

News from CureGN

September 2019

Get to Know the Researchers!



The Columbia University Irving Medical Center is one of the core “hubs” of the CureGN project. The Columbia CureGN research team consists of six study coordinators and eight physicians, who range from 1 to more than 45 years of experience in glomerular disease research. Languages spoken by the research team at Columbia include English, Spanish, Mandarin, Korean, Hindi, Bengali, Farsi, French, German, and Italian, allowing participants to communicate about the study in their native language. The study team has a varied background with people having degrees in everything from Biology to Anthropology and Classics.

When not at work, individuals in the Columbia research team enjoy activities such as biking, camping, dancing, or playing with their pets. They are looking forward to the next five years of CureGN, and can't wait to fulfill the mission of the study.

CureGN Update

Together we have created the largest observational study of primary glomerular diseases, and your continued participation is crucial for the success of the study in the next five years. In order to continue to advance science and medicine, we need to continue to follow all of our CureGN participants throughout the course of their disease. Many of the studies that use CureGN data and samples look at how the diseases evolve over time, which necessitates using blood, urine, and data from the same people at different points in their disease course.

Stay in Touch!

The CureGN is going to be trying new ways to keep in touch with you! We are planning to use texting as well as social media outreach (Facebook and Twitter are already active!). We also want to hear from you, so please let the research staff at your center know if you have any ideas about how we can make sure that all participants want to continue in CureGN.

By the Numbers

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**Currently: 2,356
People Enrolled**

565 people with MCD

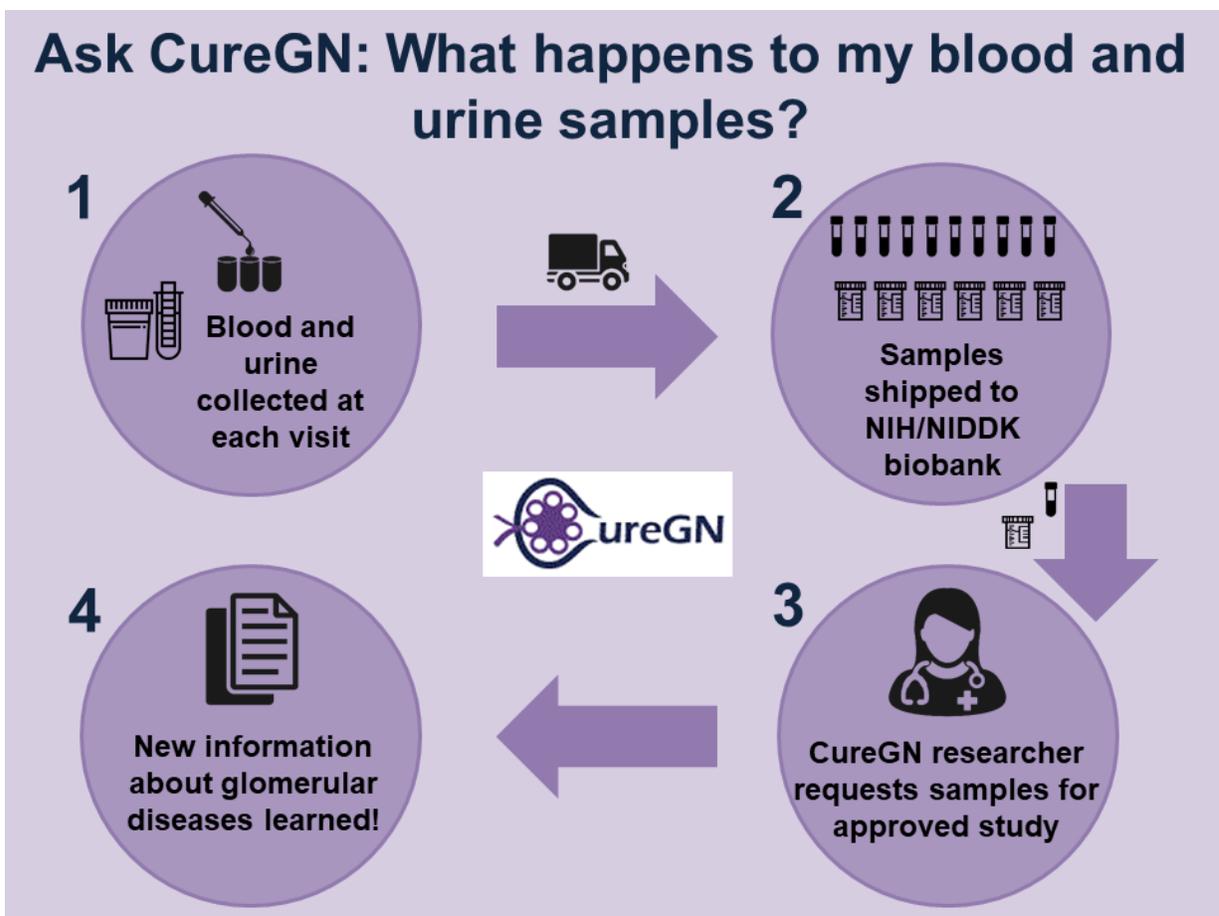
616 people with FSGS

503 people with MN

672 people with IgA

Ask CureGN: What happens to my blood and urine samples?

Currently there are over 20 studies approved which use data, blood, and/or urine samples that were collected from CureGN patients, and another 15 which are waiting for approval. Several of these studies are working on identifying biomarkers. A biomarker is something in your blood or urine that provides information about your body to physicians and researchers. One well known biomarker is cholesterol. By measuring the amount of cholesterol in your blood, doctors know whether or not you are at risk for heart disease. Many of the investigators using blood and urine samples from CureGN patients are hoping to identify a biomarker that can be used to identify what type of treatment a patient may respond to, or how their kidney disease may progress.



Do you have a question you would like to ask CureGN?

Send your questions to CureGN-newsletter@umich.edu and they may be featured in a future CureGN Newsletter!