

NEPHROLOGY UPDATE

Optimizing Transitions to Adult Kidney Care

It's estimated that 10,000 children and adolescents in the United States have end-stage-renal disease. Even more have congenital or acquired kidney diseases that need to be monitored long-term. At Washington University School of Medicine, pediatric and adult nephrologists are working in tandem to successfully transition young patients to adult care.

"The reality is that these teens and young adults have been seen by their pediatric care team and cared for by their parents for most, if not all, of their lives," says nephrologist Michael Rauchman, MD, who heads the Pediatric-to-Adult Nephrology Transition Clinic at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. "It's challenging for them to become more independent and adhere to a medical plan when they have not had to do that previously."

More than a decade ago, the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) and the International Pediatric Nephrology Association (IPNA) released a consensus statement advocating for the need for transition clinics that focus on self-management skills, medication adherence and patient education. According to the statement, "the number of young patients graduating from pediatric to adult renal care has progressively increased due to improved management, resulting in patient survival rates of 85-90%." However, since the consensus statement was released in 2011, Dr. Rauchman says transition clinics are still not overly common.

"It requires integration of certain services and close collaboration from both

pediatric and adult nephrologists," he explains. "That means starting a relationship with these patients while they are still being seen in pediatric clinics and working with both patients and families to instill key self-management tools so that there is a seamless transition of care as a child becomes an adult. It requires highly personalized plans for each patient."

In Dr. Rauchman's monthly clinic, many patients are young adults with complex medical conditions. These can include patients with congenital kidney defects such as posterior urethral valve (PUD) disorder, or small, abnormal, or missing kidneys. He also sees patients with genetic syndromes that affect many organs. These patients may have severe neurologic or developmental disorders in addition to kidney complications. Pediatric cancer patients are another group of patients seen, as some cancer treatments can lead to kidney disorders long after treatment is over. In addition to listening to his new patients, Dr. Rauchman brings parents into the conversation. "What these parents do on a daily basis is extraordinary," he says. "I learn an enormous amount from them about the disease process of their child because they have become so knowledgeable about it."

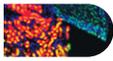


Michael Powers (center), age 24, meets with Dr. Michael Rauchman as part of a transition from his pediatric nephrologist to an adult practice. Powers has a rare genetic disorder called osteodysplastic primordial dwarfism. "I was very impressed with the research Dr. Rauchman had done on transitioning young adults with genetic disorders involving the kidneys," said Powers' mother, Leslie (left).

Another sub-category of patients are children who were born severely premature. These infants have an under-developed number of nephrons, which puts them at increased risk for hypertension and kidney disease later in life. In his own research lab, Dr. Rauchman is investigating ways to create new nephrons in diseased kidneys. He also is working with the regional St. Louis Fetal Care Institute to conduct whole exome sequencing on DNA samples to see if gene mutations can be identified and targeted to potentially prevent the development of chronic kidney disease.

In the meantime, Dr. Rauchman initially meets all transitioning patients at St. Louis Children's Hospital. He also consults with other pediatric nephrology programs in the region. "By working so closely with my pediatric colleagues, I think differently about how I care for patients in general, he says. "I spend a lot of time

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Message from the Chief



I hope that you and your families continue to weather the COVID-19 marathon. Our faculty, staff and trainees continue to demonstrate resilience and creativity in their

commitment to our missions during the pandemic. Over the past few months and years, we have learned to be nimble, flexible and creative in providing the best care to our patients, educating our trainees and providing ample opportunities for clinical, basic and translational research.

Flexibility and the clear focus on excellent patient care are reflected in our lead story about the Pediatric-to-Adult Transition Clinic. Our adult nephrologist meets with young patients about to transition to adult care providers initially in

their own pediatric clinic. These first steps reduce anxiety while preparing patients with the necessary self-management skills to handle their own care as they enter adulthood.

Despite the pandemic, we have experienced a dramatic influx in new patients, both in our inpatient and outpatient settings. As you will read in Dr. Cheng's Fellowship Program update, we recently re-organized consult services to ensure high-quality training even as the patient volume increases. As you can see in the listing of New Fellows, we had a highly successful match and I'm eager to welcome all of our incoming fellows in a few short months. On a much needed aspect of healthcare, we also have fellows and researchers interested in pursuing ways to increase awareness of and work towards eliminating health disparities in nephrology

care. I'm excited to see the passion for this and the novel research now under way.

As a hallmark of our commitment to education, we are proud that so many of our faculty recently received awards for excellence in education and also are taking leadership roles in national organizations. Let us know where your career path has taken you!

Finally, I want to take a moment to thank our donors and friends for your continued commitment to our Division and for your generous support of our students, fellows, faculty and staff who are truly on the frontlines of science and medicine. It is very much appreciated.

Ben

Benjamin D. Humphreys, MD, PhD
Joseph P. Friedman Professor and Chief
Division of Nephrology
Washington University School of Medicine

Thank You!

We thank the following individuals who have generously donated to the Division of Nephrology from August 2021 through February 2022:

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- Ms. Patricia M. McKeivitt
- Dr. Anitha Vijayan
- Dr. Didier Portilla

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trying to understand each patient's journey and to build trust and confidence."

He adds, "It's very gratifying to create this program. Patient education and medication adherence is vital, but building trust during a transition like this is the first step to seeing young nephrology patients thrive into adulthood."

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If you would like to support our research and teaching mission or contribute to the Division of Nephrology's programs and services, please send your contribution to:

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Fellowship Notes



By **Steven Cheng**
Program Director

Over the past year, we have experienced a dramatic increase in the volume of patients seen. The rise is likely driven by both the influx of critically ill patients due to COVID-19 as well as the expanding size of the medical center campus.

As a result, this year we created a new structure for our consult services, which we now run based upon the geographic location of various clinical services. We now have four acute consult services, with three operating as traditional fellow-attending services. The fourth is a non-teaching

clinical service staffed by a nurse practitioner and an attending. Geographically, two of the consults are based at the South Campus, covering cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery (Consult 1) and medical and surgical units (Consult 2). Consult 3 is dedicated to the North Campus, addressing obstetric, oncologic, and BMT services. Transplant and Dialysis services remain unchanged and continue to be a robust opportunity for our fellows to manage these patient populations in addition to their time in acute care settings.

The geographic nature of our consult services is designed to protect fellows from excessive workloads and optimize teaching during rounds. We developed this model after the program leadership team tracked patient volumes on each of the services and analyzed where and when new consults were being requested. The team then

integrated input from both faculty and fellows to create the new structure, which prioritizes patient wellness, optimization of the learning environment, and wellness in our trainees.

The system has been in place since January. I, along with Seth Goldberg, MD, Associate Program Director for Service and Assessment, also attended on consult services to evaluate, in real time, how patient allocation and service sizes were balanced. After some minor tweaks to ensure workload balance, the restructuring has been a success. We continue to monitor it, but the real value of the change is that this project reiterates our commitment to creating a safe workspace for our trainees that can endure external pressures from the pandemic while optimizing training opportunities.

2022 Fellows

The Division of Nephrology welcomes the following new fellows to our program this summer:



Taha Mohamed Djirdeh, MD
Mercy Health Javon Bea Hospital, Rockford, IL



Abdullah Jalal, MD
Overlook Medical Center Summit, NJ



Shelden Rodrigues, MD
Loyola Medicine MacNeal Hospital, Berwyn, IL



Juan Sanchez, MD
Cook County Health Chicago, IL



Marco Thierry, MD
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg, TX



Swathi Velagapudi, MD
Brooklyn Hospital Center Brooklyn, NY

2022 Transplant Nephrology Fellows



Gaurav Rajashekar, MD
Washington University



Mahathi Kalipatnapu, MBBS, MD
University of Chicago

Social Determinants of Health Workshop

Nephrology fellows Morgan Schoer, MD, and Gaurav Rajashekar, MBBS, along with inpatient social worker Carrie Koeller, MSW, LCSW, and fellowship associate program director Frank O'Brien, MBBS, MRCPI, will lead a workshop this June on the social determinants of health. The workshop is part of an ongoing collaboration between the WU divisions of nephrology, infectious diseases, and rheumatology to increase awareness of health disparities.

“More often than not while caring for our patients, we run into barriers that prevent us from providing needed healthcare, whether it's insurance issues, drug affordability, access to healthy foods, protected time off of work or transportation to medical appointments,” says Dr. Schoer. “We don't treat diseases alone, we treat people with socioeconomic limitations and complexities. I'm hoping to better recognize these barriers, develop creative solutions and then advocate for my patients' needs more effectively.”

Alumni Connections

Pooja Koolwal, MD

*Assistant Professor, Division of Nephrology & Medical Director, Parkland Peritoneal Dialysis Clinic University of Texas-Southwestern Dallas, TX
WU Nephrology Fellow, 2016-2018*

Pooja Koolwal, MD, has returned to the state she loves. After graduating from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX, in 2013, Dr. Koolwal completed her residency in internal medicine and fellowship in nephrology at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. She was drawn back to Texas because of a long-standing clinical interest in providing care for the underserved. At Parkland Memorial Hospital, the county hospital affiliated with UT-Southwestern, Dr. Koolwal oversees its new Peritoneal Dialysis Program, which primarily serves an at-risk population.

“The program provides peritoneal dialysis (PD) to our unfunded dialysis patients with end-stage renal disease who otherwise would need to rely on emergent hemodialysis,” she explains. “Our efforts are focused on improving dialysis care for this subset of patients who have many social barriers. We want to empower them to do their own dialysis treatments at home as well as provide exceptional PD care in a cost-effective manner.”

While attending Baylor College of Medicine, Dr. Koolwal’s training focused on the Underserved Care Track. Then, at Washington University, she was selected for the university’s Global Health Scholars program, an opportunity designed to enhance understanding of health systems and the impact of social determinants on population health. The experience taught her how to identify and implement better ways to provide care in resource-limited environments. While

in St. Louis, she was honored with the university’s Knowlton Incentive for Excellence Award. The award acknowledges internal medicine residents who exemplify a compassionate spirit in addition to outstanding knowledge and skill. Of her time here, Dr. Koolwal notes, “WU was instrumental in setting me up with the critical thinking skills to address problems when something doesn’t go to plan. It also provided me with the resources to find solutions to problems I had never encountered.”

Now working for the largest academic health sciences center in Texas, Dr. Koolwal’s time is divided between inpatient and outpatient clinics both at Parkland and in a private clinic at UT-Southwestern (UTSW). She also trains nephrology fellows, engaging them in small group sessions and lectures as well as overseeing their activities in her clinics. “I am constantly looking back at the excellent examples of WU mentors and faculty as a model for my own future development,” she says. “I’m on the clinical educator career path at UTSW and I conduct a renal pathology lecture series for fellows here. I have to thank Drs. Gaut and Yau for the strong pathology training I received during my fellowship.”

Dr. Koolwal also says her nephrology fellowship training gave her the confidence to take on the ambitious task of starting UTSW’s Peritoneal Dialysis Program at Parkland. “I’m still reaching out to Dr. Tingting Li and Shawna McMichael, BSN, RN, nurse manager of WU’s Home Modalities Program, to help me troubleshoot when new challenges arise, and they have been invaluable resources.”

Her fondest memories are the collegial moments with faculty and fellows. She laughs, saying, “I could always find someone to share in my excitement over an interesting

case or listen to me complain for the millionth time about how much I missed mild Texas winters.” During the last year of fellowship, when she was pregnant, she recalled breakfast brought by Dr. Li every time they were in PD clinic together. Dr. Anitha Vijayan also cooked her a delicious okra dish and Dr. Aubrey Morrison once brought her an entire key lime cheesecake from Hank’s! “Just before fellowship ended,” she recalls with a smile, “Dr. Steven Cheng called an emergency fellows lunch meeting and it turned out to be a surprise baby shower!”

Much of her free time is now spent with Riya, now just over 3 years old, and Ayush, 18 months old. She and her husband have a goal of visiting all the presidential libraries in the U.S. (six out of 13 so far). Of her desire to be in Texas, she says finally, “We have immediate and extended family spread out throughout Texas, so there’s rarely a shortage of visitors!”



Dr. Koolwal with her family: husband Niraj Badhiwala and their two children, Riya, 3, and Ayush, 18 months.



Program Spotlight

Multidisciplinary Kidney Stone Clinic

In the United States, the prevalence of kidney stones is on the rise. One out of every 11 people now develop kidney stones, double the rate in 1994. In many cases, multiple acute episodes send patients to the emergency room several times a year. To reduce that statistic, a multidisciplinary Kidney Stone Clinic at Barnes-Jewish Hospital has been providing coordinated care for complicated and recurrent cases of kidney stones with great success.

Started in 2015, the clinic is co-directed by a urologist and nephrologist. Together, they evaluate and treat patients with recurrent kidney stones, multiple stones, or uncommon types, including uric acid stones, struvite stones, and cystine stones. Urologists will treat the acute kidney stone episode. Some patients are then referred to the shared clinic to be evaluated by a nephrologist. “Urologists address the anatomical issues, and we look at it from the

risk factor side to try and prevent recurrence,” says nephrologist Seth Goldberg, MD, co-director of the clinic, along with urologist Alana Desai, MD. “We review the 24-hour urine battery of tests to see if there are metabolic abnormalities, or problems with calcium or urinary oxalate regulation.”

It’s a one-stop shop where patients see both specialists, obtain imaging studies and discuss treatments, which typically focus on patient education, diet or lifestyle modifications, and behavioral changes as well as medications if other avenues are unsuccessful. When hereditary links are suspected, genetic testing is available. An added benefit of the clinic is its proximity to research on campus that is investigating the mechanisms in the pathways to the kidneys that can increase the risk for kidney stone development. Also in the clinic is a novel study to explore new ways to increase fluid intake. As part of the NIH/NIDDK’s Urinary Stone Disease Research Network (USDRN), Washington University is one of four sites involved in the Prevention of



Alana Desai, MD

Seth Goldberg, MD

Urinary Stones with Hydration (PUSH) Study. The two-year clinical trial is evaluating whether personalized coaching and specific fluid “prescriptions,” coupled with electronic reminders, smart bottles, and incentives, will prevent further development of kidney stones.

The multidisciplinary emphasis and follow-up care is improving outcomes, notes Dr. Goldberg. He says, “Many patients drive a considerable distance to come to the clinic, which is held twice a month. We know that some patients who previously had 8-10 acute kidney stone episodes a year now have no recurrences, but it takes a personalized approach to determine what treatment works best for each patient.”

Growing Washington University Community Nephrology Practice

With a growing outpatient dialysis population, the Division of Nephrology has added a new nurse practitioner to its team overseeing care in community-based dialysis centers. “Alex Stark, NP, previously was an acute dialysis nurse and his expertise is of great value in his new role as one of our new community outpatient dialysis providers,” says Reena Gurung, MBBS, one of the lead physicians in the Community Practice.

The Community Nephrology Practice Program oversees inpatient and outpatient dialysis services at Barnes-Jewish West County Hospital and Christian Hospital. The program also is affiliated with eight community-based outpatient dialysis units, including the North County Dialysis Center operated by Washington University. Multiple outpatient chronic kidney disease clinics also are held in hospital and community settings, including a renal diseases clinic at the

Veterans Affairs outpatient facility in north St. Louis County.

“We take care of more than 150 in-center and home dialysis patients,” says Manasa Metireddy, MD, a lead Community Practice physician. “In addition to Alex joining the team, we have Lisa Koester-Wiedemann, NP, who collaborates with us to provide dialysis care at DaVita DeBaliviere. As our practice grows throughout the region, we hope to hire more staff and open more shifts to accommodate patient demand.”

Multiple care locations not only enhance patient accessibility, but also have provided much-needed flexibility during the COVID-19 pandemic. At North County Dialysis Center, staff were able to expand treatment days from three to six days a week for a short time. “We were open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for regular patients and added Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays in January 2022 to isolate dialysis patients who tested positive for COVID,”



(L to R): Certified clinical hemodialysis technician Gena Hubbard, CCRT, and North County Dialysis Center nurse manager Thomas Gowen, RN, with outpatient dialysis patient Kevin McHatton.

says Tom Gowen, RN, nurse manager. “By doing this, we were able to provide much-needed continuity of care for COVID patients as needed.”

He adds, “With the stress and thoughts of a pandemic, we all focused on day-to-day operations and the taking care of our patients. It’s amazing to have such a dedicated team including nurses, patient care technicians, a social worker and a dietician who are committed to ensuring that patients with chronic kidney disease get the care they need.”

Post-Doctoral Research Scholar Pursues Health Disparities Research

In the laboratory of Benjamin Humphreys, MD, PhD, post-doctoral research scholar Shayna Bradford, PhD, is investigating the molecular and cellular mechanisms that drive renal health disparities.

Specifically, Bradford wants to know why individuals of African ancestry are four times more likely than individuals of European ancestry to develop end-stage renal disease. Socioeconomic determinants of health disparities are most often studied, as is gender. Bradford seeks to understand, however, if key molecules involved in kidney repair and regeneration are differentially expressed and regulated across ancestries and how such mechanisms might drive renal health disparities.

Bradford has had a long-standing interest in health disparities. Several of her family members have diabetes including her mother and her father lives with hypertension. Both diabetes and hypertension are the top risk factors for

developing end-stage renal disease. In high school, Bradford earned a summer biomedical research fellowship award from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), which allowed her to explore health disparities research. After earning her doctorate from the University of Michigan in Molecular and Cellular Pathology where she gained skills in academic drug discovery for chronic kidney disease, she came to St. Louis to learn single cell biology and to study novel molecules involved in renal regeneration. In 2020, she was selected as a member of the American Society of Nephrology's Policy and Advocacy Internship Program, a one-year position that enabled her to advocate on issues related to renal health disparities. Bradford is also a Burroughs Wellcome Fund Postdoctoral Fellow. She also recently received a loan repayment award from the NIH/NIDDK, which is part of that organization's efforts to offset



Photo: Eryn E. Dixon, PhD

Shayna Bradford, PhD

educational debt for investigators focused on health disparities research.

Here at Washington University, Bradford currently is studying a novel molecule involved in acute kidney injury. "We need to understand all of the pathways that impact disease, and that includes understanding how key molecules are expressed and regulated across ancestries," says Bradford. "If we find that a molecule is differentially regulated across ancestries, that could open the door to early intervention and novel therapeutics that then can improve health outcomes for vulnerable populations."

2022 Translational Innovation Grant Awarded

Andreas Herrlich, MD, PhD; Charbel Khoury, MD; and Megan Moseley, Physician Assistant in Critical Care, have been awarded the Division of Nephrology's 2022 Translational Innovation Grant Award to study "Circulating osteopontin in Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) and its role in COVID-19-associated acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)." Recently, researchers in the laboratory of Dr. Herrlich identified circulating osteopontin (OPN) released from the injured kidney after ischemic AKI as a key mediator of lung endothelial leakage, lung inflammation, and respiratory failure in mice. Their research also showed that serum OPN is elevated in patients with AKI and correlates with the degree of kidney injury, suggesting that kidney-injury released circulating OPN may also have roles in human disease. This work is published in *Science Advances*.

The translational grant now will fund a prospective observational cohort study of

patients with COVID-19-associated acute lung injury/acute respiratory distress syndrome who also often develop acute kidney injury. The study will determine whether ALI/ARDS patients with AKI have higher OPN serum levels as compared to patients without kidney injury and whether these elevated serum OPN levels in AKI patients correlate with worse respiratory outcomes. It is hoped that circulating OPN could be used to recognize patients who may require mechanical ventilation and identify those at greater risk for mortality. In addition, the research could open opportunities to develop OPN into a drug target in multiorgan failure, in particular with ALI/ARDS combined with AKI.

This is the 7th year that the Division has awarded a Translational Innovation grant to foster collaborative research between clinicians and basic scientists.

Major Grants

Feng Chen, PhD, is a co-principal investigator in the recently established Washington University Senescence Tissue Mapping Center to study cell senescence and its role in the diseases of aging. The Center, one of eight tissue-mapping centers in the U.S., collaborates with the NIH's Cellular Senescence Network (SenNet). The WU Center is led by computational biologist Li Ding, PhD, and includes Chen as well as oncologist Ryan Fields, MD, and cell biologist and physiologist Sheila Steward, PhD as co-principal investigators. The team received a 5-year, \$7.5 million grant from the NIH to support their research.

Jeffrey Miner, PhD, was awarded a 5-year, \$2.25 million grant from the NIDDK to study Alport syndrome. He is an internationally recognized expert on the rare genetic disease, which is characterized by a progressive decline in kidney function and currently has no FDA-approved treatment option. Miner is exploring the molecular pathways involved in Alport syndrome.

Faculty News and Awards



Ying Maggie Chen, MD, PhD, has been elected as a member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI). The ASCI recognizes significant scientific

contributions by physician-scientists who are 50 years old and younger, and membership is only through nominations. Dr. Chen investigates the molecular pathogenesis of organelle dysfunction-induced kidney diseases. Her lab has pioneered the discovery of urinary ER stress biomarkers as well as identified a new class of drugs, podocyte ER calcium stabilizers, in the treatment of nephrotic syndrome. Last fall, she and her colleagues Sun-Ji Park, PhD, Yeawon Kim, and Fumihiko Urano were awarded a patent for the use of K201, an ER calcium stabilizer,

with a biotherapeutic protein, MANF (mesencephalic astrocyte-derived neurotrophic factor), to treat ER stress-mediated kidney diseases.



Monica Chang-Panesso, MD, has received the ASCI Council's Young Physician Scientist Award in recognition of notable achievements in research. Dr. Chang-

Panesso's research lab investigates the molecular mechanisms underlying the repair response after acute kidney injury. Last year she was the first recipient of the Roger M. Perlmutter Career Development Professorship at Washington University. The position is one of two new endowed assistant professorships to support early career physician-scientists.

The professorships are funded by a \$2 million commitment from the Merck Foundation.



Transplant nephrologist **Anuja Java, MD**, has been elected to the Council of Women in Nephrology (WIN). The organization promotes professional development and mentorship for those in the field of nephrology. Dr. Java currently is director of kidney transplant at the John Cochran VA Medical Center in St. Louis. In addition to her clinical responsibilities, Dr. Java investigates complement-mediated kidney diseases. In her new role with WIN, Dr. Java says she hopes to promote a more inclusive community for women as well as collaboration that fuels innovation.

Faculty Honored with Teaching and Education Awards

We are proud that several faculty members in the Division of Nephrology have recently been honored with Distinguished Service Teaching and Education awards.

Steven Cheng, MD, was honored as Course Director of the Year by the Class of 2023. He also was honored with the Glenn Conroy Module Leader of the Year Award from the Class of 2024. The award is named in honor of a former faculty

member and well-recognized educator who had previously served as the course director for anatomy and development.

Timothy Yau, MD, was honored as Professor of the Year by the Class of 2023. In addition, he was named Thread Leader of the Year by the Class of 2024. "Threads" is a term used to describe multi-week medical training not covered in specific modules. Says Dr. Yau, "My thread is 'clinical skills,' where I am given one half day/week for the

entirety of the 16-month Phase 1 curriculum to teach students clinical skills."

Patricia Kao, MD, MS; Tingting Li, MD, MSCI; and **Seth Goldberg, MD**, as well as Drs. Cheng and Yau all were recipients of the inaugural Honor Roll Awards from the Academy of Educators at Washington University School of Medicine. The Academy was founded in 2019 to foster a culture of excellence in education at Washington University.

Morrison, Vijayan Honored by BJH Medical Staff Association

Anitha Vijayan, MD, FASN, and Aubrey Morrison, MBBS, MACP, FASN, were recently honored with awards by the Barnes-Jewish Hospital Medical Staff Association.

Dr. Vijayan, Medical Director of Acute Dialysis Services at BJH, BJH West County and The Rehabilitation Institute of St. Louis, received the Neville Grant Award for Clinical Excellence. The annual award honors medical staff who exemplify compassion and excellence in clinical care. She also is a mem-

ber of the Department of Medicine's Forum for Women in Medicine (FWIM) and the School of Medicine's Academic Women's Network mentoring programs.

Dr. Morrison, professor emeritus, was honored with a BJH Lifetime Achievement Award. Morrison, who retired from the Division of Nephrology in 2020, was on the faculty for more than 45 years. Dr. Morrison is a nationally recognized physician-scientist and a pioneer in the study of inflammatory

processes in the body. In 1982, he was the first Black physician elected to the American Society of Clinical Investigation. He also was the first Black faculty member at Washington University School of Medicine to achieve full professorship.



Anitha Vijayan, MD, FASN, and Aubrey Morrison, MBBS, MACP, FASN

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Shoutout to our frontline warriors, still hard at work after two exhausting years of the pandemic. These photos were taken in our renal department during the recent surge – our most intense surge yet – as experts treated COVID patients with kidney damage.

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