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Project Role: Co-Investigator

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Personal Statement: I am a general internist and clinician researcher and my research program focuses on identifying and addressing ethnic/racial disparities in care and clinical outcomes of patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) and CKD risk factors. I have research skills and experience in a variety of research methodological areas, including the conduct of studies a) to identify patient-, provider-, and system-level factors contributing to poor quality of care of ethnic/racial minorities and non-minorities with CKD and CKD risk factors, and b) to develop and evaluate patient, provider and system-level interventions to improve patients' self-management of their CKD risks (i.e. diabetes and hypertension) and preparation for renal replacement therapy. I am currently the principal investigator of a K23 (1K23DK094975-01A1) focused on identifying ways in which primary care providers' CKD care can be enhanced to improve CKD-related outcomes overall and narrow racial/ethnic disparities in CKD. I also continue to provide primary care in the Johns Hopkins Internal Medicine Practice.

Hobbies/Interests: Traveling; trying out new restaurants; spending time with friends and family; and playing word games. Scrabble, anyone?

Why this project is important to me: Most people with CKD are unaware of their diagnosis and the impact CKD may have on their health. Among those patients who progress to end-stage renal disease, many are inadequately informed of all the treatment options and/or are sub-optimally prepared to initiate renal replacement therapy. It is disappointing and frustrating to know that these findings are true for people with established primary and/or nephrology care. We can and need to better support our patients with CKD and I am excited about being a part of this important work to do just that.