



GEORGE BAKRIS, MD, Hon. DSc, FASN, FNKF, FAHA

Dr. George Bakris, MD, Hon. DSc, FASN, FNKF, FAHA, is a Professor of Medicine and Director of the American Heart Association Comprehensive Hypertension Center at the University of Chicago Medicine. He has completed fellowships in nephrology and clinical pharmacology at the University of Chicago. Dr. Bakris previously served as Director of renal research at the Ochsner Clinic, New Orleans, LA, from 1988 to 1991, and was Professor and Vice Chairman of Preventive Medicine and Director and Founder of the Rush Hypertension Fellowship Program, Rush University Medical Center in Chicago from 1993 until 2006. The Fellowship Program was continued when he went to the University of Chicago Medicine in 2006.

Dr. Bakris specializes in the diagnosis of high blood pressure reduction, particularly in complicated and refractory cases. In his role as Director, he oversees the management and interpretation of Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring (ABPM) for the institution, a technique that provides information about blood pressure over the 24-hour period, including during sleep. He is also a nephrologist and clinical trialist that specializes in the treatment of diabetes-related kidney disease and slowing its progression.

In his research activities, Dr. Bakris explores why the rate of kidney disease is significantly higher in the black population than it is in other ethnic groups. He also focuses on outcome trials that focus on innovations that slow kidney disease progression and reduce CV risk associated with diabetes.

Dr. Bakris has been extensively involved as either a principal investigator or on the steering committees of national and international trials involving diabetic kidney disease progression and resistant hypertension. He is the principal investigator of the FIDELIO trial evaluating a novel agent on the progression of diabetic kidney disease. He is also on the steering committee of four other international trials involving agents that lower blood pressure or blood sugar and assessing effects on diabetic kidney disease progression as well as non-diabetic kidney disease.

Dr. Bakris has published more than 800 articles and book chapters in the areas of kidney disease, hypertension, and progression of nephropathy. He is Editor of the American Journal of Nephrology as well as the Editor or Coeditor of 22 books, all dealing with kidney disease, diabetes, and the role of hypertension. Dr. Bakris chaired the first National Kidney Foundation consensus report on blood pressure and impact on renal disease progression (2000) as well as the American Diabetes Association's Guideline on blood pressure management in 2017. He also was a writer of the Seventh Report of the Joint National Committee on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure (JNC 7) and KDIGO Diabetes and Hypertension Guidelines in 2012 and 2014. He also served on the cardiorenal advisory panel of the FDA from 1993-1999 and was a consultant to both FDA and CMS until 2003.