

## ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS OF LIVING KIDNEY DONOR EVALUATION

**Amit R. Mirchandani** (Dr. Eric Wright), Macey L. Thompson (Dr. Cynthia Stone), Department of Public Health, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46202

**Introduction:** Attitudes and perceptions of living kidney donors are important aspects to the organ donation process. Few patient-centered studies exist which focus on broad health outcomes and expectations of living kidney donors. This is of practical concern due to the trend of decreasing donor numbers observed in the last decade (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, 2011). While follow-up care is a crucial part of the donation process, few studies address the importance of follow-up care and its implications on the health status of the donor following his/her donation. This study aims to evaluate attitudes and perceptions of living kidney donors regarding their total donation experience. Data collected will shape policy recommendations pertaining to the standard of follow-up care for living kidney donors.

**Methods:** The present study uses an electronic survey tool to evaluate living kidney donors' satisfaction with their post-donation follow-up care. All living kidney donors are eligible. Recruitment is via social networking sites with active donor members; successfully recruited participants receive an e-mail with the study information sheet and a link to the brief survey.

**Results:** Completed survey responses are coded and analyzed using statistical coding software. Data produced will illustrate any patient reported negative health outcomes across multiple transplant centers, attitudes about donor follow-up care, and policy recommendations.

**Conclusion:** Based on preliminary study data, patient recommendations for the implementation of more comprehensive follow-up policies within transplant centers to improve patient satisfaction and safety are anticipated.