

The Alport Syndrome Symposium for Physicians, Researchers, and Families
August 28, 2010

Speaker Biographical Sketches

Dominic E. Cosgrove, Ph.D., is the Director of Basic Research, at the National Usher Syndrome Center, Boys Town National Research Hospital, Omaha, Nebraska, an Associate Professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, Creighton University School of Medicine, Omaha, and an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center also in Omaha. He is the Coordinator of the Gene Expression Laboratory at the Center for Hereditary Communication Disorder at the Boys Town National Research Hospital, Nebraska. He is an active member of the American Society of Matrix Biology, the Association for Research in Otorhinolaryngology, American Society of Nephrology and the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology. His research has focused on the changes in matrix-degrading enzymes and their regulators contribution to glomerular basement membrane dysfunction in both the inner ear and in the glomerulus in Alport syndrome. His work has been published extensively in *Cell*, *Journal of Experimental Medicine*, *Journal of Cellular Biochemistry*, *the Journal of Biological Chemistry*, *Gene Therapy Molecular Biology*, *Pediatric Nephrology*, and *Journal of Clinical Investigation*. He holds patents related to novel therapies for Alport renal disease and general inflammation and interstitial fibrosis of the kidney that are at various stages of development.

Clifford Kashtan, MD is the Director of the Division of Pediatric Nephrology and Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Minnesota Medical School, and an attending Pediatric Nephrologist at the University of Minnesota Children's Hospital-Fairview. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Nephrology and has served on the editorial boards of the *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*, *Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation* and *Pediatric Nephrology* and as a Councilor of the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology. Dr. Kashtan has authored numerous original research articles, reviews, and book chapters on Alport syndrome and lectured on Alport syndrome at numerous institutions and meetings, both nationally and internationally. Dr. Kashtan developed methods for diagnosing Alport syndrome by examining type IV collagen chains in kidney and skin biopsies.

Martin Gregory, MD, Ph.D., is a Professor of Medicine (Clinical) and Associate Division Chief, Division of Nephrology, University of Utah School of Medicine. Dr. Gregory has been a member of the faculty of the University of Utah, Division of Nephrology, since 1981, where his involvement in the Alport Syndrome and Hereditary Nephritis Study has led to international recognition of his contributions to the understanding of Alport syndrome genetics. Dr. Gregory has served on the editorial boards of the *Archives of Internal Medicine*, *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*, *Transactions of the American Society for Artificial Internal Organs*, *Kidney International*, and *New England Journal of Medicine*. He has received numerous scholastic honors and has published hundreds of articles and book chapters related to Nephrology and the genetics of Alport syndrome.

Oliver Gross, MD, is a physician in the Department of Nephrology and Rheumatology, University of Gottingen, Germany and the Principal Investigator of the European Alport Therapy Registry supported by the Association pour l'Information et la Recherche sur les maladies renale Genetiques, France and the KfH-Foundation Preventive Medicine. He has published numerous articles and editorials related to the pathogenesis and treatment of Alport renal disease. His work on Alport syndrome has been recognized by the European Renal Association, German Society of Nephrology, German Society of Internal Medicine, World Congress of Nephrology Award and the Award of the City of Cologne.

Billy G. Hudson, Ph.D., is the Elliot V. Newman Professor of Medicine, Biochemistry and Pathology, and Director of the Center for Matrix Biology at Vanderbilt University. His research has focused on ancient collagen proteins that compose basement membranes, a specialized form of extracellular matrix. His research group discovered two collagen proteins, and named them alpha-3 and alpha-4 chains of collagen IV, and described how they, together with an alpha-5 chain, assemble into a complex $\alpha3\alpha4\alpha5$ network that functions as a key component of the kidney filtration barrier. The network is directly involved in the pathogenic mechanisms underlying several diseases that cause

kidney failure in millions of people: autoimmune Goodpasture syndrome; hereditary Alport syndrome; thin basement membrane nephropathy, Alport post-transplant nephritis, and diabetic renal disease. His work has defined the three-dimensional structure and antibody binding sites of the autoantigen of Goodpasture syndrome, uncovering clues to the etiology and pathogenesis of a prototype autoimmune disease. In 2003 he received the 2003 Homer W. Smith Award, the highest honor given by the American Society of Nephrology. He is the recipient of other awards and honors, including: the Dolph Simons/Higuchi Research Award; Distinguished Service Citation from the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Iowa, Carver College of Medicine; and Distinguished Alumnus of Henderson State University

Christoph Licht, MD, is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, University of Toronto and Staff Nephrologist and Associate Scientist The Hospital for Sick Children Division of Nephrology. He has established a "Program for Complement Based Renal Diseases" (KIDCOM) including an international registry, as well as clinical tests allowing for a comprehensive (genetic and biochemical) work up of patients with MPGN and aHUS. In addition, Dr. Licht established a research program in the Research Institute of the Hospital for Sick Children focusing on the interface of complement and coagulation in platelets. Dr. Licht is member of the European Pediatric Research Group for HUS and associate member of the European Working Party for the Genetics of Complement Based Diseases.

Jeffrey H. Miner, PhD is a Professor of Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, MO. As a postdoctoral fellow he generated a mouse model for Alport syndrome that has been used in laboratories in both the US and in Europe. He received the Young Investigator Award from the American Society of Nephrology in 2004, in part for his work on Alport syndrome and the biology of type IV collagen. He currently serves on the editorial boards of *Kidney International* and the *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* and is a Councilor for the American Society for Matrix Biology. He has co-authored well over 100 publications, many related to Alport syndrome and diverse aspects of glomerular basement membrane structure and function.

Patrick Niaudet, MD, graduated from medical school in Paris and after graduation worked for two years in basic immunology research in London and for 5 years in the French medical research institute INSERM with Dr Renée Habib. In 1985, he was appointed Professor of Pediatrics in the Necker-Enfants Malades Hospital and was appointed department head in 1999. His research interests are in the areas of glomerular diseases, namely nephrotic syndrome, and renal transplantation. Dr. Niaudet believes that teaching is most important if the primary goal is to improve the care of children with kidney diseases around the world. He developed teaching programs as secretary general of ESPN. From 1998 to 2004, he was chairman of the continuous medical education committee of IPNA after having served in the council for 10 years. During the past 15 years, he has been involved in a training program in Pediatrics in Vietnam He is editor for Pediatric Nephrology in UptoDate. He is co-editor of the textbook Pediatric Nephrology.

Michelle Rheault, MD, joined the Division of Pediatric Nephrology as an Assistant Professor in 2008. Dr. Rheault is a member of the American Society of Nephrology and serves on the research committee of the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology. Dr. Rheault's research is focused on understanding podocyte cytoskeletal dynamics during nephrotic syndrome and recovery from nephrotic syndrome in diseases such as Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis and Minimal Change Nephrotic Syndrome. She also has a special interest in interactions between the podocyte and glomerular basement membrane in disorders of the basement membrane such as Alport syndrome. Dr. Rheault's research is funded by the Nephcure foundation.

Bradley A. Warady, M.D., is Interim Chairman, Department of Pediatrics, Chief of Nephrology and Director, Dialysis and Transplantation at The Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics, and Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. He currently serves as Co-Principal Investigator of the International Pediatric Peritoneal Dialysis Network and the multicenter, National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded Chronic Kidney Disease in Children (CKiD) Study. He is also a Council Member for the International Pediatric Nephrology Association (IPNA). He has published hundreds of articles and book chapters and he has co-edited the books *CAPD/CCPD in Children* and *Pediatric Dialysis*. Dr. Warady has been a member of several clinical practice guideline writing committees for the National Kidney Foundation (NKF), and he recently co-chaired the NKF

workgroup which published guidelines for the Nutritional Management of Children with CKD. In 2008, he served as Chair for a workshop at the NIH on the topic of "Non-Adherence in Adolescents with Chronic Illness." Dr. Warady serves as Associate Editor for *Peritoneal Dialysis International* and he sits on the editorial board of *Pediatric Nephrology*.