The Division of Nephrology & Hypertension is a trusted, national destination for referring physicians and patients seeking the most advanced treatment for kidney diseases from general nephrology to hemodialysis to renal transplantation.

One of the nation’s esteemed nephrology programs, the Division of Nephrology & Hypertension at UH Case Medical Center brings together the country’s foremost experts in chronic kidney disease and hypertension. The division offers innovative, integrated and individualized clinical care to patients with diseases affecting the kidneys. The division boasts a dedicated team of skilled specialists with access to leading-edge technologies, facilities and clinical research and delivers superlative care for the full range of kidney disorders.

Dedicated specialists employ leading-edge treatments in state-of-the-art facilities to help patients with kidney disease lead healthy, full lives. The division’s length-of-stay and mortality rates are less than those of its peers at other teaching hospitals.

The division’s well-regarded clinical programs include:

• Kidney and Pancreas Transplant
• Home Hemodialysis
• Renal Treatment Clinic
• Clinical Hypertension

Donald Hricik, MD
Chief, Division of Nephrology & Hypertension, Centers for Dialysis Care’s Leonard C. Rosenberg Renal Research Foundation Master Clinician in Nephrology, UH Case Medical Center; Director, UH Transplant Institute; Professor of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

To learn more, visit UHhospitals.org/CME for the latest in live, webinar and on-demand Continuing Medical Education events.
The Division of Nephrology & Hypertension’s clinical responsibilities focus on the care of patients with chronic kidney disease, hypertension and end-stage kidney disease, which requires treatment with either dialysis or kidney transplantation. The division’s clinical advancements focus on expanding access to care and educating and empowering patients. They include:

**Home Hemodialysis:**
The division’s Home Hemodialysis Program trains patients to administer nocturnal dialysis four or five times a week at home rather than traveling to a clinic. Patients in the program exhibit laboratory profiles that appear nearly normal.

**Renal Treatment Clinic:**
The clinic offers outpatient services for dialysis and other patients, such as intravenous infusions, subcutaneous injections and patient education.

To enhance its ability to provide top-level, highly responsive care to patients with kidney disease, the division has added one nurse practitioner to its staff: **Donna Taylor, NP**, who splits responsibilities with the Division of Endocrinology and is involved in the education of patients with chronic kidney disease and end-stage renal disease.

**Dr. Rahman continues his role as the Section Chief of Nephrology at Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center. He maintains a dual role with the Cleveland VA and UH Case Medical Center.**

**Jackson T. Wright Jr., MD, PhD**, Program Director, W.T. Dahms Clinical Research Unit, Director, Clinical Hypertension Program, UH Case Medical Center; and Professor of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, and **Mahboob Rahman, MD**, Division of Nephrology & Hypertension, UH Case Medical Center; and Professor of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, have added ambulatory blood pressure monitoring for patients with hypertension to their clinical services.
The Nephrology and Hypertension Fellowship Training Program offers extensive clinical experience through exposure to all nephrology disciplines in a diverse patient population. Every aspect of clinical practice, education and research is addressed. The program is led by Lavinia Negrea, MD, Director, Nephrology and Hypertension Fellowship Training Program, UH Case Medical Center; and Associate Professor of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Associate Directors are Jagmeet Dhingra, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, School of Medicine, and John F. O’Toole, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, School of Medicine. Comprehensive training is provided at three locations: UH Case Medical Center, Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center and MetroHealth Medical Center. The training tracks include:

Research training track: The research training track is geared for fellows who want to pursue academic careers. It focuses on teaching in basic or clinical science and kidney-related research skills. To fulfill requirements of the American Board of Internal Medicine Subspecialty Board in Nephrology, fellows in the three-year research-scientist track have one year of clinical training either at the beginning or end of their two-year research training. Bench and translational research training opportunities are offered in the laboratories of at least one of the primary training faculty. Trainees interact with School of Medicine faculty from the departments of medicine, pathology, biophysics and physiology through formal course work and seminars. Trainees are prepared to accept faculty responsibilities and compete for extramural funding.

Clinical training track: The two-year clinician-educator track includes 18 months of clinical training at the three sites and four months of scholarship and research. Clinical experience involves inpatient general nephrology consultation, continuous renal replacement therapy, peritoneal dialysis, acute and chronic hemodialysis, renal transplantation and hypertension; and outpatient general nephrology, dialysis (in-center hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis and home dialysis), renal transplantation and hypertension.

Transplant nephrology training track: Board-eligible nephrologists with the goal of pursuing careers in kidney transplantation can receive one additional year of training directed by Joseph Augustine, MD, Division of Nephrology & Hypertension, UH Case Medical Center; and Associate Professor of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Faculty members combine clinical commitment and research excellence with a supportive and congenial approach. The program is accredited by the American Society of Transplantation and accepts one trainee annually.

Dr. Joseph Augustine
The Division of Nephrology & Hypertension at UH Case Medical Center conducts groundbreaking clinical research in the areas of hypertension, chronic kidney disease and cardiovascular outcomes; immune monitoring of kidney transplant recipients; signal transduction in renal epithelial cells; pathophysiology of diabetic nephropathy; and barriers to transplant access. Recent highlights include:

UH Case Medical Center, in conjunction with the School of Medicine, is a member of the Chronic Renal Insufficiency Cohort (CRIC), which was established in 2001 by the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), part of NIH, to improve the understanding of chronic kidney disease (CKD) and related cardiovascular illness. The study’s goals are to examine risk factors for progression of CKD and cardiovascular disease, develop models that identify high-risk subgroups and assist in the development of treatment trials and therapies. The CRIC study has successfully enrolled more than 3,900 people with CKD, and its third phase began in 2013 with the enrollment of an additional 1,500 people with CKD. Co-investigators at UH Case Medical Center are Dr. Rahman and Dr. Wright.

Thomas Hostetter, MD, Division of Nephrology & Hypertension, Centers for Dialysis Care’s Leonard C. Rosenberg Renal Research Foundation Master Clinician in Nephrology, UH Case Medical Center; Vice Chair, Research, Department of Medicine, and Professor of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, is conducting an NIH-funded study on the treatment of acid accumulation in early kidney disease, together with the renal clinical research unit of Donald E. Hricik, MD, Chief, Division of Nephrology & Hypertension, Centers for Dialysis Care’s Leonard C. Rosenberg Renal Research Foundation Master Clinician in Nephrology, UH Case Medical Center; Director, UH Transplant Institute; and Professor of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, and Dr. Wright. One of the most thorough investigations of kidney complications and other associated problems with kidney disease, the trial shows how sodium bicarbonate affects kidney function, bone density, insulin sensitivity and muscle metabolism in individuals with moderate to advanced kidney disease who do not require dialysis or transplantation.

Mirela Dobre, MD, MPH, Division of Nephrology, UH Case Medical Center; and Instructor of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, continues her research in acid-based disorders in patients with CKD. She is a former fellow of the division who joined the staff in July 2013 and is a recipient of an American Heart Association Career Development Award.

Anne Huml, MD, Division of Nephrology, UH Case Medical Center; and Instructor of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, formerly a Transplant Nephrology fellow, joined the staff in August 2014. Dr. Huml’s research focuses on the management of patients whose kidney transplants have failed.

All National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding for basic and clinical research is awarded to the School of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University.

The commitment to exceptional patient care begins with revolutionary discovery. University Hospitals Case Medical Center is the primary affiliate of Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, a national leader in medical research and education and consistently ranked among the top research medical schools in the country by U.S. News & World Report. Through their faculty appointments at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, physicians at UH Case Medical Center are advancing medical care through innovative research and discovery that bring the latest treatment options to patients.
DIVISION OF NEPHROLOGY & HYPERTENSION

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To refer a patient or learn more about UH Case Medical Center Division of Nephrology & Hypertension, call 216-844-3163 or visit UHhospitals.org.