



For Immediate Release

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National Kidney Foundation Announces First KDOQI Research Grants

(New York, NY) – June, 2009 – Chester H. Fox, MD, of Buffalo, New York, and Josef Coresh, MD, PhD, of Baltimore, Maryland have been named the 2009 Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI®) research recipients.

“The KDOQI grant initiative funds research which answers key questions identified in a particular KDOQI guideline. Every KDOQI guideline begins with a systematic review of existing literature regarding a particular topic. This systematic review then identifies the ‘holes’ in the research, areas where key information regarding clinical care is missing. KDOQI research grants seek to fill in the knowledge gaps and improve patient care,” says KDOQI vice chair for research Holly J. Kramer, M.D.

The grant was established in 2008 by NKF’s Board of Directors in an effort to expand the evidence base for CKD-related clinical practice. The request for applications (RFA) was issued in August of last year, resulting in sixteen submissions. The grants effective July 1, 2009, provide support of \$150,000 per year, for three years.

Award winner Dr. Fox explains, “When the KDOQI guidelines first came out, I audited my own charts and found that I was underdiagnosing and undertreating patients with CKD in my practice. I did a qualitative study interviewing other primary care physicians and found that the problem was widespread.”

“My project, ‘Implementing KDOQI Guidelines in Primary Care Practices,’ will study the process and benefits of implementing the KDOQI guidelines into practice,” says Fox. “It takes an average of 17 years from the time evidence is known to the time it is commonly used in practice. My research goal is to try and develop systems to work with primary care physicians to shorten this cycle.”

Fox continues, “Ultimately, I would like to see the computer decision support protocols for CKD embedded within the practice’s electronic medical record (EMR). A long range goal would be to include longitudinal studies showing that changes made by implementing KDOQI improve patient outcomes.”

The second grant, “Complications and Prognosis of CKD in US Populations,” aims to define how estimated kidney function and proteinuria relate to a wide range of complications including hypertension and anemia. “Overall, CKD spans a broad range of disease from relatively early stages to very severe and our goal is to define the prognosis within each stage. This will inform physicians and patients as well as guide development of future therapies to reduce risk in CKD,” says principal investigator, Dr. Coresh.

“KDOQI supported projects such as these will provide us with more authoritative guidance regarding appropriate tests and therapies, which will then lead to enhanced patient outcomes. These projects will help assess whether or not we update or initiate new KDOQI guidelines and clinical practice recommendations,” says KDOQI chair Michael Rocco, MD, MSCE.

The 2010 KDOQI RFA will be released in September.

About the National Kidney Foundation

The National Kidney Foundation is a major voluntary health organization dedicated to preventing kidney and urinary tract diseases, improve the health and well-being of individuals and families affected by these diseases, and increase the availability of all organs for transplantation. For more information visit

www.kidney.org

About KDOQI

The Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative or (NKF KDOQI)TM provides evidence-based clinical practice guidelines developed by volunteer physicians and health care providers for all stages of chronic kidney disease and related complications, from diagnosis to monitoring and management. For more information visit www.kdoqi.org

Link to Bios

- [Chester H. Fox, MD](#)
- [Josef Coresh, MD](#)

Chester H. Fox, MD

Chester H. Fox, MD, is clinical associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine at State University of New York – Buffalo of Nephrology (BMM), School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, State University of New York at Buffalo.

While Dr. Fox is trained in academic family medicine, his upcoming research project focuses on the implementation of KDOQI guidelines in primary care practices. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Fox trained in epidemiology in at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Fox's KDOQI research project which will begin in July 2009 is titled, "Implementing KDOQI Guidelines in Primary Care Practices."

Josef Coresh, MD, PhD

Josef Coresh, MD, PhD, is professor of epidemiology, medicine and biostatistics at the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. He graduated with a medical degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine as well as studied at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health where he received a doctoral degree in epidemiology and Masters' degree in biostatistics.

Dr. Coresh studies risk factors for cardiovascular and kidney disease patients with mild to end-stage renal disease; epidemiologic methods; genetic epidemiology of diabetes and lipid disorders. His KDOQI research project, "Complications and Prognosis of CKD in US Populations," will commence this summer.