

**Research Projects Ongoing or in Progress**

<b>Specialty</b>	<b>Principle Investigator (s)</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Summary</b>
Vascular Access	Salim Kabalan Jamal Hoballah	Factors in Vascular Access Failure or Success	Evaluate vascular access insertion practices in Lebanon and the factors associated with incidence of failed access. Establish guidelines for access insertion practice. <b>Status:</b> Partially funded by the Lebanese Council for Scientific Research (LCSR). Study starting in September 2011, # centers=5.
Osteodystrophy	Saade Abboud Mirey Karavetian	Dietitian's Role in Controlling Osteodystrophy	Examine the effect of full-time dietitian on compliance and outcomes of osteodystrophy among HD patients compared to existing practices. <b>Status:</b> Study started in March 2011, application for supplemental funding submitted to LCSR. MS students in dietetics at LU and USJ are involved.
Pediatric RRT	Chebl Mourani	Pan-Arab Clinical and Demographic Profile of pediatric kidney disease patients at initiation of RRT	Collect demographics and clinical data at initiation for pediatric kidney patients age 21 or below who present for CRI, dialysis or transplant among physicians who are PAPNA members throughout the Arab World. <b>Status:</b> data forms completed study to be launched in November 2011.
Transplant	Antoine Barbari	Profile of failed transplant patients initiated on dialysis	Study demographic and clinical profile of patients initiated on HD following a failed or rejected kidney transplant. Compare their outcomes to other incident HD patients. <b>Status:</b> Proposal in preparation – nationwide study.
Adequacy	Dania Shelala	Using a Permanent Catheter Permanently	Study HD patients in whom a permanent catheter is used permanently. Assess the historical clinical events leading to that condition and their morbidity / mortality compared to patients who continue to use AV access. <b>Status:</b> Proposal completed, looking for funding – nationwide study.
CKD Pre-RRT	Samir Mallat	Clinical and Demographic Profile of CKD Patients at Initiation of Dialysis	Study demographic and clinical profile of patients initiated on HD in Lebanon to inform planning for future growth in services and prevention programs. <b>Status:</b> Preliminary analysis done and presented at NKF 2011 conference. Full analysis in early 2012.
CKD Pre-RRT	Hafez Elzein	Demographics, Comorbidity and Outcomes in Patients with $15 \leq \text{GFR} \leq 60$	Identify the pool of patients presenting with $15 \leq \text{GFR} \leq 60$ (stage 3 or 4 CKD) at major labs throughout Lebanon over a 3 month period and assess demographics and clinical profile. Follow a random sample for 5 years to study emerging comorbidity and clinical outcomes. <b>Status:</b> Proposal completed, looking for funding – Laboratory based nationwide study.
Osteodystrophy	Salim Kabalan	Vitamin D3 Deficiency in Hemodialysis (HD) Patient and a Matching Sample of the General Disease Population	Determine the prevalence of deficiency levels of 25(OH) D3 in Lebanon among HD patients compared to a sample of the general disease population matched for gender and age over a two-year follow up. <b>Status:</b> Proposal in preparation – nationwide study.