Webinar: Hospital Care and Treatment Options or COVID-19 Positive Patients with ESKD and AKI
April 2, 2020

Speaker Bios

Alp Ikizler, MD

Dr. T. Alp Ikizler is the Director of Division of Nephrology and Hypertension and Professor of Medicine at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in Nashville, Tennessee.

His clinical and research activities are focused on improving the outcomes and quality of life in patients with advanced kidney disease and acute kidney injury.

Alan Kliger, MD

Dr. Kliger is a Clinical Professor of Medicine, Yale University School of Medicine. He is a member of the Standing Renal Committee for the National Quality Forum, and chairs the Nephrologists Transforming Dialysis Safety initiative, a national partnership between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Society of Nephrology (ASN). He served formerly as Senior Vice President Medical Affairs, Chief Quality Officer, Yale New Haven Health System and Senior Vice President, Chief Medical Officer, Hospital of Saint Raphael, New Haven Connecticut. He is a past president of the Renal Physicians Association, and serves on its Quality, Safety and Accountability Committee. He is a past president of the Forum of ESRD Networks. He served as chair of the steering committee for the NIH Frequent Hemodialysis Study, a national prospective randomized study of in-center daily and home nocturnal hemodialysis, and currently chairs the steering committee for an NIH/NIDDK Consortium on Novel Therapies for Hemodialysis Patients.

Michele Mokrzycki, MD, MS

Michele Helene Mokrzycki, MD, MS, is an Attending Physician at Montefiore and a Professor of Medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Since joining the Montefiore team in 1993, her clinical focus has been general nephrology and hypertension. This includes treatment of acute and chronic kidney disease, dialysis, glomerulonephritis, proteinuria, hematuria, hypertension that is difficult to control, kidney cysts, and kidney stones.

In 1983, Dr. Mokrzycki received her Bachelor of Science at Boston College. Following this, she attended the University of Vermont College of Medicine where she received her Doctor of Medicine in 1987. Dr. Mokrzycki joined the Nephrology Division in the Department of Medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in July 1992. In 1998, Dr. Mokrzycki continued her
studies and attended our Albert Einstein College of Medicine, where she received her Master of Science in Clinical Research in 2000.

Dr. Mokrzycki has applied her interest in nephrology to study the reduction of complications associated with hemodialysis vascular access, particularly central vein catheter infections and dysfunction.

Jeff Perl, MD

Dr. Perl Dr. Jeffrey Perl received his MD from the University of Toronto in 2003, where he also completed his post-graduate training in both Internal Medicine and Nephrology in 2008. In 2010, he completed his Masters of Science in Clinical Epidemiology from the Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Perl is currently a Staff Nephrologist at St Michael's Hospital in Toronto and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto. He currently chairs the International Society of Nephrology's Young Nephrologists Committee. His primary research interests and clinical practice focuses on improving the survival and quality of life for patients on peritoneal dialysis. Dr. Perl is a primary investigator in The Peritoneal Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study (PDOPPS).

Darlene Rodgers, BSN, RN, CNN, CPHQ

Ms. Rodgers is a nephrology nurse with experience in hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, administration, quality improvement, federal regulatory aspects of ESRD care, and ESRD Network organization management. She has nearly 40 years of experience caring for patients and families in the nephrology setting. As the nurse consultant for the ASN/CDC Nephrologists Transforming Dialysis Safety initiative, Ms. Rodgers supports the current and emerging threats workgroup, the blood culture collection standardization subcommittee and the decreasing transmission of C-Diff Subcommittee. In addition to her work with the NTDS initiative, Ms. Rodgers provides support for ASN's Emergency Partnership Initiative.

Mrs. Rodgers graduated from the University of Colorado, School of Nursing and she has completed national certifications in nephrology nursing and healthcare quality. She is a member of the American Nephrology Nurses' Association, the National Kidney Foundation, and the National Association of Healthcare Quality.

Anitha Vijayan, MD, FACP

Dr. Anitha Vijayan received her medical degree from the University of the West Indies in 1990 and after completing her residency in internal medicine at St. Luke’s hospital in Chesterfield, MO and Nephrology fellowship at Washington University, she joined the Division of Nephrology at Washington University in St. Louis as an instructor in 1999. Dr. Vijayan was promoted to Professor of Medicine in 2012. Dr. Vijayan serves as Medical Director of Acute Dialysis Services at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Her clinical expertise and research have been primarily dedicated to improving outcomes in patients with acute kidney injury.

Dr. Vijayan has several administrative roles at the University and Barnes Jewish Hospital. She is a member of the Medical School Admissions Committee, Faculty Practice Plan, EPIC EMR implementation committee and the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.