Bridging the Gap: From Biomarker Discovery to Precision Medicine Implementation in CKD

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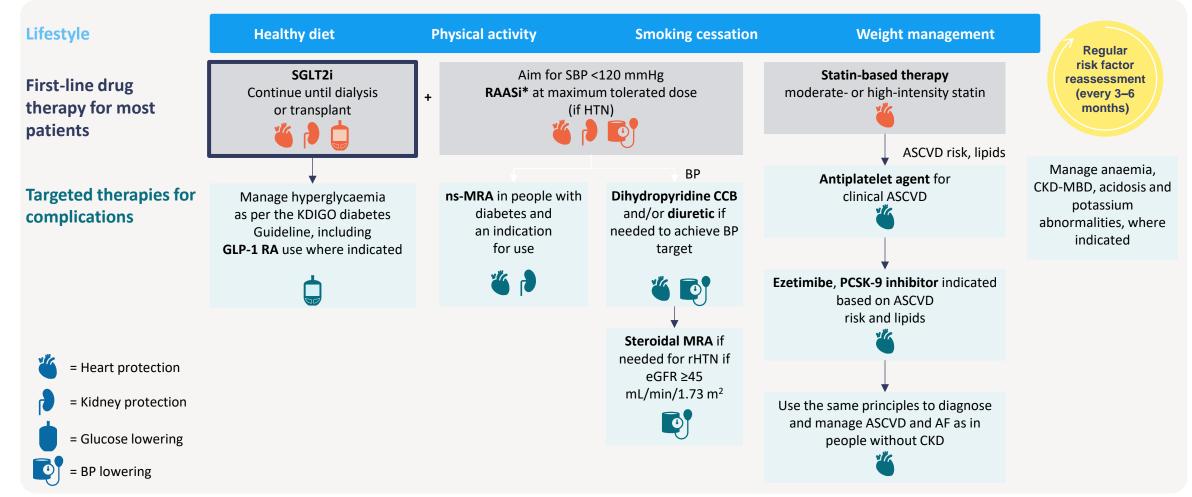
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Disclosures

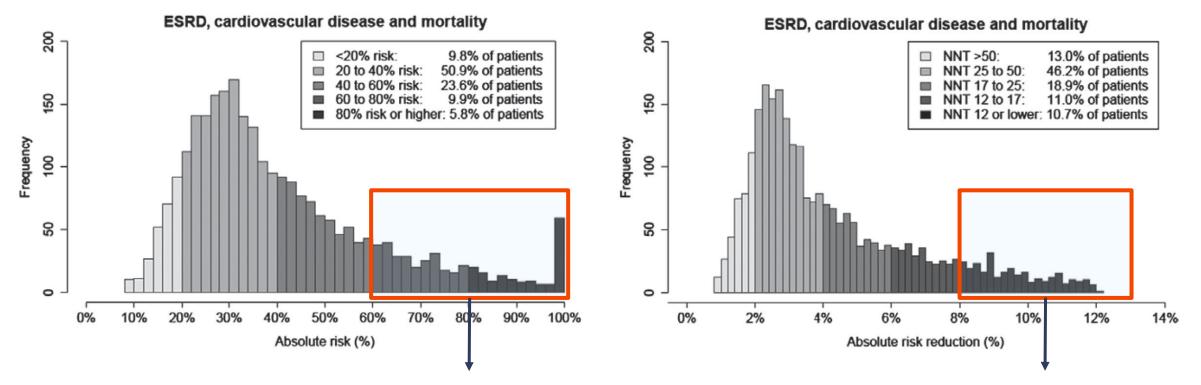
- HJLH is a consultant for AbbVie, AstraZeneca, Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim, Chinook, CSL Behring, Eli-Lilly, Gilead, Janssen, Merck, NovoNordisk, and Travere Therapeutics
- He has received research support from AstraZeneca, Boehringer Ingelheim, Janssen and NovoNordisk

KDIGO 2024: Treatment recommendations



*Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor or angiotensin II receptor blocker should be first-line therapy for BP control when albuminuria is present; otherwise dihydropyridine CCB or diuretic can also be considered. All 3 classes are often needed to attain BP targets. AF, atrial fibrillation; ASCVD, atherosclerotic cardiovas cular disease; BP, blood pressure; CCB, calcium channel blocker; CKD(-MBD), chronic kidney disease(-mineral and bone disorder); eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; GLP-1RA, glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonist; (r)HTN, (resistant)hypertension; KDIGO, Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes; (ns-)MRA, (nonsteroidal) mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist; PCSK9i, proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9 inhibitor; RAASi, renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system inhibitor; SBP, systolic blood pressure; SGLT2i, sodium-glucose co-transporter-2 inhibitor. Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO). Kidney Int 2024;105:S117.

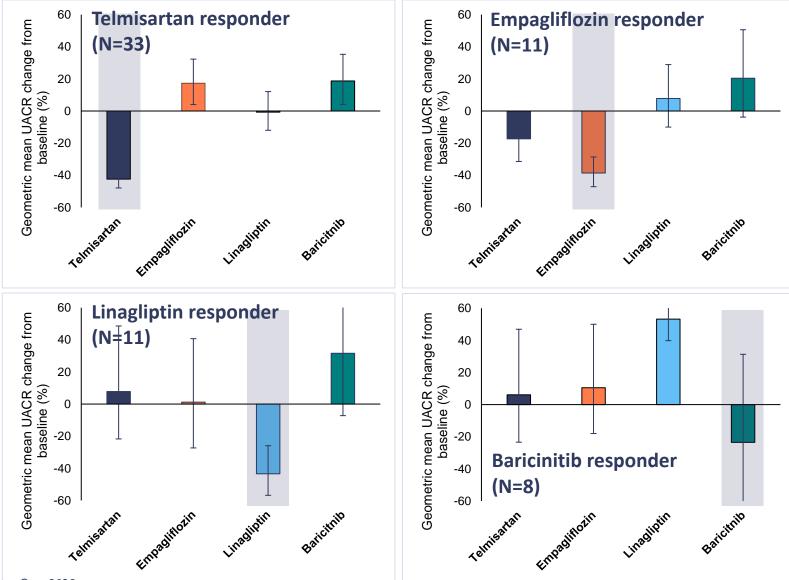
Large variation in risk and response to guideline recommended therapies



Use biomarkers to identify individuals at high risk of morbidity and mortality

Use biomarkers to tailor therapy to those who benefit most

Individual patients vary in their responses to different drugs Each individual has a preferred drug



Molecular stratification of CKD reveals large variation in underlying mechanisms in each CKD stage and etiology

SLE

TMD

Blue – downregulation of signalling and

• Olive – upregulation of mitochondrial and

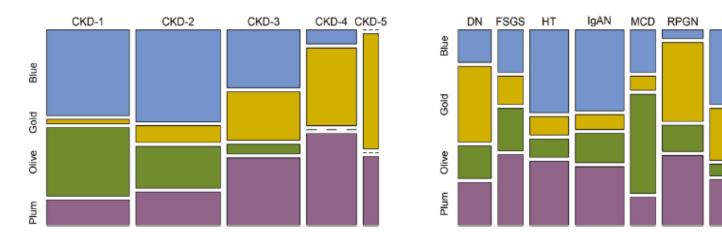
• Gold – pro-inflammatory / profibrotic

peroxisome metabolic processes

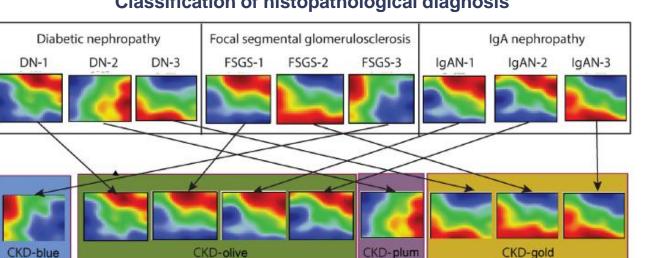
• **Plum** – protein signalling and vesicle

apoptosis pathways

transport processes

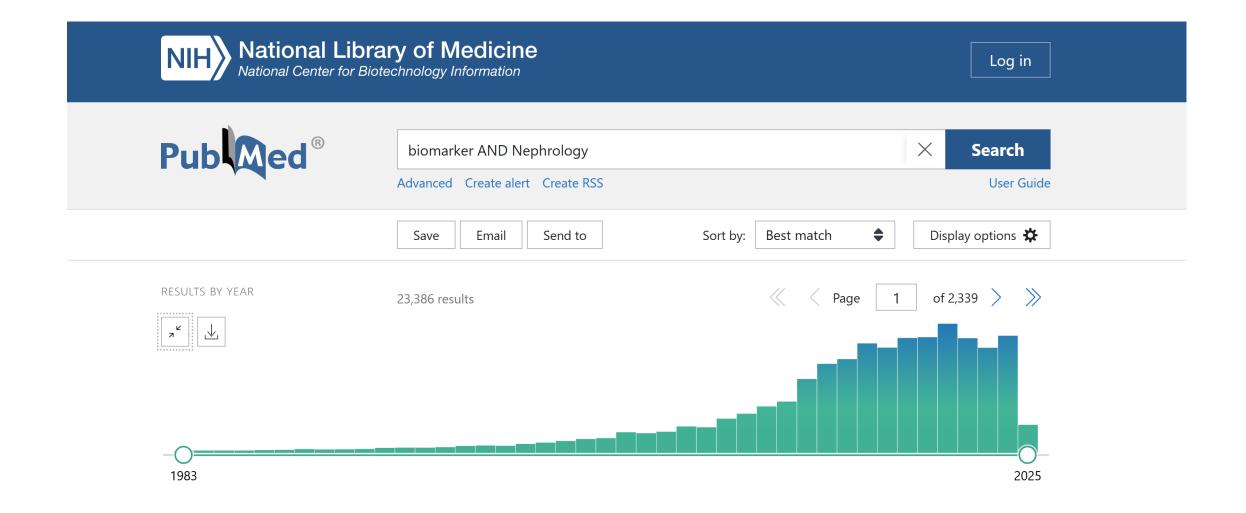


Classification of histopathological diagnosis



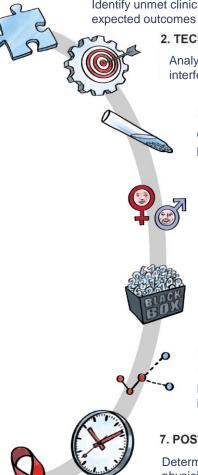
Classification of by molecular class

The Gap between Biomarker Research and Clinical Implementation



Guidance for rational development of biomarkers

1. CLINICAL NEEDS



Identify unmet clinical need and target groups and determine expected outcomes

2. TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE

Analytical sensitivity and specificity; linearity; precision; interferences; consistency between platforms

3. PREANALYTICAL FACTORS

Optimize sample logistics including specimen collection, sample processing and transportation storage

4. BIOLOGICAL VARIATION AND CLINICAL FACTORS

Circadian and day-to-day variation; Age, sex, race, weight; drugs and major surgery

5. INTERPRETABILITY

Biomarker distribution among healthy individuals; distribution in target population; diagnostic definition of normal/risk

6. DIAGNOSTIC AND PROGNOSTIC ACCURACY

Determine sensitivity and specificity of the test; Determination of index and reference standard test; adequate sample size

7. POST-ANALYTICAL FACTORS

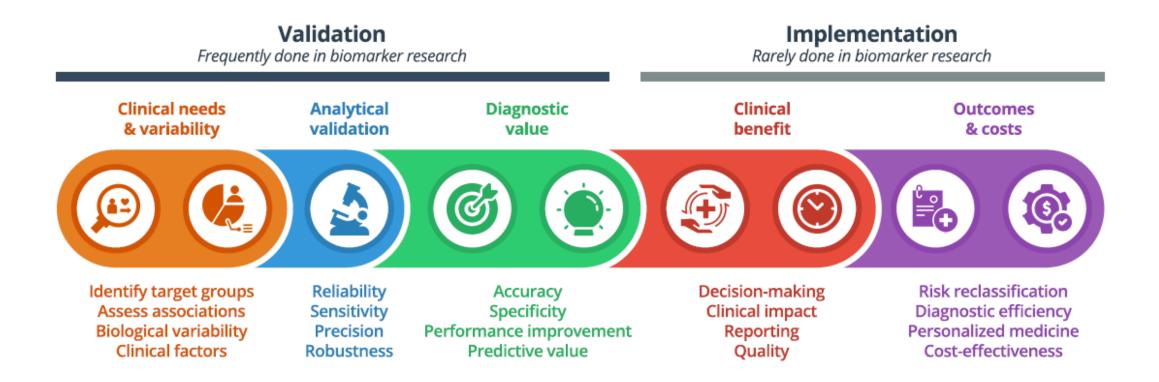
Determine turn-around time; presentation of the results to physician and patients; perform necessary quality checks

8. CLINICAL AND HEALTH-CARE OUTCOMES

Does the marker predict morbidity/mortality; does it redefine risk / faster diagnosis; costs

Most studies focus on validation of biomarker to predict health outcomes

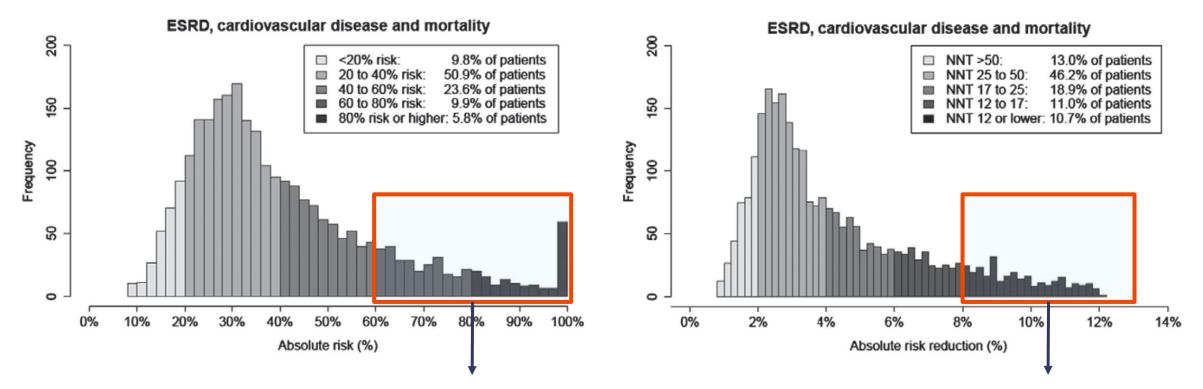
Five phases of biomarker development: Implementation studies often not conducted



Failures in Biomarker Pipeline: *From Discovery to Implementation*

	Current Problem	Potential Solution
Discovery	Poor design conduct analysis	Methodological rigor
	Extreme case selection	Proper cohort selection
	Poor / selective reporting	Use reporting standards
Validation	Lack of replication efforts	Incentive for replication
	Inbred replication	More external replication
	Inflation in early small studies	Large collaborative validation studies
Evaluation	Few randomized biomarker trials	Promote randomized biomarker trials
	Improper use of subgroup analyses	Validation of utility of subgroup analysis
Implementation	Poor understanding use of biomarker in real-life	Incentive for implementation studies
	Not well defined regulatory landscape	Testing of utility of long-used biomarkers
	Lack of rigorous guidelines	Standardized nonconflicted guidelines

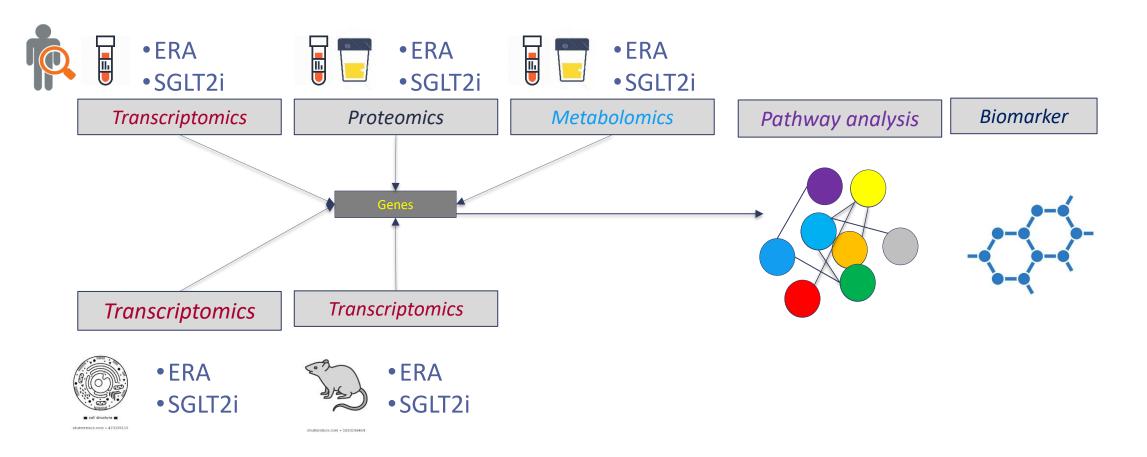
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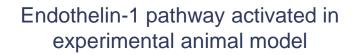
BEAt-DKD: A multi-omics biomarker discovery approach for ERA drug response





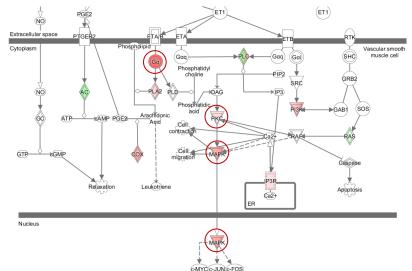


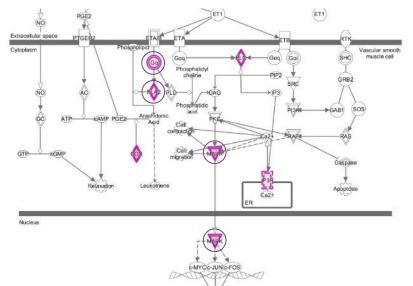
Endothelin-1 signaling in experimental and human diabetic kidney disease and reversed by ET-1 receptor blockade

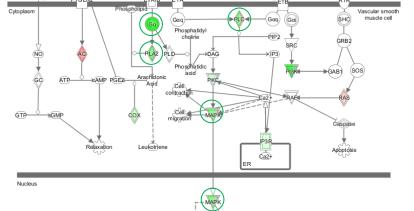


The same endothelin-1 pathway activated in humans with DKD

Endothelin-1 pathway activity reversed by atrasentan treatment

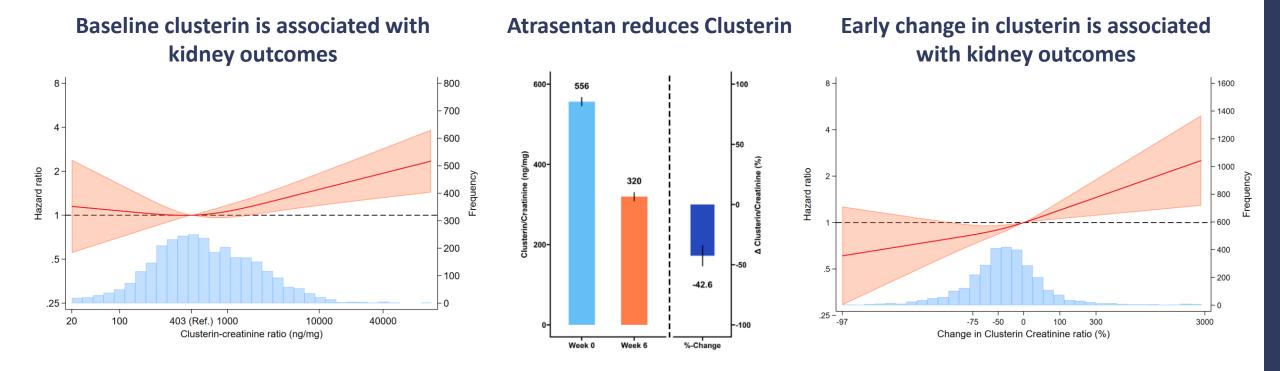








Atrasentan reduces clusterin and its change is associated with kidney outcomes





PRIME-CKD: From discovery to validation and implementation



Clinical chemistry validation

Technical performance of the assay; sensitivity / specificity / linearity
Pre-analytical factors: Optimizing sample logistics / processing times
Biological variation and clinical factors: Circadian and day-to-day
variation; Age, sex, race, weight; drugs and major surgery



Clinical Validation

Does a biomarker guided treatment approach compared to care as usual improve kidney function

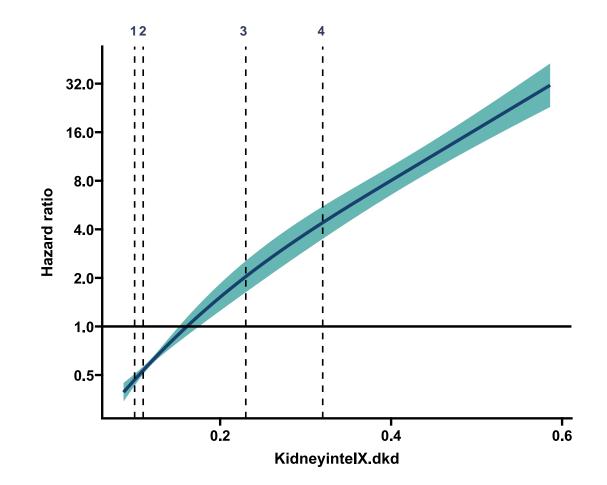


Implementation

How to present results to patients and physicians What is the turn-around time Do patients accept more blood tests (and extra costs?)



KidneyIntelX is associated with kidney failure in people with type 2 diabetes





- Analyses adjusted for age, sex cardiovascular risk factors, eGFR, UACR
- Vertical lines indicate KDIGO stages representing the mean KidneyIntelX score in each stage

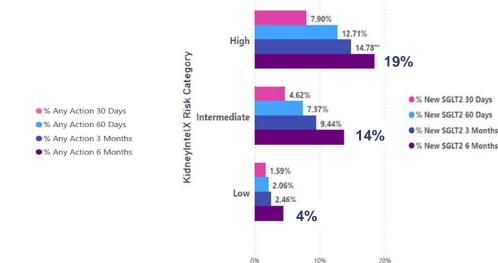
Moedt et.al. Unpublished Confidential

Implementation of Kidney IntelX in Daily Practice *N=2569*

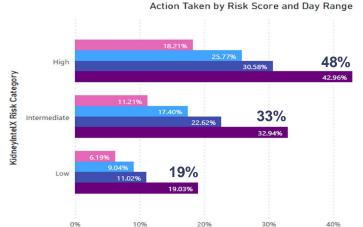
Clinical Action Taken by Risk Score and Day Range

New SGLT2 prescription by Risk

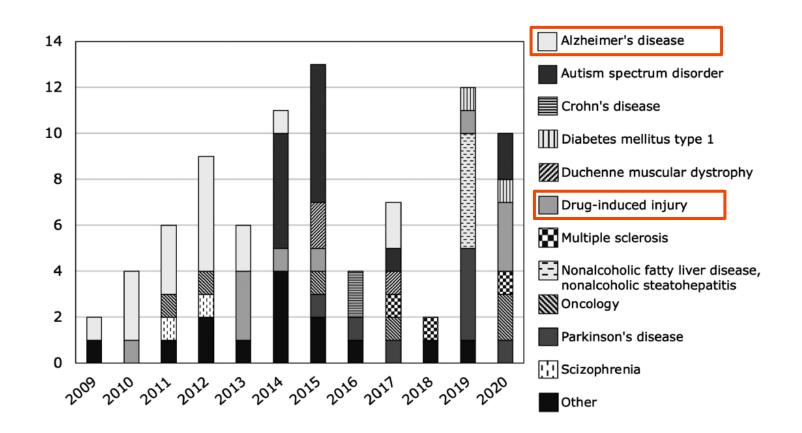
eGFR slope change prior/post



20 10 10 10 -10 -10 -20 Low Intermediate High



Biomarker qualification programs in Europe stratified by therapeutic/disease areas



Very few if any new biomarker qualification programs initiated in Nephrology



Take Home Message

- Ongoing discovery and validation of new biomarkers predicting kidney failure
- Implementation studies to assess if the new biomarker improves daily practice and patient outcomes lacking
- Few known biomarkers that predict individual response to guideline recommended CKD therapies
- Existing consortia in Europe (BEAt-DKD, PRIME-CKD) and USA (KPMP) aim to advance and implement biomarker-based therapy approaches in CKD (both diabetes and non-diabetes)