Goal-Directed Medical Therapies (GDMT) for Patients with Diabetic Kidney Disease and Beyond

September 29, 2020

Speaker Bios

Christos Argyropoulos, MD
Panelist

Dr. Argyropoulos is the Chief of Nephrology at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine. He is also an Assistant Professor in the Division of Nephrology, Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Argyropoulos conducts research in the areas of data science, nephrology, systems biology, and bioinformatics. He has a particular interest in predictive biomarkers and systems biology modeling of diabetic kidney disease, epidemiology, and outcomes in patients with CKD or ESRD and the introduction of novel statistical methods for the analysis of large datasets to answer clinically relevant questions.

David Cherney, MD CM, PhD, FRCP(C)
Panelist

Following his clinical training in Nephrology, Dr. Cherney completed his PhD in human renal physiology at the Institute of Medical Science, University of Toronto in 2008. He is currently Professor in the Department of Medicine, University of Toronto and a Clinician Scientist at the University Health Network and Mount Sinai Hospitals, where he is director of the Renal Physiology Laboratory. He is supported by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the JDRF, the Heart and Stroke Richard Lewar Centre of Excellence, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada and the Banting and Best Diabetes Centre. He is also supported by a Department of Medicine, University of Toronto Merit Award. Dr. Cherney’s research program focuses on physiological factors that initiate renal disease in patients with diabetes, such as renal hyperfiltration and inflammation, and the role of the cardiorenal axis in diabetes. His research group is also involved in early and late phase clinical trials in the cardiorenal-metabolic field, including several primary renal outcome trials in patients with and without diabetes. Dr. Cherney’s research program is closely aligned with his integrated and multidisciplinary cardiorenal-endocrine clinic at the University Health Network, which maintains a strong emphasis on the prevention of diabetic nephropathy and cardiovascular disease. In 2019, he received the American Society of Nephrology (ASN) Distinguished Researcher Award for outstanding contributions to nephrology. In 2019 he also received the Diabetes Canada/CIHR - Institute of Nutrition Diabetes and Metabolism (INMD) Young Scientist Award.

Hiddo L. Heerspink, PhD, PharmD
Panelist

Hiddo Lambers Heerspink is Professor of Clinical Trials and Personalized Medicine and a clinical trialist at the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacology at the University Medical Center Groningen and visiting professor at the University of New South Wales in Sydney. He studied pharmacy at the University of Groningen and subsequently received his PhD from the University Medical Center Groningen. He worked as a Postdoctoral Fellow at The George Institute for Global Health, Sydney, Australia, where he investigated the effects of blood pressure-lowering regimens on renal and cardiovascular outcomes in patients with chronic kidney disease.

Professor Lambers Heerspink’s research interests focus on optimizing current treatment strategies and finding new therapeutic approaches to halt the progression of renal and cardiovascular diseases in patients with diabetes with a specific focus on personalized medicine. He leads and participates in clinical trials focused on renal and cardiovascular complications of type 2 diabetes. His main expertise includes clinical trial design and personalized medicine as well as methodological aspects and statistical analyses of clinical trials.

Professor L. Heerspink has received a VENI and VIDI Award from the Netherlands Organisation of Scientific Research, the Young Investigator Research Award from the European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes, the Harry Keen award from the European Association for the study of Diabetes and various personal grants from the Dutch Government and European Foundation to explore determinants of individual treatment response and develop strategies to improve the treatment for patients with type 2 diabetes and kidney complications. He is an editorial board member of the Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology and served as guest editor for the scientific journals Diabetes Obesity & Metabolism and Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation. He has authored and co-authored over 250 peer-reviewed publications. Prof. L. Heerspink is a consultant and has received honoraria from AbbVie, AstraZeneca, Boehringer Ingelheim, CSL Pharma, Janssen, Fresenius, Gilead Sciences, Merck, Mitsubishi Tanabe, Mundi Pharma and Retrophin.

Adeera Levin, MD
Moderator

Dr. Levin is a Professor of Medicine, Head Division of Nephrology at the University of British Columbia, and Consultant nephrologist at Providence Health Care/ St Paul’s Hospital, in Vancouver Canada.

She is the Executive Director of the BC Renal Agency, which oversees the care, planning and budgets for Kidney services in the province of British Columbia

She is active in international activities across the spectrum of kidney education, research and administrative activities, and was past President of International Society of Nephrology (ISN), from 2015-17). And a founding member of the Declaration of Istanbul Custodian Group (DICG). She advocates for patient rights to equitable access to care, and in the prevention of exploitation of vulnerable populations.

Her major research interests include CVD in CKD patients, variability in the progression of CKD and optimal models of care. She has over 300 peer
reviewed publications, and numerous book chapters. She is the Principal Investigator on a patient oriented network grant CAN SOLVE CKD.

Her teaching and research awards include: Canadian Society of Nephrology Outstanding Contributions to Canadian Nephrology (2013), Kidney Foundation Research Medal of Excellence (2014), and is a fellow of Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (2014), and the Aubrey J Tingle Research Award for contributions to the province of BC (2015). In 2015, she was awarded the highest civilian honour in Canada, The Order of Canada, for her contributions to the life of Canadians.

Milton Packer, MD
Panelist

Dr. Packer is currently Distinguished Scholar in Cardiovascular Science at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, Texas. Previously, he was the Distinguished Chair in Cardiology at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and the Dickinson W. Richards Professor of Medicine at Columbia University. In 2010, he received the Lewis Katz Prize in Cardiovascular Research in recognition of lifetime achievements and contributions to medicine.

Over the past 40 years, Dr. Packer established the cornerstone of currently accepted principles and treatments for heart failure. Over his career, he helped launch the careers of hundreds of clinical investigators and heart failure specialists. He has been the principal investigator of more than 20 large international multicentre trials of new treatments for heart failure. He has served and is a current member of the Food and Drug Administration Advisory Committee for Cardiac and Renal Drug Products. In this capacity, he helped to develop current approaches to the evaluation of the efficacy and safety of new cardiovascular drugs. Dr. Packer is the author of more than 400 medical research publications and is one of the most highly cited researchers in clinical cardiology.

Katherine R. Tuttle, MD, FASN, FACP, FNKF
Panelist

Dr. Tuttle is Executive Director for Research at Providence Health Care, Co-Principal Investigator of the Institute of Translational Health Sciences and Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington. Dr. Tuttle earned her medical degree and completed her residency in Internal Medicine at Northwestern University School of Medicine in Chicago, Illinois. She was a fellow in Metabolism and Endocrinology at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Her nephrology fellowship training was performed at University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Dr. Tuttle’s major research interests are in clinical and translational science for diabetes and chronic kidney disease. She has published over 200 original research contributions and served two terms as Associate Editor for the *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* and the *American Journal of Kidney Disease*. Dr. Tuttle has received many honors and awards including the Medal of Excellence from the American
Association of Kidney Patients, Garbed Eknoyan Award from the National Kidney Foundation, the YWCA Woman of Achievement Award in Science, and two Outstanding Clinical Faculty Awards at the University of Washington. Dr. Tuttle served on the Board of Directors for the Kidney Health Initiative and has chaired numerous kidney and diabetes related working groups and committees for organizations including the NIDDK/NIH, the National Kidney Foundation, the American Society of Nephrology, the International Society of Nephrology, and the American Diabetes Association.