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Primary Research Interest:	Internal Medicine
Description of Research:	Vitamin D has been associated with hypertension and hyperparathyroidism in several studies. We have two prospective randomized controlled trials to test the hypothesis of whether vitamin D improves blood pressure or decreases parathyroid hormone. We are now focused on vitamin D effects on iron recycling and anemia in patients with CKD.
Relevance to VA:	Vitamin D Research. Vitamin D deficiency has been reported to occur in the majority of veterans. We have reported that over 70% of veterans at our VA medical center have vitamin D deficiency. Furthermore, we also reported that treatment of vitamin D deficiency is not a standard practice at the VA. Our laboratory is focused on examining vitamin D therapy on health outcomes in the VA population.