Expanding the Therapeutic Armamentarium for Treatment of Anemia of Kidney Disease
McCormick Place, Room S100A

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Anemia is a cardinal manifestation of the uremic syndrome. Prior to the introduction of erythropoietin, many patients undergoing dialysis were transfusion dependent, with substantial health consequences both from anemia and transfusions. The introduction of erythropoietin changed the lives of patients with kidney diseases overnight, but its success has been tempered by concerns about the increase in risk for vascular complications and accelerated tumor growth. Despite several attempts, in the United States, none of the other drug types for the treatment of anemia have emerged or are commercially available for the treatment of anemia of kidney diseases.

Hypoxia-inducible factors (HIFs) are a family of proteins that stimulate endogenous erythropoietin, and several oral activators of these factors are being developed as oral drugs for the treatment of anemia of kidney diseases. This symposium provides an overview of the biologic pathways being leveraged for the development of these drugs and an overview of the current state of knowledge for the clinical management of anemia of kidney diseases.

Upon completion of this symposium, the participant will be able to: 1. describe the unmet challenges in the treatment of anemia of kidney diseases; 2. explain the biology of HIFs and their potential role in the anemia of kidney diseases; and 3. discuss the evidence accrued from early clinical experience with oral HIF activators.

12:30 p.m. Doors Open
12:45 p.m. Introduction: Unmet Needs in the Treatment of Anemia of Kidney Diseases
Jay B. Wish, MD – Moderator
12:55 p.m. HIF Biology and Anemia of Kidney Diseases
Mark Koury, MD
1:15 p.m. Development and Early Clinical Experience with HIF Activators
Abhijit V. Kshirsagar, MD, MPH
1:35 p.m. Questions and Answers