



Mission: The NKC's mission is to improve the health and well-being of newborns with or at risk for kidney disease through multidisciplinary collaborative research, advocacy, and education.

3/11/22

Dear Neonatal Kidney Collaborative Members,

The NKC Research Committee is excited to introduce a unique opportunity for NKC members to interact with the Research Committee. We are announcing a call for proposals for the ALMOND (Assessing Longitudinal Micropremie Outcomes in Neonates at risk for renal Disease) project.

The ALMOND project allows for secondary analyses of the PENuT (Preterm Erythropoietin Neuroprotection Trial)/REPaired (Recombinant Erythropoietin for Protection of Infant Renal Disease) study. The PENuT trial was a randomized controlled trial of the effect of erythropoietin on neurocognition^{1,2}. The REPaired study was an NIH/NIDDK ancillary study which looked at short and long-term kidney outcomes in over 900 extremely low gestational age neonates (ELGANS), in the NICU with at least one 2-year kidney follow-up outcome on over 700 of the participants³⁻⁶.

Three ALMOND projects have already been commissioned and are well underway:

- Caffeine exposure and 2-year kidney outcomes
- Impact of fluid balance on respiratory outcomes
- Risk Factors for Acute Kidney Injury

There are numerous other questions that could be answered with this rich data set. **We invite proposals for investigator-initiated projects utilizing the PeNUT/REPaired database from NKC members.**

Each proposal will be evaluated for scientific integrity according to the proposed scoring system which can be found <https://www.babykidney.org/research/almond>. Prioritization for statistical support will be made based on feasibility, scientific merit, methodological rigor, and authorship plan in accordance with the values of the NKC.

Keeping with our NKC mission, we strongly encourage partnerships between Neonatologists/ Intensivists and Pediatric Nephrologists. We hope this project will help foster relationships and provide mentoring and academic opportunities for trainees and early-stage investigators.

If your proposal is accepted, the NKC will provide statistical support at UAB through funding from Nuwellis Inc. The NKC Research Committee will review all publications derived from the data including abstracts and manuscript.

Please use the link (<https://www.babykidney.org/research/almond>) to access the proposal form, case report forms and a list of publications. We will be accepting proposals until midnight Central Time on 5/13/22. Accepted proposals will be announced on 6/30/2022.

Sincerely,

Shina Menon on behalf of the ALMOND taskforce of the NKC Research Committee

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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3. Askenazi DJ, Halloran BA, Heagerty PJ, et al. Gestational age, sex, and time affect urine biomarker concentrations in extremely low gestational age neonates. *Pediatr Res* 2021. DOI: 10.1038/s41390-021-01814-x.
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5. Askenazi DJ, Heagerty PJ, Schmicker RH, et al. Prevalence of acute kidney injury (AKI) in extremely low gestational age neonates (ELGAN). *Pediatr Nephrol* 2020. DOI: 10.1007/s00467-020-04563-x.
6. Hingorani S, Schmicker RH, Brophy PD, et al. Severe Acute Kidney Injury and Mortality in Extremely Low Gestational Age Neonates. *Clin J Am Soc Nephrol* 2021;16(6):862-869. DOI: 10.2215/CJN.18841220.