



Nephrology Los Angeles Medical Center

The Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center (LAMC) serves as a referral center for more than four million Kaiser Permanente members throughout Southern California. It is a major tertiary care facility for services including cardiac catheterization, cardiac surgery, hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis, home hemodialysis, apheresis, oncology, radiation oncology, neurosurgery, and specialized urologic surgery. The Medical Center also maintains an active teaching program in all major medical and surgical subspecialty services.

Kaiser Permanente LAMC is one of the teaching hospitals of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Medicine. Students and residents from UCLA rotate through the Internal Medicine and subspecialty services. Many members of our medical staff belong to the UCLA teaching faculty. Kaiser Permanente is among the nation's largest and most highly regarded managed care delivery organizations (one in four insured Californians is a Kaiser Permanente Health Plan member).

As a member of our fellowship program, you will learn to practice cost-effective, yet caring, medicine — an approach indispensable to providing quality health care in all future medical settings.

The Program

The LAMC's Nephrology Department is staffed by 11 full-time nephrologists, all of whom are actively involved in teaching, patient care, and research.

The core of the Nephrology unit is a 28-bed hemodialysis unit and a special section for home-training programs for home hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis.

In addition, we have the following services: Renal Clinic, Transplant Clinic, and very active inpatient and outpatient Nephrology consultation services. A Urology/Nephrology jointly run Stone Clinic is held weekly as well as a biweekly Renal Genetics Clinic and a tertiary care Glomerulonephritis Clinic.

Our renal transplantation program is offered in conjunction with the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. The first- and second-year renal fellows will rotate through the transplantation service at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

The Fellowship Training Program in Nephrology is a two-year program. We accept four first-year fellows annually. It is a clinically oriented but well-rounded program covering all aspects of nephrology, dialysis, hemofiltration apheresis, renal pathology, radiology, transplantation, and active patient care, with abundant opportunities for clinical research. Each fellow will rotate through the different phases of the fellowship program in blocks of two weeks. Also, each fellow will rotate with a Nephrology attending and will have medical residents and medical students on the team.

The purpose of our fellowship program is to provide basic knowledge of the anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology of the kidneys; knowledge of renal diseases, fluids, and electrolytes; work-up and management of patients with renal diseases; proficiency in the techniques of acute and chronic hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, and continuous renal replacement therapies and apheresis; basic knowledge of transplantation, and experience in clinical research methodology. The program is designed to develop well-rounded, competent clinical nephrologists.

Dedicated research time is provided to allow fellows to conduct clinical research projects utilizing the many clinical databases available within Kaiser Permanente. Participation in research is required.

Meetings and Conferences

- Daily attending rounds in the consultation or dialysis service
- Daily Nephrology teaching conferences or seminars
- Weekly multidisciplinary patient dialysis conference with the dialysis staff
- Monthly Regional Nephrology conference for staff and house staff
- Biweekly Journal Club
- Monthly Research Conference
- Biweekly Renal Pathology Conference
- Research Design
- Special conferences or lectures for the Nephrology nursing and Hemodialysis staff
- Monthly Fellows' Quality Improvement Conference
- Bimonthly Physician Wellness Conference
- Biweekly Board Review Sessions



Activities of the Fellow

- Active participation in the evaluation and management of patients seen on renal consultation with residents and staff nephrologists
- Participation in the care and management of patients who are on chronic hemodialysis to gain experience in the techniques and associated problems of chronic hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis
- Participation in the care of patients requiring therapeutic apheresis services in the hospital
- Major responsibility, with an assigned staff nephrologist, for the Nephrology conferences
- Participation in the weekly morning hemodialysis working conference to discuss the ongoing medical and social problems of dialysis patients
- Participation in the biweekly Renal Journal Club
- Rotation in the Renal Clinics with continuity of care. Participation in the weekly afternoon staff renal conference to discuss cases or problems of special interest
- Rotation through Cedars-Sinai Medical Center for experience in the management of transplant patients
- Weekly pre- and post-transplant clinics at LAMC
- Weekly Stone Clinic
- Active participation in clinical research projects during the tenure of the fellowship
- Reading and keeping up with the literature is a basic part of training. Each fellow is encouraged to regularly read the standard nephrology journals, such as *Kidney International*, *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*, *American Journal of Nephrology*, and *Clinical Nephrology* as well as the major internal medicine journals
- Additional pertinent articles dealing with specific topics or patients will be brought to the fellow's attention as part of the training program.



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