

3rd Annual University of Arizona Kidney Symposium

Wednesday, September 23, 2026 | Keating 103
Check-In & Breakfast begins at 7:30am

Invited Talk

8:00 AM

*"Mitochondria to Motion: Targeting Muscle
Metabolic Health in CKD"*

Baback Roshanravan, MD, MS, MPH

Paul F. Gulyassy Endowed Professor of Medicine
UC Davis Health, University of California, Davis, CA
Director, LAUNCH NIDDK KUH TL1 Fellowship Training
Program
Deputy Editor, *Clinical Journal of the American Society of
Nephrology*

Keynote Address

1:00 PM

*"Obesity-Induced Hypertension and
Target Organ Injury: Interaction of
Renal, Neurohormonal, and Metabolic
Mechanisms"*

Dr. John Hall, PhD

Arthur C. Guyton Professor and Chair
Department of Physiology and Biophysics
Director, Mississippi Center for Obesity Research
Director, Cardiorenal and Metabolic Diseases
Research Center
University of Mississippi Medical Center
Jackson, MS



Invited Talk

8:30 AM

*"Protecting the Kidneys: Lessons from Targeting a
Glucose Transporter"*

Volker Vallon, MD

Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology
Division of Nephrology-Hypertension
University of California, San Diego, CA
Director, Kidney Physiology Core
UAB-UCSD O'Brien Kidney Center for Acute Kidney Injury Research

Invited Talk

10:15 AM

*"Electrogenic Na⁺/HCO₃⁻ Cotransporters,
NBCe1/SLC4A4, in Kidney Health and Disease:
Lessons from Evolution, Expression Cloning,
and Patient Variants"*

Michael Romero, PhD, FAPS

Professor of Physiology, Biomedical Engineering, and
Nephrology and Hypertension
Director, nuSURF Program (R25)
Director, Mayo Clinic-UW Madison KUH TL1 Program
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science
Rochester, MN

Invited Talk

2:45 PM

"TBD"

Sanjay Jain, MD, PhD

Professor of Medicine, Nephrology, Pediatrics, Pathology,
and Immunology
Director, Kidney Translational Research Center
PI/MPI: HuBMAP TMC, HIVE OT2, KPMP TIS, ATLAS-D2K,
and PCEN-WU
Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, MO

Full Program & Registration:





COLLEGE OF MEDICINE TUCSON
Physiology



College of Medicine
Tucson

The 3rd University of Arizona Kidney Symposium

Wednesday September 23, 2026

Keating 103, Bio5 Institute

Sponsored by Program for Kidney Health and Disease (PKHD), Department of Physiology

Co-sponsored by College of Medicine – Tucson and UAHS Molecular Systems Medicine Initiative (MSMI)

7:30am - 8:00 Check in and Breakfast

8:00 - 10:00 Session I Metabolic and Therapeutic Strategies in CKD and Diabetic Kidney Disease

8:00 – 8:30 Mitochondria to Motion: Targeting Muscle Metabolic Health in CKD

Baback Roshanravan, MD MS MPH Paul F. Gulyassy Endowed Professor of Medicine, UC Davis Health; Deputy Editor, *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*

8:30 – 9:00 Protecting the kidneys: Lessons from targeting a glucose transporter

Volker Vallon, MD Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology, Division of Nephrology-Hypertension, University of California, San Diego, CA

9:00 – 9:30 Where do we go from here? Additional targets for treatment of DKD and CKD

Frank “Chip” Brosius III, MD Professor of Medicine, College of Medicine – Tucson, University of Arizona

9:30 – 9:45 FSGS–MCD Research Advancement Working Group: From Mechanisms to Cures

Asmaa S. AbuMaziad, MD Associate Professor of Pediatrics, College of Medicine – Tucson, University of Arizona

9:45 – 10:00 Personalized Exercise Prescriptions for Improving Physical Function in CKD

Geovana Martin-Aleman, PhD Postdoctoral Researcher, Wilund Laboratory, College of Nutritional Sciences, University of Arizona

10:00 – 10:15 Coffee Break

10:15 – 12:00 Session II Renal Solute Transport, Toxicology, and Precision Genomics

10:15 – 10:45 Electrogenic Na⁺/HCO₃⁻ cotransporters, NBCe1/SLC4A4, in kidney health and disease: Lessons from evolution, expression cloning, and patient variants

Michael Romero, PhD FAPS Professor of Physiology & Biomedical Engineering and Nephrology & Hypertension, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine & Science, Rochester, MN

10:45 – 11:15 Renal elimination of organic anions in MASH: Implications for susceptibility

Nathan Cherrington, PhD Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology; Associate Dean for Research, College of Pharmacy; Director, Southwest Environmental Health Science Center; University of Arizona

11:15 – 11:45 From kidney multiome to genetic regulation of sex differences in blood pressure
Qiongzi (Joan) Qiu, PhD Assistant Research Professor, Department of Physiology, College of Medicine – Tucson, University of Arizona

11:45 – 12:00 Determinants of PFAS Disposition and Renal Toxicity – Role of ABCG2 Q141K variant
Jing (Jason) O. Wu, PhD Assistant Professor of Physiology, College of Medicine – Tucson, University of Arizona; Associate Editor, *AJP-Renal Physiology*

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch, Poster Presentation & Judging

1:00 - 2:00 Session III Keynote Talk

Obesity-Induced Hypertension and Target Organ Injury: Interaction of Renal, Neurohormonal, and Metabolic Mechanisms

John Hall, PhD Arthur C. Guyton Professor and Chair, Department of Physiology and Biophysics; Director, Mississippi Center for Obesity Research; Director, Cardiorenal and Metabolic Diseases Research Center, University of Mississippi, Jackson, MS



2:00 – 2:15 Refreshments

Session IV Emerging Models, Mechanisms, and Therapies in Kidney Disease

2:15 – 2:45 Organoid-Based Models for Kidney Disease

Jason Wertheim, MD, PhD Professor of Surgery, Biomedical Engineering; Vice Dean, College of Medicine-Tucson; Associate Vice President for Research and Partnerships, University of Arizona

2:45 – 3:15 Title: TBD

Sanjay Jain, MD PhD Professor of Medicine (Nephrology), Pediatrics, Pathology and Immunology, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO

3:15 – 3:45 Potential impacts of muscle sodium accumulation in CKD: insights from Na-MRI studies

Ken Wilund, PhD Professor and Director, School of Nutritional Sciences and Wellness, University of Arizona

3:45 – 4:15 Evolving Paradigms in Antibody-Mediated Rejection: Lessons from UA/Banner's Use of Anti-CD38 Therapy

Bekir Tanriover, MD Professor of Medicine and Chief of Nephrology, College of Medicine – Tucson, University of Arizona

4:15 – 4:30 Beyond PISCES: Precision Omega-3 Therapy in U.S. Hemodialysis Patients

Floyd "Ski" Chilton, PhD, Professor and Director, Center for Precision Nutrition and Wellness, School of Nutritional Sciences and Wellness, University of Arizona

4:30 – 4:45 5-HT2B antagonism reduces tubulointerstitial fibrosis and improves renal recovery in a rat model of CKD

Kai McAlister, PhD Candidate in Pharmacology & Toxicology, Schnellmann Laboratory, College of Pharmacy, University of Arizona

4:45 Closing Remarks & Award Presentation

Scan the QR Code for registration and abstract submission →

Poster Awards Available!

