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## **Boise Kidney & Hypertension Institute Announced as Founding Member of New, Innovative National Program That Accelerates Clinical Trial Startup**

Exclusive Alliance Includes World's Leading Renal Research Physicians

**Boise, Idaho** – Boise Kidney & Hypertension Institute has been named by Frenova Renal Research as member of the inaugural group of high performing site businesses which comprise F1RST Up (Frenova Rapid START Up), a program that accelerates study startup by eliminating the administrative and contracting burdens often cited as primary reasons clinical trials are delayed.

The founding members of F1RST Up are research site businesses with demonstrated clinical research success in vascular access and care, cardio-renal conditions, chronic kidney disease (CKD), end stage renal disease (ESRD), cardiovascular disease, rare diseases, infectious diseases and transplant.

"The founding membership in F1RST Up includes some of the most productive clinical research sites in the world of renal research," said Kurt Mussina, general manager of Frenova. "We are thrilled to bring about F1RST Up in partnership with such an esteemed group of physician investigators. In just the first few months since we launched F1RST Up, our cycle time metrics on contracting, site initiation and first patient enrolled already show the enhanced value we are delivering to the alliance's sites and to Frenova's sponsor clients."

Dr. Arnold Silva, Boise Kidney's Director of Clinical Research, has focused the past decade on bringing nephrology clinical trials to southern Idaho to benefit patients with kidney disease. "The knowledge gained from research conducted today will help us improve the lives of future generations. We are pleased to partner with Frenova and be a part of this innovative program."

The F1RST Up founding members include:

- Boise Kidney & Hypertension Institute, Meridian, ID
- California Institute of Renal Research, San Diego, CA
- Eastern Nephrology Associates, New Bern, NC
- Gamma Medical Research, McAllen, TX
- Knoxville Kidney Center, Knoxville, TN
- Metro Hypertension & Kidney Center, St. Louis, MO
- Nephrology & Hypertension Associates, Tupelo, MS
- Nephrology Associates, Columbus, MS
- Northeast Clinical Research Center, Bethlehem, PA
- Paragon Health d/b/a Nephrology Center, Kalamazoo, MI
- Renal Medicine Associates, Albuquerque, NM
- South Carolina Nephrology and Hypertension Center, Orangeburg, SC
- South Florida Research Institute, Lauderdale Lakes, FL
- Southwest Houston Research, Houston, TX

## **About Boise Kidney & Hypertension Institute**

Boise Kidney & Hypertension Institute (BKHI) is a group of dedicated physicians in the Treasure Valley specializing in the care of patients with renal disease to include dialysis, chronic kidney disease (CKD), transplantation, and vascular access. With locations in Boise, Meridian and Caldwell, they have been serving kidney disease patients in Southern Idaho since 2005. BKHI, with founding member Dr. Arnold Silva, has 10+ years of experience in conducting research in Nephrology and is proud of their contributions to advancing clinical research and the associated health benefits for all patients.

## **About Frenova Renal Research**

Frenova is the world's only drug and medical device contract clinical development services provider dedicated exclusively to renal research. As a Fresenius Medical Care North America company, Frenova manages a networked system of clinical research assets and resources including more than 200 principal investigators and over 400 research-experienced dialysis facilities. Frenova manages clinical trials in kidney and its adjacent disease areas and medical conditions. Frenova also offers clinical trial sponsors access to over 180,000 active dialysis dependent CKD patients and 400,000 active non-dialysis dependent CKD patients. For more information, visit [www.FrenovaRenalResearch.com](http://www.FrenovaRenalResearch.com).

## **What is Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) and End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)?**

Chronic Kidney Disease simply refers to the permanent and gradual loss of the filters of the kidney. Kidney filters act like water filters cleaning out your blood stream. Loss of these filters (CKD) may be the result of diseases that can affect the kidneys, such as diabetes and high blood pressure.

When the kidneys start losing their filters, they also do not remove waste products and extra fluid from the blood stream. CKD that reaches total and permanent kidney failure is known as End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), which requires dialysis. This means that the kidneys have lost enough filters to no longer clean out the blood stream. The goal for treating CKD is to slow the progression of, or prevent the loss of filters and preserve kidney function.

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