

Nephrology Division Newsletter

September - October 2008



Announcements

- ❖ **The UCSF Division of Nephrology Annual Reception** will be held Friday, November 7, 2008 8:00pm-11:00pm at The Philadelphia Marriott Hotel Liberty Ballroom Salon B during ASN Renal Week. We'd love to see a strong turnout from current faculty and fellows so please RSVP to Honore. This is the second year we have held this event, which we hope will become an annual tradition.
- ❖ Please support your UCSF colleagues at the upcoming **ASN meeting in Philadelphia**. Presentations are now searchable at http://www.asn-online.org/education_and_meetings/renal_week/2008/search.aspx. Below are some examples of activities brought to our attention:

Cynthia Delgado	Thursday, November 06 2:54 PM - 3:06 PM	Free communication	"Deficient Counseling on Physical Activity Among Nephrologists"
Chi-yuan Hsu	Saturday, November 08 5:00 PM - 5:12 PM	Free communication	"Short-Term and Long-Term Mortality and Non-Recovery of Kidney Function after Acute on Chronic Renal Failure"
	Thursday November 06 5:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Clinical Nephrology Conference Debates in Renal Disease	Con: "CKD Staging: Useful or Not (and to Whom)?"
Kirsten Johansen	Friday, November 07 4:48 - 5:00 PM	Free communication	"Physical Activity and Longitudinal Outcomes among Incident Dialysis Patients"
Kathleen Liu	Thursday, November 06 11:00-11:30 AM	Clinical Nephrology Conference: Acute Kidney Injury	"Evolving Paradigms in AKI: The Role of Inflammation and Deranged Fibrinolysis"

In addition, for the one- & two-day programs, Dr. Liu is giving a lecture for "Critical Care Nephrology: 2008 Update" and Drs. Hsu and Johansen are speakers for "Critically Approaching the Literature: Applying the Principles of Epidemiology and Biostatistics." Dr. Hsu has been co-director of the latter pre-course since 2005.

- ❖ The UCSF Department of Medicine webpage is undergoing a change in design, so the **Division of Nephrology website** has gotten a fresh face.


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The Division of Nephrology at the University of California-San Francisco has a long and distinguished history. Over the past four decades, UCSF has been a major source of leaders and investigators in nephrology at academic centers throughout the United States.

Our mission continues in this tradition: expanding the frontiers of basic and clinical investigation in nephrology, training the next generation of academic nephrology leaders and providing the highest level of patient care.

Current faculty members are based at UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco General Hospital and the VA Medical Center. Active basic research programs focus on the regulation of sodium balance, regulation of epithelial ion transport, mechanisms of water transport in renal epithelia and pathology of renal matrix metabolism.

Clinical research programs include both database and patient-oriented studies in hypertension, chronic kidney disease, acute kidney injury and end-stage renal disease. Numerous UCSF faculty members outside of the Division with interest in kidney related research are also active members of our fellowship training program.

We also take great pride in the excellence of our clinical programs. UCSF Medical Center has performed more kidney transplants than any other institution in the world (over 8,400 since 1964). Members of the Division are active participants in numerous clinical trials, thus bringing cutting edge therapies to the bedside.

Please go to: <http://medicine.ucsf.edu/nephrology/index.html> to see more.



Fellowship Program

- ❖ Congratulations to **Dr. Brian Lee**, recent graduate of the kidney transplant fellowship program who has joined the KTU faculty. He is the first graduate of the UCSF kidney transplant fellowship program who has been recruited to stay on the faculty.
- ❖ **Dr. Vanessa Grubbs** recently had a paper accepted into the Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology titled "Health literacy and access to kidney transplantation." This represents research she completed during the past academic year. She has been notified that this paper will be featured in a press release by CJASN as being "potentially newsworthy to media outlets worldwide."



Accomplishments and Awards

- ❖ Congratulations to **Dr. Peter Haggie** who was recently awarded an R01 grant from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) for research on "Live-Cell Imaging of CFTR Oligomerization, Trafficking and Interactions."
- ❖ Congratulations to **Dr. Flavio Vincenti** who recently finished a successful year as president of the American Society of Transplant. Please read his 2008 Presidential Address here: <http://www.a-s->

t.org/index2.cfm?Section=events&Sub1Section=past_meeting_archives&content=vincenti_pres_address.html.

- ❖ **Dr. Kathleen Liu** was selected as a co-recipient (along with Dr. Carolyn Calfee of Pulmonary) of the Department of Medicine 2008 Pilot Funding for Centers of Excellence in Patient Research award. Dr. Liu, who trained in both nephrology and critical care medicine, will use the funds to establish a prospective multi-disciplinary cohort of critically ill patients admitted to the ICUs at Moffitt-Long and San Francisco General Hospital with the goal of developing new predictive models and biomarkers for acute organ injury (particularly kidney and lung injury).

- ❖ Congratulations to **Mount Zion faculty and staff**. The latest released mortality statistics for the Mount Zion Outpatient Dialysis Unit show that our standardized mortality ratio (SMR) was 0.65 i.e. the mortality rate was 35% less than expected. Only 7% of dialysis facilities in the United States had an SMR lower than 0.65. Credit must go to the nephrology faculty members who round at Mt. Zion Dialysis (Drs. Lynda Frassetto, Mei Zhu Peng, Manju Tamura), the dialysis unit nurse managers (Jim Heilman and Jean Bruzgul), the medical director (Dr. Kerry Cho), the nurses and technicians, the nephrology fellows, and our vascular surgery, interventional radiology and other colleagues who help care for our patients.