Section on Nephrology  Clinical Faculty  (continued)

Amber M. Reeves-Daniel, DO
Associate Professor of Internal Medicine (Nephrology); Medical Director; Living Donor Kidney Program; Medical Director; Panorays Transplantation Program
- **Specialties:** Kidney and pancreas transplantation, kidney transplantation and living kidney donation in African-Americans
- **Research:** Outcomes following live kidney donation, ethnic and gender barriers to transplantation
- **Best Doctors in America ®** 2014–2016

Alison J. Fletcher, MD
Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine (Nephrology); Associate Director, Nephrology Fellowship Program
- **Specialties:** Chronic kidney disease, geriatric kidney disease, ESRD
- **Research:** Geriatric Nephrology

Anita M. Saran, MD
Associate Professor of Internal Medicine (Nephrology)
- **Specialties:** General nephrology, diabetic kidney disease
- **Research:** Diabetic kidney disease

Isai Gopalakrishnan Bowline, MD
Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine (Nephrology)
- **Specialties:** Clinical nephrology, hypertensive nephropathy (HTN), chronic kidney disease, glomerular diseases
- **Research:** Cell-based and chronic kidney disease therapies, regenerative medicine

Patricia L. Adams, MD
Professor Emeritus, 1979–2015

Vardaman M. Buckalew Jr., MD
Professor Emeritus, 1973–2015

Thomas D. DuBose Jr., MD
Professor Emeritus, 2002–2015

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On the forefront of nephrology education: A focus on Dr. John Burkart

THE WAKE FOREST BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER SECTION ON NEPHROLOGY has a longstanding tradition of educating the global nephrology community about advances in the care of patients with and at risk for kidney disease. For more than 40 years, Wake Forest Baptist faculty have presented research findings and taught didactic sessions at national and international meetings. Much of this work involved optimizing patient outcomes, improving treatment approaches, and better defining clinical diagnoses in patients with kidney disease. Results of these projects have been directly translated into clinical practice and caused medical therapies to evolve.

John M. Burkart, MD, Professor of Internal Medicine, Section on Nephrology, Corporate Medical Director of the Wake Forest University Outpatient Dialysis Program, and Corporate Medical Director of Health Systems Management, Inc., has been at the forefront of Wake Forest Baptist Nephrology’s educational mission for more than 30 years. Dr. Burkart was founding chair of the joint Wake Forest Baptist and International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis (ISPD) home dialysis education course. Initially known as Peritoneal Dialysis University (PDU) and now called Home Dialysis University (HDU), these courses have taught nephrology fellows, practicing nephrologists, physician assistants and nurse practitioners about advances in home dialysis for the past 16 years. It is estimated that more than 50 percent of all practicing U.S. nephrologists who finished their training after 1999 attended one of these courses, some returning many times. Physicians from Asia, Europe and South America have also attended.

Members of the faculty also actively participate in or direct educational efforts at national and international societies. Dr. Burkart served as a co-chair of the American Society of Nephrology’s (ASN) annual Board Review Course and Update—the nation’s premier nephrology review — from 2009 to 2014. During his tenure, he helped transition content to online learning, facilitated development of a post-course review examination and established live audience response to re-certification board exam-type questions. Dr. Burkart also served the ASN in other roles, including Dialysys Sub-group Committee member, Dialysis Practice Improvement Module Committee chair, Home Hemodialysis Fellowship Benchmarck Working Group member and In-Depth Course on Maintenance Dialysis co-chair during annual ASN meetings. In honor of these accomplishments, Dr. Burkart was presented the 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award in Peritoneal Dialysis at the Annual Dialysis Conference held by the University of Missouri. This award recognizes his lifetime of dedication to educating health care professionals and students, as well as improving the lives of patients with kidney disease.

An extension of Dr. Burkart’s educational efforts and drive to improve the health of patients with kidney disease includes strategies to optimize dialysis outcomes by better standardization of care. One leading effort has been formulating guidelines by the Kidney Dialysis Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI). This process started as a national
Amber Reeves-Daniel, MD; Barry Freedman, MD

CENTER’S ABDOMINAL ORGAN Region 11, which includes N.C., S.C., TRANSPLANT PROGRAM is nationally

date, Dr. Burkart has served as committee

WAKE FOREST BAPTIST MEDICAL

One of the most active

kidney and pancreas transplant centers in the U.S.

Kidney and pancreas transplant centers in the U.S.

Day to Right: Amruta Palanisamy, MD; Robert Stratta, MD; Amber Reeves-Daniel, MD; Barry Freedman, MD

Policy, and the section’s genetics

team (Drs. Barry Freedman and Anthony Bleyer). The

WAKE FOREST BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER’S ABDOMINAL ORGAN TRANSPLANT PROGRAM is nationally recognized as a high quality and high volume center, as well as a center of excellence. Ranked as one of the 30 most

Online Nephrology education (continued from cover)

in Children and in Diabetes, as well as

providing numerous U.S. commentaries on KDQOI international guidelines. KDOQI is currently updating guidelines in Hemodialysis, Vascular Access and Nutrition. Dr. Rocco was awarded the National Kidney Foundation’s Dr. Garabed Eknayan Award in 2013, based on his service with KDOQI.

Wake Forest Baptist’s Outpatient Dialysis (WFOPD) program provides care to more than 1,600 patients with ESRD at 16 facilities throughout northwestem N.C. Dr. Burkart is the chief medical officer for the program and actively practices in these facilities. He serves as a role model to his

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initiative, but subsequently grew into an international effort, the Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO). To date, Dr. Burkart has served as committee member or co-chair of every existing published KDOQI guideline for adequacy of peritoneal dialysis. He also served on the ISPD committee that developed initial global guidelines for adequate peritoneal dialysis therapy.

Dr. Burkart’s colleague, Michael V. Rocco, MD, Vardaman M. Buckwalter Jr. Professor, has been chair of KDOQI since 2008 and was vice chair from 2003-2008. During his tenure as vice chair, KDOQI has updated guidelines on Nutrition

donor genetic risk variants on outcomes following kidney transplantation. This research team first reported that risk variants in the apolipoprotein L1 gene (APOL1) in deceased African-American donor organs were associated with shorter renal allograft survival. This novel finding was recently replicated in additional deceased donor kidney transplant programs performed at Wake Forest Baptist and other collaborators in the southeastern U.S., pioneering work that is actively funded by the National Institutes of Health. There is now healthy debate in the field regarding the role for screening potential kidney donors for common gene variants associated with kidney disease, particularly APOL1.

The landscape in transplantation medicine is rapidly evolving based on breakthroughs in precision medicine. Wake Forest Baptist’s Abdominal Organ Transplant Program is recognized on Nephrology are at the forefront of this burgeoning and dynamic field — translating laboratory breakthroughs to the benefit of patients while also providing the full spectrum and continuum of care.

Barry I. Freedman, MD

John H. Felnits II, MD, Professor of Internal Medicine (Nephrology); Chief, Section on Nephrology, Professor of Urology

• Immediate Past Chair: End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Network 6

• Research: Gene expression in nephropathy, diabetic kidney disease

• Fellow: American College of Physicians

• Best Doctors in America® 2007–2016

Anthony J. Bleyer, MD, MS

Professor of Internal Medicine (Nephrology)

• Specialties: International expert on inherited tubulo-interstitial kidney disease

• Research: Genetic causes of kidney disease, medullary cystic kidney disease (with partners at the NIH, identified mutation in the Tamm-Horsfall protein gene that causes medullary cystic kidney disease), cardiovascular disease in dialysis patients

• Fellow: American College of Physicians; Member, American Society of Nephrology

• Best Doctors in America® 2005–2016

John M. Burkart, MD

Professor of Internal Medicine (Nephrology); Corporate Director, Wake Forest University Outpatient Dialysis Facilities

• Chair: Home Dialysis University (HDU) sponsored by International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis and Wake Forest University (CFM)

• Past president: International Society for Peritoneal Dialysis

• Specialties: General nephrology, all aspects of peritoneal dialysis, clinical aspects of hemodialysis

• Research: Peritoneal dialysis, hemodialysis

• Best Doctors in America® 1998–2016

Michael V. Rocco, MD, MSCE

Vardaman M. Buckwalter Jr., MD, Professor of Internal Medicine (Nephrology); Professor of Public Health Sciences

• Chair: National Kidney Foundation’s Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (NOCO) 2003–2008

• Specialties: Clinical nephrology, hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, chronic kidney disease, medical treatment of nephrolithiasis

• Research: More frequent hemodialysis therapies, hemodialysis vascular access, acute renal failure, progression of chronic kidney disease

• Fellow: American College of Physicians

• Best Doctors in America® 2005–2016

Pirouz Daehagh, MD

Associate Professor of Internal Medicine (Nephrology)

• Specialties: Clinical nephrology, dialysis, hypertension

• Research: Renal replacement therapy in ICU


Amreet T. Hawfield, MD

Associate Professor of Internal Medicine (Nephrology)

• Specialties: Chronic kidney disease, pregnancy and kidney function, hypertension disorders of pregnancy, hypertension, dialysis and renal transplantation

• Research: Genetics of preeclampsia, NIH-funded SPRINT trial co-investigator studying hypertension management in chronic kidney disease

Shahriar Moossavi, MD, PhD

Associate Professor of Internal Medicine (Nephrology); Medical Director, Dialysis Access Group (DAG)

• Specialties: Intentional nephrology (dialysis vascular access), general nephrology

• Research: Dialysis vascular access, dialysis access surveillance, interventional procedures and outcomes

• Member: National Review Board of End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Network 6

• Member: American Society of Transplantation Diversity and Minority Affairs Committee

• Best Doctors in America® 2011–2016

Mariana Murea, MD

Associate Professor of Internal Medicine (Nephrology)

• Specialties: Hemodialysis, geriatric nephrology, glomerular diseases, chronic kidney disease, clinical nephrology

• Research: Vascular access in hemodialysis, clinical outcomes of elderly on hemodialysis anticoagulation in hemodialysis, glomerular diseases of genetic etiology

• Fellow: American Society of Nephrology

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