

NEPHROLOGY

NEWS & ISSUES

Balancing Economics & Quality in Renal Care

The NKF Spring Clinicals: Bet on a great educational experience

By Michael J. Choi, MD

The physician program for the National Kidney Foundation Spring Clinical Meetings is geared toward practicing nephrologists and fellows. At the conference, we will aim to identify how payment bundling and advances in clinical and translational research impact the care of patients with kidney disease. Leaders in the field of nephrology will discuss and integrate new discoveries in dialysis and non-dialysis chronic kidney disease, transplantation, hypertension, and general nephrology to improve clinical practice in caring for patients with kidney disease.

This conference is unique in that we will attempt to enhance skills of the interdisciplinary team to improve care of patients with kidney disease. There are a large number of interactive sessions with case-based audience response questions.

Lynda Szczech, MD, president of the National Kidney Foundation, will deliver the keynote address and Glenn M. Chertow, MD, will give the Shaul G. Massry Distinguished Lecture.

Here's a snapshot of the pre-conference courses, to be held on April 26 featuring world-renowned faculty:

Glomerular diseases: Led by Fernando Fervenza, this course will focus on updates in the pathogenesis and treatment of various primary glomerular and secondary glomerular diseases.

Integrated hemodialysis/peritoneal dialysis: Joanne Bargman leads this course on the physiology, optimal prescription, and treatment of complications for HD and PD.

Kidney transplant: The most recent advances in tissue typing, transplant immunosuppression, current interventions to increase the donor pool, and minimization of long-term morbidity in the care of kidney transplant recipients will be led by Heidi Schaefer.

Dialysis unit management: Led by Peter DeOreo, the emphasis of this course will be on updating national issues as they relate to facility management, including patient care quality measures, safety, economics, and logistics. The role and implications of the new bundling reimbursements will be highlighted.



Dr. Choi is head of the Division of Nephrology at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and chair of the physician program for the National Kidney Foundation's 2011 Spring Clinical meetings.

The Conference



2011 Spring Clinical Meetings
The National Kidney Foundation
April 26-30
MGM Grand Hotel
Las Vegas

April
26-30

For more information, or to register, go to www.nkfclinical-meeting.org or call 800.622.9010.

Interventional nephrology: Jamie Ross and Loay Salman lead this introduction of diagnostic and interventional procedures used by interventional nephrologists to establish and maintain hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis access.

Nephrology recertification: This course, run by Harold Szerlip, offers an opportunity to obtain credit toward maintenance of certification using ABIM modules, and become acquainted with the Nephrology Board essentials in an interactive environment.

Ray W. Gifford, Jr., MD Hypertension Symposium: Celebrating its 10th anniversary, this symposium led by Marc Pohl is designed to bring together thought leaders in hypertension. The latest advances in physiology, biochemistry, and molecular biology applied to hypertension, cardiovascular complications, as well as recent clinical trials are reviewed.

Chronic kidney disease clinics: This course, headed by Jerry Yee, is designed to offer a complete understanding of the optimal management of CKD. Practical aspects of designing and operating a CKD clinic, incorporation of innovative care models, and utilizing technology in effective delivery of care will be highlighted.

SCM11 balances the presentation of a multitude of fascinating topics for practicing nephrologists, in an optimal but not overwhelming number of sessions. It is all part of the NKF's celebration of 20 years of professional education. **NN&I**