

# Recipients of Bio-specimen Grant Program BioReG Announced During Kidney Week

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 6, 2015 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- [DaVita Clinical Research](#) (DCR), a specialty contract research organization with services spanning the full spectrum of drug and device development, today announced the recipients of the **Biospecimen Research Grant Program**, a grant program to award clinical-trial-quality biospecimens and annotated de-identified data to qualifying academic medical centers involved in kidney research.

The goal of the program is for recipients to utilize biospecimens and associated de-identified data to research common factors or characteristics that contribute to morbidity and mortality in individuals with chronic kidney disease. Four recipients have been selected for grant awards, subject to the terms of the grant program:

- Brigham and Women's Hospital: [Dr. Sushrut Waikar](#)
- Johns Hopkins University: [Dr. Tariq Shafi](#)
- University of California-Irvine: [Dr. Kamyar Kalantar-Zadeh](#)
- University of Tennessee-Memphis: [Dr. Csaba P. Kovacs](#)

Qualifying applications were selected based on the following established criteria: scientific and medical significance, investigator qualifications, innovation, approach and design, research environment and institutional support.

"DCR is committed to advancing the evidence-based practice of medicine in chronic kidney disease," said Steven M. Brunelli, M.D., vice president of health outcomes research for DCR. "We recognize the significant contributions made by academic medical organizations toward that end and we look forward to seeing the results of these research projects as we continue to work with other organizations to improve the collective knowledge of chronic kidney disease."

DCR created the biorepository using IRB approved protocol and consent with rigorous clinical trial procedures for the collection and storage of samples. This resulted in whole blood, plasma and serum samples collected longitudinally from more than 4,000 individuals receiving dialysis. These samples are linked with de-identified data sets, including demographics, co-morbidities, hospitalizations, lab values, medication data and cause of death (if available/applicable).

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## About DaVita Clinical Research (DCR)

DaVita Clinical Research (DCR), a wholly owned subsidiary of DaVita HealthCare Partners Inc. (NYSE: DVA), uses its extensive, applied database and real-world health care experience to assist pharmaceutical and medical device companies in the design, recruitment and completion of retrospective, prospective and pragmatic clinical trials. DCR's scientific and clinical expertise spans the lifecycle of product development with more than 175 client companies. DCR's early clinical research unit (Phase I-IIa) and late phase clinical research (Phase IIb through post-marketing) network of physicians and investigative sites, real-world health care data, health economics and outcomes research, and medical communications are focused on providing world-class research in both complex/specialty populations and therapeutic areas, and especially in CKD and ESRD populations. To learn more about DCR, visit [www.davitaclinicalresearch.com](http://www.davitaclinicalresearch.com).

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