3-Year Clinical Research Track

**Goals**

- To gain an in-depth understanding of patient-oriented research projects
- To obtain structured patient-oriented-research training (Master of Science in Clinical Investigation or Master of Public Health)
- To conduct patient-oriented research project(s) with direct hands-on involvement
- To conduct a research project that results in a peer-reviewed scholarly publication (original research article).
- To submit an intra- or extramural fellowship grant application

**Summary:**

Fellows have the option of doing 12 months of clinical rotations and 2 (or more) years of additional clinical research training. The decision to allow a fellow to pursue a clinical research pathway will be contingent upon fulfilling the competency for clinical fellowship and the potential for future career as a physician scientist.

During the research fellowship, the clinical research project(s) will be defined by the faculty mentor and completed by the fellow during his/her research tenure. In addition to specific finite projects, participation in ongoing clinical trials is an option, especially for fellows interested in the MPH Program. There are also clinical research-training opportunities outside the Nephrology division as well as opportunities to get a Masters in Public Health (MPH) or Master of Science in Clinical Investigation (MSCI) for those fellows who have a keen interest to develop those highly specialized skills. All fellows who opt for the Clinical Research Track will be encouraged to complete one of these programs.

Funding for the MPH and MSCI is the responsibility of the fellowship program with significant effort commitment by the fellow. The Masters Programs are primarily available to fellows who select the research 3 or more year pathway.

The Clinical Competence Committee, in describing their academic career goals and their personal goals for the specific Masters Programs. Awarding of funds for the Masters Programs will be by the Clinical Competence Committee based on the following criteria:

In addition, there are a variety of short educational programs such the Clinical Research Boot Camp, REDCAP clinic, BIOVU and others through STARBRITE.
There will be a mentoring committee (nephrology and outside faculty as applicable) to whom a written and oral progress report and presentation of the clinical research performed during the two year period must be submitted for review and approval. This committee will meet every six (6) months and it is the responsibility of the fellow to organize these meetings. The fellow will also be asked to present their work at the renal research conference and Renal Grand Rounds depending on which is more appropriate based on their experience. During the training period, the fellow will also be required to submit a grant application, either for fellowship training funds or a career award.

The publication requirements which are applicable to all fellows will also apply to the clinical research fellows. Specific requirements will be defined by the primary mentor.

**Clinical research opportunities:** [https://medschool.vanderbilt.edu/ikizler-lab/clinical-research-opportunities](https://medschool.vanderbilt.edu/ikizler-lab/clinical-research-opportunities)

**Mentored clinical research:** [https://medschool.vanderbilt.edu/ikizler-lab/program-mentored-clinical-research](https://medschool.vanderbilt.edu/ikizler-lab/program-mentored-clinical-research)