A senior official in the Trump administration will speak on “The Future of Value-Based Care and Nephrology” in the Christopher R. Blagg, MD, Lecture in Kidney Diseases and Public Policy on Friday, Nov. 8.

The speaker, Adam Boehler, is senior advisor to the secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), deputy administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and director of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI).

As an advisor on value-based care, Mr. Boehler is co-leading the development of the HHS-wide kidney strategy. He cites as motivation to improve kidney patients’ lives his personal experience of seeing his aunt undergo dialysis before she passed away. He has a broad assignment to identify opportunities for policy improvement throughout the department by exploring every possible avenue to advance kidney health, including research and innovation efforts, payment and care delivery models, transplantation-related activity, data integrity and availability, and other activities under HHS’ purview.

In his role as CMMI director, Mr. Boehler has identified kidney care as a top priority for innovation and has worked extensively with ASN and other members of the kidney community to understand opportunities for improvement. He often speaks at healthcare conferences about the burden of kidney diseases and the need to transform patient care.

At the request of ASN, he recently met with committee staff of the U.S. House Appropriations Committee to underscore that KidneyX is a central tenet of the administration’s kidney strategy; a statement of commitment he hoped would increase the likelihood of KidneyX receiving congressional funding.

Mr. Boehler founded and was CEO of several successful large businesses and was a leader at two international investment firms. He was the founder and CEO of Landmark Health, the largest home-based medical group in the country, with more than 1000 employees in the U.S. and India and 80,000 chronic patients under management.

He was an operating partner at Francisco Partners, a $14 billion global investment firm with offices in San Francisco and London. He partnered with Francisco Partners to found Avalon, the leading provider of laboratory benefit management services. He was a principal at Accretive, a private equity firm based in New York. Prior to joining Accretive, Mr. Boehler was executive vice president at MedeAnalytics, a leading global provider of software-as-a-service (SaaS) analytics. He started MedeAnalytics’ European operation headquartered in London and led product innovation with over 200 engineers in Ukraine and Hungary. He also worked at Battery Ventures, a global technology-focused venture capital firm managing over $2 billion.

Mr. Boehler graduated magna cum laude from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Rasheed A. Gbadegesin, MD, MBBS, will discuss “Genome-Wide Association Study (GWAS)–Derived Targets for Glomerular Diseases” in the Michelle P. Winn, MD, Endowed Lectureship on Friday, Nov. 8.

Dr. Gbadegesin is a professor of pediatrics in the division of nephrology at Duke University and an investigator at the Duke Molecular Physiology Institute in Durham, N.C. The lectureship’s namesake, Dr. Michelle Winn, recruited Dr. Gbadegesin to Duke University and played a vital role as his main mentor until her death in 2014.

Dr. Gbadegesin’s research is aimed at understanding the genetic basis, pathogenesis, and determinants of variable responses to therapy in hereditary and idiopathic nephrotic syndrome. In the past 10 years, his team has identified at least five novel genetic causes of steroid-resistant focal segmental glomerulosclerosis and other kidney diseases. Recently, using the strategy of extreme phenotyping, his group identified the first exome-wide locus for childhood onset steroid-sensitive nephrotic syndrome. In collaboration with other investigators around the world, he has since validated this locus in other populations and identified additional loci.

He has established a large biorepository of phenotype data and biosamples from children with nephrotic syndrome. He is collaborating with other investigators to determine the biologic basis for ethnic disparities in the incidence and severity of nephrotic syndrome with the goal of developing strategies for personalized treatment.

Dr. Gbadegesin has presented his research at both international and national meetings and published almost 100 peer-reviewed journal articles, five textbook chapters, and 60 abstracts. He is the principal investigator on multiple National Institutes of Health, foundation, and industry grants. He was elected into the American Society for Clinical Investigation in 2016.

He served on the ASN glomerular disease subcommittee and is a council member of the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology. He is on the editorial board of JASN and associate editor of Frontiers in Pediatrics (Nephrology).

Dr. Gbadegesin received his MBBS degree from the University of Ibadan in Nigeria followed by a residency in pediatrics at the University College Hospital in Ibadan. He received his MD from the University of Manchester and Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital in the U.K. He completed another residency in pediatrics at Brooklyn Hospital in New York City and became board certified in pediatric nephrology while at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

He joined the faculty at Duke in 2007, where he also serves as co-director of the clinical and translational science awards KL2 program, program director of the pediatric research scholar program, and associate program director of the pediatric nephrology fellowship program.

**Download the Kidney Week app now to get the most from your experience!**