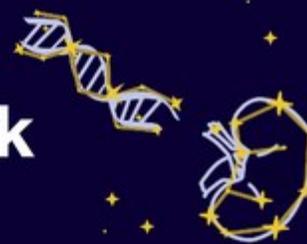




The APOLLO Network Newsletter



You are receiving this newsletter because you are participating in the APOLLO research study.

Fall 2023

Edition 4

NIH Invests in Another 5 Years of APOLLO

The APOLLO study would not happen without individuals such as yourself who are willing to be part of research; not for personal benefit but for the greater good. Thank you! July 1, 2023, APOLLO entered a new funding contract with three NIH institutes all investing in the study including the NIDDK, NIMHD and NIAID.

Beginning in a month or so, APOLLO may be reaching out to you, to schedule a clinic appointment to collect additional biosamples, including blood and urine. You will be asked to complete a brief consent document allowing us to collect the additional sample. The extra sample is voluntary, you can decline the additional samples. We will continue to follow your kidney transplant outcomes through your Electronic Medical Record (EMR). The extra sample will allow the study to evaluate serum creatinine at an additional time point and strengthen our research. It will also increase APOLLO's contribution to the NIDDK Biorepository which, in turn, will provide de-identified data and biosamples for qualified researchers making strides in kidney and transplant research.

APOLLO Reaches Recruitment Goal

The APOLLO research study began in 2018 when investigators first met to outline the recruitment plan. On June 15, 2023, we reached our goal to recruit 2,614 African American kidney donors and their matched recipient. Not only did we meet our goal but we exceeded it! This will strengthen our research and increase APOLLO's contribution to the NIDDK biorepository; which, in turn, will provide data and biosamples for qualified researchers making strides in kidney and transplant research.

Here are a few important dates from the first phase of APOLLO:

- ◆ The 1st deceased donor was enrolled on 4/1/2019
- ◆ The 1st recipient was enrolled on 5/16/2019
- ◆ The 1st living donor was enrolled on 6/14/2019
- ◆ Recruitment for Recipients and Living donors ended on 6/15/2023



Check out APOLLO's Educational Webinars

The APOLLO study recently hosted an exceptional education webinar in collaboration with the American Society of Transplantation (AST)

The webinar [Next of Kin Authorization After Consent for Organ Donation](#) was presented to transplant, organ procurement and nephrology professionals and contains wonderful information for everyone. Program panelists included OPO and NIH staff, donor family members including an APOLLO Community Advisory Council (CAC) member, with representation from APOLLO and AST.

Be on the lookout for a webinar with the same focus, prepared and presented for individuals and family members who have been touched by kidney disease, dialysis and kidney transplantation.

Other top-notch educational videos include:

- ◆ What is the [APOL1 gene](#) and how the medical community believes it impacts kidney function and transplantation.
- ◆ The [Kidney Donation Process & Importance of the APOLLO Study for Living Donors](#)
- ◆ [Overcoming Barriers to Research Participation](#)
- ◆ [Challenges to Recruitment in the APOLLO Study](#)
- ◆ [The Role of the APOL1 Gene in Kidney Disease](#)

All of these videos and much more can be found on the APOLLO Community website: <https://www.apollocommunity.net/community-education>

****Right click on phrases in RED to follow the link to the video.****

Help us reach and connect with more individuals and families by following our Facebook and Twitter accounts, 'liking' our social media posts and sharing our posts on your social media.

Look for Thanksgiving-focused recipes each Wednesday and the APOLLO Facebook page.



Right click on each icon to follow the link.