Based Medicine Course for Interns                            | Dr. Dad, Course Director                       |
|                                                  | Core Faculty for Resident Journal Club                                | Dr. Dad                                        |

Fellowship Programs

Clinical Fellowship Training
The highly-respected clinical fellowship training program is led by Dr. Gilbert as the Director, and Dr. Dad as the Associate Director. A well-organized curriculum emphasizes breadth and depth of clinical experiences.

Over the past 15 years, approximately 46% of the 54 graduates of the fellowship program have continued in full-time academic positions. Another 14% have become private practitioners with substantial teaching
responsibilities, many in hospitals with university affiliations. The remaining graduates are largely engaged in private nephrology practice.

During this academic year, 121 applications to the clinical fellowship program were reviewed for 1 open position available in 2021. Table 9 and Table 10 list graduated and current clinical fellows.

### Table 9: Graduated Clinical Fellows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Training Period</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jahangir Ahmed, MD</td>
<td>2018-2020</td>
<td>Private Practice Nephrologist Salt Lake City UT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yashodhan Chivate, MD</td>
<td>2018-2020</td>
<td>Cooper Medical School/Rowan University Camden NJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline Hsu, MD</td>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td>Nephrology Research Fellow Tufts Medical Center Boston MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajiv Sinanan, MD</td>
<td>2018-2020</td>
<td>Private Practice Nephrologist Cookeville TN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 10: Current Clinical Fellows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Training Period</th>
<th>Previous Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wendy McCallum, MD, MS</td>
<td>2020-2021</td>
<td>Nephrology Research Fellow Tufts Medical Center Boston MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vlad Mushailov, MD</td>
<td>2020-2022</td>
<td>Resident Tufts Medical Center Boston MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethany Roehm, MD, MS</td>
<td>2020-2021</td>
<td>Nephrology Research Fellow Tufts Medical Center Boston MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silvia Titan, MD</td>
<td>2020-2022</td>
<td>São Paulo, Brazil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Continuing Research Fellowship Training Initiatives

Research Fellowship Training
The Division offers training in clinical-research under the direction of Drs. Sarnak (Training Program Director) and Weiner (Director of Research) at Tufts Medical Center and Drs. Balakrishnan, Jaber, and Madias at SEMC. Many faculty members participate in the Research Fellowship Training program.

Clinical Investigator Track: NIDDK Training Grant
The NIDDK Institutional Research Training Award in “Epidemiology, Clinical Trials and Outcomes Research in Nephrology” funds up to three trainees per year in the Clinical Investigator Track. This program is designed for fellows aspiring to a career as an independent investigator in clinical research in nephrology. The program has been focused primarily on chronic kidney disease, although in recent years, there is a growing interest in acute kidney injury. The specific aims of the Training Program are:

1. Didactic Training - course work in fulfillment of the MS degree in the Graduate Program in Clinical Research at the Tufts University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences;
2. Independent Study - a hypothesis-based research project supervised by a nephrologist mentor and a research team of faculty with expertise in other disciplines;
3. Training in Presentation - participation in conferences and seminars designed to improve trainees’ oral and written presentations.

Nephrologist mentors ensure integration of all aspects of the curriculum with trainees’ research projects.

Research Fellowship Program Statistics
We have 2 current research fellows in training. We received 18 applications in 2020 for 1 open research fellowship position in 2021. See Tables 11 and 12 for the listing of graduated and current research fellows.

Table 11: Graduated Research Fellows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Training Period</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wendy McCallum, MD, MS</td>
<td>2017-2020</td>
<td>Clinical Nephrology Fellow Tufts Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Boston MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethany Roehm, MD, MS</td>
<td>2018-2020</td>
<td>Clinical Nephrology Fellow Tufts Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Boston MA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 12: Current Research Fellows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Prior Institution</th>
<th>Nephrology Mentor</th>
<th>Funding Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Erin Flanagin, MD</td>
<td>Tufts Medical Center</td>
<td>Lesley A. Inker, MD, MS</td>
<td>NIH T32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boston MA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline Hsu, MD</td>
<td>Tufts Medical Center</td>
<td>Daniel E. Weiner, MD, MS</td>
<td>NIH T32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boston MA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continuing Medical Education

2020 Continuing Medical Education Initiatives

Table 13 lists the continuing education presentations given by Division faculty in 2020, the large majority of which were given virtually. The table excludes presentations given within the Division, as all faculty are expected to present one Journal Club and one Research Conference annually.

Table 13: 2020 Local, National, and International Presentations by Division Members

LOCAL/REGIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Gordon

- Translating the 2018 KDIGO Guidelines on HCV in CKD Into Clinical Practice
  St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center Medical Grand Rounds
  Boston MA

- Time Management for Coaching Program
  Tufts University School of Medicine Coaching Program
  Boston MA

- Lupus Nephritis – A Nephrology Perspective
  Rheumatology Grand Rounds
  Tufts Medical Center
  Boston MA

Dr. Goyal

- Rheumatology Grand Rounds
  Tufts Medical Center
  Boston MA

Dr. Inker

- GFR and Race
  Intercity Nephrology Rounds
  Boston MA

Dr. Jaber

- Care of the Patient with COVID-19 and Acute Kidney Injury
  St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center Medical Grand Rounds
  Boston MA

- Update on Kidney Stones
  St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center Medical Grand Rounds
  Boston MA

Dr. Lacson

- Bone Mineral Disease Management
  Central Florida Kidney Centers

Dr. Levey

- CKD for Rheumatology
  Division of Rheumatology
  Tufts Medical Center
  Boston MA
GFR Estimating Equations  
Brown University  
Providence RI

Dr. Madias  
Invited Lecturer  
National Kidney Foundation, New England Renal Roundtable Lecture Series

Dr. Perrone  
Advances in the Management of ADPKD  
Combined BWH-MGH Renal Grand Rounds  
Massachusetts General Hospital and by video to Brigham and Women’s Hospital  
Boston MA

Advances in the Management of ADPKD  
Rhode Island Hospital Renal Grand Rounds  
Providence RI

Advances in the Management of ADPKD  
North Shore Medical Center Internal Medicine Grand Rounds  
Salem MA

Tolvaptan or Not?  
Joint Conference—Beth-Israel Deaconess Medical Center & Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center  
Boston MA and Burlington VT

Dr. Sarnak  
COVID and Kidney Disease  
Tufts Medical Center Grand Rounds  
Boston MA

NATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Inker  
University of Chicago Bowman Society Lecture Series Panel  
Chicago IL

Improving upon Race Coefficients in GFR Estimating Equations  
Kidney Week 2020 Reimagined  
Virtual

Dr. Lacson  
Bone Mineral Disease Protocol Cost and Outcomes  
DCI Fall Meeting

Bone Mineral Disease Protocol Cost and Outcomes  
National Kidney Care Alliance Meeting

Dr. Levey  
GFR Estimation Part 1  
Johns Hopkins University

GFR Estimation Part 1 and Part 2  
ASN-NKF Task Force

Dr. Madias  
Invited Lecturer  
Africa HealthcareNetwork Nephrology Education Program

Dr. Perrone  
COVID-19 and PKD – Your Questions Answered (co-presented with Chad Stevenson, RN)  
National Webinar, Polycystic Kidney Disease Foundation  
Kansas City MO
Current Best Practices in the Management of ADPKD
Simulive session Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease: Risk Assessment and Management
Kidney Week Reimagined 2020

Trial of Administration of Metformin to Tame PKD (TAME-PKD) Study Overview
5th Annual Southern California Kidney Symposium
Update on Cystic and Other Genetic Kidney Diseases, A Virtual Conference.
Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California
Los Angeles CA

Dr. Richardson
Prioritizing Muscle Cramping as a Patient-Reported Outcome Kidney Health Initiative: Developing Tools to Catalyze Innovation
ASN Kidney Week Reimagined

Dr. Sarnak
Pulmonary Hypertension in CKD
The 2nd International University of Florida Nephrocardiology Conference
Orlando FL

Evidence Based Approach to Lipids and Dyslipidemia in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease
The 2nd International University of Florida Nephrocardiology Conference
Orlando FL

CVD in People with CKD
Management of Patients with Kidney Disease in Need of Cardiovascular Catheterization
A Scientific Workshop Co-Sponsored by the National Kidney Foundation and the Society of Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions

Dr. Weiner
The HELPS-HD Trial (Late-breaking Clinical Trials)
American Society of Nephrology Kidney Week Reimagined
Denver CO

COVID-19 and Kidney Policy
American Society of Nephrology Kidney Week Reimagined
Denver CO

Measuring Success for a Comprehensive Conservative Kidney Care Program
National Kidney Foundation Spring Clinical Meetings
New Orleans LA

INTERNATIONAL PRESENTIONS

Dr. Inker
Improving upon Race Coefficients in GFR Estimating Equations
Ontario-wide Grand Rounds
Ontario, Canada

Dr. Levey
AKD and Nomenclature
British Columbia Province-wide Grand Rounds
British Columbia, Canada

Nomenclature Webinar
KDIGO

AKD Conference
KDIGO

Albumin and GFR as Surrogate Endpoints
Guangzhou, China
Continuing Medical Education Initiatives

Editorial Board Appointments

Kidney Medicine

*Kidney Medicine* ([https://www.journals.elsevier.com/kidney-medicine](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/kidney-medicine)) debuted in 2018 as an open access peer-reviewed journal published by the National Kidney Foundation. The online journal follows the precedent of the *American Journal of Kidney Diseases* in focusing on clinical research and clinical practice in nephrology, with particular emphasis on studies of patient-reported outcomes. Dr. Daniel Weiner is the inaugural editor-in-chief. Joining Dr. Weiner on the editorial team are Associate Editors Drs. Drew and Gordon and Hocine Tighiouart, MS. Former AJKD Associate Managing Editor Elizabeth Frank is the Managing Editor. In 2020, the journal achieved PubMed indexing and received 400 manuscript submissions.

Other Editorial Board Appointments

- Drs. Gilbert and Weiner are editors for the upcoming *Primer on Kidney Diseases* 8th edition.
- Drs. Inker and Lacson are members of the editorial board of the *American Journal of Kidney Diseases*.
- Dr. Levey is Editor-in-Chief Emeritus of the *American Journal of Kidney Diseases*.
- Dr. Madias serves on number editorial boards: *Kidney: A Current Survey of World Literature; International Angiology; Arterial Hypertension; Indian Journal of Nephrology; Hellenic Medical Journal; Hippokratia; Hellenic Medicine; and Kidney International Reports*.
- Dr. Miskulin is an Associate Editor for the *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*.
- Dr. Weiner is the editor of the Policy Feature of the *American Journal of Kidney Diseases*.

2020 Education Awards and Honors

- Drs. Dad, Gilbert, and Levey received the Outstanding Lecturer in the Pre-clerkship Years Award for the 2019-2020 academic year. Selection was based on an analysis of student evaluations for all first and second year courses.
- Current clinician-educators in the Division are continuing the Division’s legacy of excellence in teaching. Drs. Dad, Gilbert, Levey, and Wright received the Excellence in Teaching Citation during the 2019-2020 school year from the TUSM third-year students during their core rotations! The Division received 50% of the Citations that were awarded to members of the Department of Medicine.
- Dr. Gilbert received the Class of 2020 Citation for Excellence in Teaching.
- Dr. Miskulin was appointed to the Editorial Board of *CJASN* as an Associate Editor.
- The ambulatory rotation the KBPC was rated the best subspecialty outpatient rotation and the inpatient service was rated #2 in the 2019-2020 survey of medical residents’ experience.
- Dr. Wright received the inaugural Fellows’ Choice Award from the graduating class of clinical fellows.
March 26, 2020: From the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS): CMS previously released guidance to defer nonessential planned surgical procedures. Following the release of this guidance, we have received feedback that providers are experiencing difficulties scheduling for placement or repair of Arteriovenous Fistulas, Arteriovenous Grafts, Peritoneal Dialysis Catheters, and intravenous catheters. We wish to clarify that these planned procedures are essential in that establishing vascular access is crucial for End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) patients to receive their life-sustaining dialysis treatments. Without this, temporary access would be established using catheters but risk significantly higher risk of infection, morbidity and mortality. While recognizing this, there will be instances in which local conditions will not allow for these procedures to be done due to resource constraints related to the Public Health Emergency.
**2020 Public Policy Initiatives**

- During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Weiner helped advocate for dialysis access to be considered an essential service and in early 2021, he worked with the Department of Public Health and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to prioritize dialysis patients on the rank list to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. He also helped coordinate the process by which dialysis patients would be administered the vaccine in their dialysis facility.

**Continuing Public Policy Initiatives**

**ASN Policy Committees**

In 2017 and 2018, Dr. Weiner served as the chair of the American Society of Nephrology’s Quality Committee and as a member of the Policy and Advocacy Committee. In 2019, he became a member of both committees and represents ASN at Kidney Care Partners, a national organization spanning the kidney community. In these roles, he works closely with the ASN Executive Council and the current committee chairs to advance potential care models to benefit patients with kidney disease and to promote high-level kidney care by interfacing with CMS and other stakeholders on regulatory processes, including the recent models introduced following the Advancing American Kidney Health Initiative, the Quality Payment Program, the ESRD Quality Incentive Program (QIP) and Prospective Payment System (PPS), other quality metrics programs, and the Physician Fee Schedule.

**ASN Workforce and Training Committee and ASN Executive Committee**

Dr. Gilbert is Chair of the ASN Workforce and Training Committee and a member of the ASN Executive Committee. The Workforce and Training Committee is charged with developing, implementing, evaluating, and continuously improving initiatives for students, residents, fellows, and other trainees. It defines training requirements for nephrologists, promotes improvements to training programs, and cultivates interest in kidney medicine, research, and education. The Executive Committee reports directly to ASN Council on the goals and mission of the organization. Dr. Gilbert’s appointment is for 5 years.

**Chronic Kidney Disease in Nicaragua**

Dr. Weiner is collaborating with public health researchers from Boston University School of Public Health to investigate chronic kidney disease among workers in rural Nicaragua. The objective of this research is to explore the reported high prevalence of kidney disease among working age residents in rural northwest Nicaragua to better define prevalence and to develop hypotheses regarding cause.

**DCI Information Systems**

Dr. Meyer serves as Medical Director for Information Systems for Dialysis Clinic, Inc., chairs its Medical Director Computer Steering Committee, and serves on its Medical Director Home Dialysis Committee. Dr. Meyer is one of the principal architects of DCI’s information system, which sets an industry standard for quality of care and of information, and continues to participate in its development.
DCI Outcomes Monitoring Program

Dr. Richardson directs the corporate-wide DCI Outcomes Monitoring Program. The program oversees patient-reported outcomes using surveys to improve care. Health-related quality of life is assessed using the SF-36+24 or the KDQOL-36 questionnaire. Dr. Richardson and her staff work with DCI Corporate and clinic-level staff to incorporate the results of the health-related quality of life surveys into patient care and quality improvement initiatives.
Philanthropic Support of the Division
Continuing Philanthropic Initiatives

Driscoll Family Endowed Fund in Nephrology
The Driscoll Family Endowed Fund in Nephrology was established in 2017. The Endowed Fund supports the Driscoll Family Fund in Nephrology.

We are grateful for the Founding Gifts to the Driscoll Family Endowed Fund in Nephrology:

- Mr. Robert and Mrs. Dolores Driscoll (Fund Founders)
- Mr. Chris and Mrs. Christie Blier (Fund Founders)

2020 Driscoll Family Endowed Fund in Nephrology Updates
- We are grateful for the following donations to the Driscoll Family Endowed Fund in Nephrology in 2020:
  - Mr. Robert J. and Mrs. Lori Driscoll
  - Mr. Christopher and Mrs. Christine L. Blier

Driscoll Family Fund in Nephrology
The Driscoll Family Fund in Nephrology was created in 2014 through the generosity of Mrs. Dolores Driscoll and is under the direction of Dr. Sarnak. The purpose of The Driscoll Family Fund in Nephrology is to specifically fund research in the area of kidney disease.

We are extremely honored by the following Founding Gift to The Driscoll Family Fund in Nephrology:

- Mr. Robert and Mrs. Dolores Driscoll (Fund Founders)

2020 Driscoll Family Fund in Nephrology Updates
- We are grateful for the following donations to the Driscoll Family Fund in Nephrology in 2020:
  - Mrs. Karen Drury
- In 2020, the Driscoll Family Fund in Nephrology supported research fellows and their research.

Inker Family Fund
The Inker Family Fund was created in 2010 through the generosity of Lesley Inker, MD and Ben Inker, in honor of their wedding on January 16, 2011. The Inker Family Fund is under the direction of Dr. Sarnak, with an initial goal to provide emergency medically necessary support to patients with kidney disease for which there are no other sources of support. A committee comprised of clinicians, nurses, and social
workers has the discretion to meet patient’s needs based on the Inker Family Fund criteria.

We are extremely honored by the following Founding Gifts to the Inker Family Fund:

**Individual Donors**

- Dr. Lesley Inker & Mr. Benjamin L. Inker (Fund Founders)
- Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence J. Beaser
- Mr. and Mrs. Ray A. Beaser
- Mr. and Mrs. Murray Blankstein
- Dr. and Mrs. Barry Borden
- Dr. Ilana Braun and Mr. Jed Wise
- Ms. Rhoda Brown
- Mr. and Mrs. Adam Cohen
- Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Cohen
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cohen
- Dr. Josef Coresh and Dr. Michelle J. Hindin
- Mr. and Mrs. Domenic Esposito
- Mr. Morley Faber and Dr. Adeera Levin
- Dr. and Mrs. Irv Feferman
- Ms. Elizabeth J. Fitzgerald
- Dr. Don Gaddy
- Dr. Lisa Gilbert and Dr. Scott Gilbert
- Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Goldman
- Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Goldstein
- Mr. and Mrs. Campe Goodman
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Grantham
- Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Grodzinski
- Ms. Mimi Hollenberg
- Mr. David C. Jacobson and Ms. Rochelle K. Greene
- Mr. and Mrs. Matthew J. Kadnar
- Mr. and Mrs. William Kassel
- Mr. and Mrs. Josef Kastner
- Ms. Ruth L. Kastner
- Dr. Jessica Kirshner and Mr. Dan Sommers
- Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Koskie
- Ms. Diane A. Lapon
- Mr. Ivan Lehon and Ms. Tal Kastner
- Dr. Andrew S. Levey and Dr. Roberta Falke
- Dr. Julie Maggi
- Dr. and Mrs. Herb Marcus
- Mr. Ken Miller and Dr. Debra Miller
- Ms. Alexandra C. Moller
- Mr. and Mrs. Michael Offner
- Ms. Alison Osattin
- Mr. and Mrs. Kirk A. Ott
- Ms. Ronna J. Perlmutter
• Dr. and Mrs. Alan D. Persky
• Mr. and Mrs. M. Laurence Popofsky
• Mr. and Mrs. Morton Prager
• Mrs. Nancy Prussky and Mr. Ronald Steinberg
• Mr. and Mrs. Michael Rabieh
• Dr. and Mrs. Anthoney Rebuck
• Ms. Guinnevere Roberts and Mr. Timothy D. Male
• Mr. and Mrs. James Sallinger
• Ms. Maxine Savitz
• Ms. Kerri Scharr and Dr. Daniel Weiner
• Mr. Roger A. Seltzer
• Mr. Jamie Shields and Ms. Shawna Colvin
• Mr. and Mrs. Murray A. Silver
• Mr. and Mrs. Hy Spector
• Ms. Ann M. Spruill
• Dr. and Mrs. Howard Stevens
• Dr. Ali Taradash and Mr. Jeremy Dacks
• Dr. Joshua Tepper
• Dr. and Mrs. George Theodosiou
• Dr. Kathryn Tinckam and Mr. Takashi Yamahito
• Ms. Donna Valikoff
• Mr. and Mrs. George Weinberger
• Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wener
• Rabbi Eric and Amy Yoffie
• Dr. and Mrs. Harvey Zimmerman

*Corporate/Institutional Donors*

• Grantham, Mayo, Van Otterloo & Co., LLC (Matching gift)
• The Ira Gluskin & Maxine Granovsky Gluskin Charitable Foundation

*2020 Inker Family Fund Updates*

• We are incredibly grateful for the thoughtfulness of a patient’s family. Arlena (Lee) Roukous, a long-term patient of Dr. Sarnak, passed away in 2020. Her daughter, Tanya Carchidi, requested that in lieu of flowers family and friends make donations to the Inker Family Fund. Their generosity was overwhelming.

• We also appreciate the many donations to the Inker Family Fund in 2020:
  • Ace Surgical Supply Co., Inc.
  • Ms. Theresa Altieri
  • Dr. Francis E. Antonellis and Mrs. Rosemarie A. Antonellis
  • Mr. Albert G. Asiaf
  • Mr. John G. Asiaf
  • Ms. Liz Bailey
  • Mrs. Lillian D. Barish and Mr. Raymond J. Barish
  • Mr. Craig P. Baskin

Lee Roukous and her grandchildren
• Mr. Frank Bettencourt, Jr. and Mrs. Marjorie Bettencourt
• Ms. Amilee Bianco
• Ms. Sheila M. Baroncelli
• Mr. Joseph Cabral and Mrs. Catherine Cabral
• Mr. and Mrs. Christopher J. Carchidi
• Ms. Kimberly Carchidi
• Mr. Bruce Del Signore and Mrs. Bonnie Del Signore
• Mr. Mario J. Demelo and Mrs. Maria R. Demelo
• Mr. Bernard DiLullo and Mrs. Donna DiLullo
• Mr. Bernard DiLullo and Mrs. Jennie A. DiLullo
• Mr. Germaine Elhilow and Mr. William Elhilow
• Mr. Anthony G. Eonas and Mrs. Cordelia Eonas
• Ms. Adrienne Francoisi
• Mr. Paul R. Francoeur and Mrs. Geraldine Francoeur
• Ms. Mary E. Gilbert
• Mr. James Hancock
• Ms. Eileen C. Herbert
• Ms. Mary Isaac and Mr. Elias Isaac
• Mrs. Anne Indelicato
• Island Foundation, Inc
• Ms. Jeanne Joy
• Ms. Alka Kaminer
• Mr. Steven LaCava and Mrs. Allison LaCava
• Mr. Jeremy Lapon
• Christine Liu
• Mrs. Maria Machado
• Mr. Dorvalino Martins and Mrs. Sidonia Martins
• Ms. Kerri McCarthy
• Mr. Stephen McCarthy and Mrs. Anita McCarthy
• Mr. John McPhee
• Dr. Klemens Meyer and Dr. Laura Perlo
• Mrs. Kristi S. Morin and Mr. Joseph E. Morin
• Ms. Ella Moscaritolo
• Mrs. Lorna Pecorelli and Mr. Joseph Pecorelli, Sr.
• Mr. Manuel Pereira and Mrs. Ann Pereira
• Mr. and Mrs. John N. Previti
• Mrs. Michelle Rizzo and Mr. Arthur Rizzo
• Mrs. Margaret C. Rooney
• Mr. Joseph Santos and Mrs. Marlene Santos
• The Sarnak Family
• Mr. Sheb M. Shumar, Jr. and Mrs. Leila M. Shumar
• Mr. William Stadelmann
• Ms. Michele Svirsky
• Louise Sweeney-Bishop
• Ms. Mary Valderrama
• Mr. Paul Ventura and Mrs. Cheryl Ventura
• Mr. William H. Waggoner
• Ms. Elizabeth Wenger
Dr. Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman Professorship in Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine

The Dr. Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman Professorship in Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine was established in 2000 with Dr. Andrew S. Levey as its first recipient. The fund is used to support the operations for clinical care, research, and education in nephrology within the Division.

Gerald J. Friedman, MD was an internist known as a superb diagnostician, as well as a specialist in diabetes, cardiac disease, endocrinology, and nutrition. A lifelong New Yorker, Dr. Friedman earned his bachelor’s and medical degrees from New York University College, returning to teach there for most of his career. After serving as commanding officer at the 222nd Station Hospital in World War II, he joined the staff of Beth Israel Medical Center in New York, where he remained for the rest of his career, serving on almost every significant committee and as President of the Medical Board.

Dr. Friedman always maintained an active practice and a reputation for thorough physical examinations in the city. For more than 30 years beginning in 1957, he was also international medical director for the United Parcel Service, and an active member of the Industrial Medical Association.

He wrote extensively on the management of diabetes, especially in the workplace, at a time when many employers discriminated against people with diabetes. He also helped the New York Diabetes Association establish a summer camp in upstate New York for children with diabetes.

While playing saxophone during his days as a medical intern, Dr. Friedman met and married Dorothy Ross, a Boston-born jazz pianist and recording artist. While Mrs. Friedman stopped performing professionally after her husband finished his residency, her private playing always entertained the Ross and Friedman families and friends.

Dr. Friedman died on November 25, 2004 at the age of 91. He was survived by his wife Dorothy and his niece, Jane Friedman.

William B. Schwartz Nephrology Fund

Bill Schwartz founded the Division of Nephrology at Tufts Medical Center in 1950 and served as its chief until 1971. He developed the Division into a preeminent referral center for patients with kidney diseases in the New England region and beyond, and he cared personally for hundreds of patients. He made landmark discoveries that revolutionized our understanding of the pathophysiology and management of acid-base and electrolyte disorders. But most importantly, he created a school of rigorous pathophysiological thought and analytical reasoning, whose graduates have contributed greatly to the field of nephrology.

We have endeavored to preserve Dr. Schwartz’s academic legacy by establishing the William B. Schwartz Nephrology Fund. The fund was created in 2000 by charitable gifts to Tufts Medical Center on the 50th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Division and reunion of faculty and trainees. The Fund supports a number of academic initiatives of the Division, including
research and training opportunities for both junior and senior investigators within the Division.

We are extremely honored by the following Founding Gifts to the William B. Schwartz Nephrology Fund:

**Individual Donors**

- Mr. and Mrs. John P. Brogan
- Dr. John Harrington
- Dr. Jerome and Sheridan Kassirer
- Dr. Andrew Levey and Dr. Roberta Falke
- Dr. David and Lynn Lowance
- Drs. Nicolaos and Ourania Madias
- Dr. Dwight and Rhonda Makoff
- Dr. Mark and Judy Needle
- Dr. Brian and Dr. Sunita Pereira
- Dr. Jill Speigel

**Corporate/Institutional Donors**

- AMGEN, Inc.
- Dialysis Clinic, Inc. Boston
- Genzyme
- Merck & Co.
- Ortho BioTech

**2020 William B. Schwartz Fund Updates**

- We appreciative receiving gifts to the William B. Schwartz Fund in 2020 from the following:

  - Mr. and Mrs. Agostino
  - Dr. and Mrs. Howard Garfinkel
  - Pfizer Foundation Matching Gift

**Dr. John T. Harrington Endowed Fund**

The Dr. John T. Harrington Endowed Fund was created in 2006. It was established by charitable gifts to Tufts Medical Center in honor of Dr. Harrington’s 70th birthday. Through his outstanding career, Dr. Harrington, Dean Emeritus at TUSM, played a vital role in Tufts Medical Center’s Division of Nephrology. Widely known as a gifted nephrologist who brought long-term hope to seriously-ill patients, his contributions to the field of Nephrology are many. In the early 1970s, Dr. Harrington developed the hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis and kidney transplant programs. Another of his most notable contributions to medical education and nephrology was his leadership of the “Nephrology Forum” in *Kidney International*, the official journal of the International Society of Nephrology. The Forum served as an invaluable resource of information and perspective for nephrologists around the globe for over 25 years.
The Dr. John T. Harrington Endowed Fund supports a mission that Dr. Harrington held near and dear – the continuous medical education of physicians, both young and more senior, on the delivery of the highest-quality care possible to patients suffering from kidney disease. Each year, the Harrington Fund supports a Visiting Professor in the Division of Nephrology to participate in the evaluation of the Division’s research training program and to speak at Grand Rounds in the Department of Medicine. In addition, the Harrington Fund can support other educational programs and initiatives within the Division, include innovative research projects that require seed funding and special patient care projects.

We are very grateful for the following Founding Gifts for the Dr. John T. Harrington Endowed Fund:

**Individual Donors**

- Mr. Thomas F. and Mrs. Mary J. Shields
- Mr. and Mrs. John P. Brogan
- Drs. Nicolaos and Ourania Madias
- Dr. and Mrs. Howard B. Garfinkel
- Dr. and Mrs. James A. Strom

**Corporate/Institutional Donors**

- Dialysis Clinic, Inc.
- Tufts University School of Medicine
- Merck & Co., Inc

**Visiting Professors:**

**1\textsuperscript{st} Annual John T. Harrington Grand Rounds—2007**
Nicolaos E. Madias, MD, Visiting Professor
St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center
*Shared Primacy of Sodium and Potassium in the Pathogenesis of Hypertension*

**2\textsuperscript{nd} Annual John T. Harrington Grand Rounds—2008**
Sharon Moe, MD, Visiting Professor
University of Indiana
*Chronic Kidney Disease: Looking for Bone in All the Wrong Places*

**3\textsuperscript{rd} Annual John T. Harrington Grand Rounds—2009**
Eberhard Ritz, MD, Visiting Professor
Department of Internal Medicine Ruperto Carola University of Heidelberg, Germany
*The World Kidney Day: The Kidney and Hypertension*

**4\textsuperscript{th} Annual John T. Harrington Grand Rounds—2010**
Bertram Kasiske, MD, Visiting Professor
Professor of Medicine. Head of Transplant Nephrology at the University of Minnesota, Director of the Renal Division at Hennepin County Medical Center
*Guidelines for the Management of Kidney Transplant Patients*
5th Annual John T. Harrington Grand Rounds—2011
Jonathan Himmelfarb, MD, Visiting Professor
Professor of Medicine, Joseph W. Eschbach Endowed Chair for Kidney Research from the University of Washington Division of Nephrology, Seattle WA
Kidney Disease as a Public Health Problem: Problems, Progress, and Prospects

Adeera Levin, MD, Visiting Professor
Staff nephrologist at St. Paul’s Hospital
Professor at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, British Columbia.
Global Burden of CKD: Challenges and Opportunities

7th Annual John T. Harrington Grand Rounds—2013
Josef Coresh, MD, PhD, Visiting Professor
G.W. Comstock Professor of Epidemiology, Biostatistics & Medicine
Director, George W. Comstock Center for Public Health Research and Prevention and the Cardiovascular Epidemiology Training Program
Johns Hopkins University
Chronic Kidney Disease — A Challenge for All Ages

8th Annual John T. Harrington Grand Rounds—2014
Kai-Uwe Eckardt, MD, Visiting Professor
Professor of Medicine and Head of the Department of Nephrology and Hypertension
University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany
Getting a Handle on CKD—an Observational Approach

9th Annual John T. Harrington Grand Rounds—2015
Joachim Ix, MD, MAS, FASN, Visiting Professor
Chief of Nephrology and Professor of Medicine
University of San Diego
Calcium and Phosphate in Chronic Kidney Disease: Insights into their Associations with Cardiovascular Disease

John Gill, MD, MS, Visiting Professor
Professor with Tenure
Department of Medicine, Division of Nephrology
Research Scientist Center for Health and Evaluation and Outcome Science University of British Columbia
Living Kidney Donation

11th Annual John T. Harrington Grand Rounds—2017
Ebony Boulware, MD, MMPH, Visiting Professor
Professor
Chief, Division of General Internal Medicine; Director, Duke Clinical and Translational Science Award
Vice Dean for Translational Sciences
In Search of a Magic Bullet: How Do We Get Patients the Treatments They Want?
12th Annual John T. Harrington Grand Rounds—2018
Katherine R. Tuttle, MD, FASN, FACP, Visiting Professor
Executive Director of Providence Medical Research Center, Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center
Clinical Professor of Medicine, Nephrology Division, University of Washington School of Medicine

_Diabetic Kidney Disease—New Targets for Treatment_

13th Annual John T. Harrington Grand Rounds—2019
Holly J. (Mattix) Kramer, MD, MPH, Visiting Professor
Associate Professor of Medicine
Loyola University Medical Center Department of Public Health Services

_Chronic Kidney Disease: How Primary Providers Impact Care_

14th Annual John T. Harrington Grand Rounds—2020
Orlando M. Gutierrez, MD, MMSc, Visiting Professor
Hilda B. Anderson Endowed Chair in Nephrology Professor and head of the Section of Epidemiology and Outcomes Research
Division of Nephrology, University of Alabama at Birmingham

_Moving from Management to Prevention of Heart Disease in CKD: The FGF-23 Story_

2020 Harrington Fund Updates
- Deidra C. Cruz, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine and Associate Vice Chair for Diversity and Inclusion, Department of Medicine at John Hopkins University will be the presenter at the 15th Annual John T. Harrington Grand Rounds.
The Hortense “Diddy” Seybolt Fund for Staff Enrichment in Nephrology

The Hortense “Diddy” Seybolt Fund for Staff Enrichment in Nephrology was established in 2008 by the family and friends of Diddy Seybolt in recognition of her great appreciation for the compassionate care provided to her by technicians, nurses, and other medical care providers in conjunction with her dialysis treatments at Tufts Medical Center and DCI Boston. Mrs. Seybolt was a long-time benefactor of Tufts Medical Center and a former member of the Hospital’s Board of Trustees.

The purpose of the Hortense “Diddy” Seybolt Fund for Staff Enrichment in Nephrology is to support professional development and training in nephrology with a special focus on staff that care for dialysis patients. Examples of professional development and training include participation in conferences, seminars, coursework and other continuing medical education opportunities that will advance the knowledge, skill, and careers of technicians, nurses, and other medical care providers who care for dialysis patients. To support these enrichment activities, it is expected that the Fund will distribute multiple awards every year in the range of $500—$1,500 each, depending on funding available. The awards will provide important recognition to the hardworking staff that cares for dialysis patients and awardees will be acknowledged as receiving support from the Hortense “Diddy” Seybolt Fund for Staff Enrichment in Nephrology.

Mrs. Seybolt’s determination, good humor, grace, and dignity inspired both her fellow dialysis patients and the physicians and staff who were privileged to care for her. Even as she confronted a rigorous treatment for an exhausting chronic illness, she was attentive to the experiences and aspirations of the staff who performed her hemodialysis treatments. The Division is profoundly grateful to her family and friends for memorializing Mrs. Seybolt’s concern and sense of community in this fund.

We are grateful for the following Founding Gifts received:

- The Friends and Family of Hortense “Diddy” Seybolt

2020 Seybolt Fund Updates

- In 2020, proceeds from the Diddy Seybolt Fund provided education for dialysis clinic staff.

Friends of the Division and DCI

We also recognize extraordinary gifts to the Division and the DCI Boston dialysis clinic.

- In 1986, on the occasion of the opening of the DCI’s first dialysis clinic in Boston, Mr. and Mrs. John P. Brogan donated televisions for patients in the clinic.

Information to Make Gifts to the Division

The Division is always appreciative of new gifts. Contributions to the Friedman Fund can be made online at https://www.alumniconnections.com/donate/tufts/ or mailed to:

Tufts University School of Medicine Office of Development & Alumni Relations
136 Harrison Avenue
Boston, MA 02111
For gifts to other funds, provide the specific fund you wish your gift to be directed. Contributions can be made to Tufts Medical Center online at http://tuftsmedicalcenter.org/giving or mailed to:

Tufts Medical Center Development Office
800 Washington Street, Box 231
Boston, MA 02111