

## Curriculum Vitae 5.2020

**Anthony Francis Firek, M.S., M.D.**

### PERSONAL HISTORY

#### Business Address

Comparative Effectiveness and Clinical Outcomes Research Center (CECORC)  
Riverside University Health System Medical Center  
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### EDUCATION

University of Southern California, CA	B.A.	1977	Chemistry (Summa cum laude)
University of Hawaii School of Medicine, HI	M.S.	1984	Pharmacology
University of Hawaii School of Medicine, HI	M.D.	1984	
Loma Linda University Medical Center, Loma Linda, CA	Internal Medicine	1984-1987	Resident Internal Medicine
Mayo Clinic, Department of Medicine, Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, Rochester, MN	Endocrinology	1987-1990	Fellowship

### LICENSURE

Medical Board of California, G55956

### BOARD CERTIFICATION

American Board of Internal Medicine, #115951  
Internal Medicine: 1987  
Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism: 1989

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2017 - PRESENT	Director of Medical Research, Comparative Effectiveness and Clinical Outcomes Research Center. Riverside University Health System, Moreno Valley, CA
2011 - 2018	Chairman, Institutional Review Board. Riverside University Health System Medical Center. Moreno Valley, CA

2012 - 2017	Chief of Endocrinology and Diabetes, Loma Linda VA Medical Center. Loma Linda, CA
2014 - 2017	Acting Chief of Medical Service, Loma Linda VA Medical Center (Intermittent). Loma Linda, CA
2013 - 2017	Lead, VA National Transgender Team – SCAN-ECHO
2010 - 2017	Team Leader, Endocrinology, VA Transgender Group Medical Clinic
2010 - 2016	Group Leader, VA Diabetes Improvement Sub Committee, VA Guidelines Committee
2010 - 2014	Member, Research and Development Committee, JL Pettis VA Medical Center. Loma Linda, CA
2007 - 2015	Director, DREAM Team – Diabetes Research Education and Research, JL Pettis VA Medical Center. Loma Linda, CA
2006 - 2008	Medical Director, Clinical Research Group (CRG), JL Pettis VA Medical Center. Loma Linda, CA
2006 - 2008	Interim Clinical Director, Musculoskeletal Disease Center, Loma Linda VA Medical Center. Loma Linda, CA
2005 - 2006	Director, Osteoporosis Research Group (ORC), JL Pettis VA Medical Center. Loma Linda, CA

### **CECORC SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES**

All meeting abstracts have been accepted. Manuscripts are in preparation or have been submitted for publication.

### **American Diabetes Association 80<sup>th</sup> Scientific Sessions, July 2020 (Virtual)**

#### **1. Evaluating the epidemiology of Diabetic retinopathy in a safety net medical center**

Munir I, Firek M, Firek A

#### **2. Predicting outcomes in patients with DKA**

Firek A, Zakhary B, Munir I

#### **3. Risk Determinants and outcomes for Pancreatitis in Diabetes**

Choi N, Kim D, Firek M, Firek A, Jackson C

#### **4. Impact of Depression of Readmission in patients with Diabetes**

Yu MB, Firek A

### **Endocrine Society Annual Meeting, March 2020 (Virtual)**

#### **1. Readmission after DKA (NRDS)**

Firek A, Zakhary B, Firek M, Munir I

#### **2. Graves mediated coombs hemolytic anemia**

Firek A, Munir I

### **Digestive Disease Week, May 2020**

#### **1. Mortality post-acute upper GI bleeding**

Choi N, Firek M, Firek A, Jackson C

#### **2. Outcomes associated with pancreatitis (NIS)**

Choi N, Kim D, Firek M, Firek A, Jackson C

**Western Medical Research Conference, January 2020**

**1. Readmission risk factors after hospitalization for pneumonia in diabetic adults**

Yu MB, Firek A

**2. Analysis of Differential ENIGMA gene expression in Thyroid Cancer versus Benign Nodules**

Kahn S, Firek A

**Endocrine Society Annual Meeting, March 2019**

**1. Recognizing and Improving the Diagnosis of Celiac Disease in Patients with Type I Diabetes**

Epps M, Fox M, Munir I, Firek A

**2. Routine Thyroid Ultrasonography in Largely Latino Population with Hyperthyroidism Is Not Clinically Useful**

Bobb B, Fox M, Firek A

**3. A Novel Internet-Based Program to Assess Educational Needs and Improve Care Delivery to Transgender People at the Resident Level**

Fox M, Jafari J, Bobb B, Firek A

**American Diabetes Association 78<sup>th</sup> Scientific Session, June 2018**

**1. The Prevalence and Impact of Diabetes Mellitus among Undocumented Immigrants in an Indigent Care Program in Riverside, California**

Firek A, Lee H, Zakhary B

**2. Preserving Vision by Empowering Patients**

Yang A, Li N, Firek A

**American College of Clinical Pharmacy (Pharmacy Collaborative)**

**1. Development of a Novel Pharmacist Directed Pre-Colonoscopy Intervention Program (PPIP) to Improve Colposcopy Completion**

Phan Q, et al.

**2. In-depth Analysis of Pharmacist-Endocrinologist Collaborative Care in the Treatment of Diabetic Patients**

Rosales A, Phan Q, Firek A

**RUHS – CECORC COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS**

**1. Does Teaching Optimism Lower Burnout in Residency Training – A Pilot Study**

Kim D, Loo L, Garrison R, Motabar A, Yu M, Nathaniel B, Ulrich M, Skoretz L, Jafari J, Calzia M, Gilmore M, Firek A (PI – D Kim)

**2. VA Collaborative Testing the effects of the DAT protocol in patients at risk for Corona virus**

Co-PIs - Jackson C and Firek A

**3. Evaluating the Effectiveness of Lung US in Patients with Suspected COVID-19**

PI – Ulrich M

**4. Does serial measurement of extravascular lung water and IVC measurement with point of care ultrasound (POCUS) affect outcomes in inpatient heart failure management?**

Ulrich M, et al.

(In progress with subject recruitment)

**5. Atopy and allergic Diseases effects on fracture rate- A National Data Warehouse Evaluation**

Firek A, Firek M, Zakhary B, Munir I

(In progress data collection)

**6. "Code S": Redesigning hospital-wide peer review processes to identify systems errors**

Au H, et al.

(Resubmitted and in revision)

**Family Practice**

**1. Testing the feasibility implementation and initial outcomes in the Use of the Whole Person Health Assessment Score**

Co-PIs – Leung G and Kahn M

**SPONSORED STUDIES - FUNDED**

**1. The Effect of Tirzepatide versus Dulaglutide on Major Adverse Cardiovascular Events in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes (SURPASS-CVOT)**

Eli Lilly, 2020-2024

**2. Anemia Studies in Chronic Kidney Disease: Erythropoiesis Via a Novel Prolyl Hydroxylase Inhibitor Daprodustat-Non-Dialysis (ASCEND-ND)**

GlaxoSmithKline, 2018-2019

**3. A Research Study to Look at How Semaglutide Compared to Placebo Affects Diabetic Eye Disease in People With Type 2 Diabetes (FOCUS)**

Novo Nordisk, 2019-2021

**4. Semaglutide Effects on Heart Disease and Stroke in Patients With Overweight or Obesity (SELECT)**

Novo Nordisk, 2018-2021

**5. Albiglutide and cardiovascular outcomes in patients with type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease (Harmony Outcomes): a double-blind, randomised placebo-controlled trial**

GlaxoSmithKline, 2017-2019

**INVESTIGATOR INITIATED STUDIES AND EXTERNAL COLLABORATIVE GRANT FUNDING**

**1. Determining the effects of the oral GLP-1 agonist Rybelsus in hospitalized patients NOVO IIS (2019-in revision)**

PI - Firek A

**2. The Efficacy and Safety of FIASP Insulin in non- acute Hospitalized Patients at RUHS (2020-in review)**

PI - Firek A

**3. Lipotoxicity and Cell Dysfunction and Type 2 Diabetes. NIH Health Disparity.**

PI – DeLeon M

Sponsor: NIH, 2013-2018

**4. Determining Outcomes in Non-Cirrhotic Acute GI Bleeding**

Co-PIs – Firek A, Jackson C

Sponsor: RUHS/VA-LLVARE

**5. Epidemiology of Diabetic Eye Disease in Latinos**

Sponsor: RUHS

Co-PIs – Firek A, Munir I

#### **6. Molecular Determinants in Sepsis**

Co-PIs – Firek A, Nair M, Godzik A (UCR)

Funding: Chan Zuckerberg Initiative grant

#### **GRANTS IN PREPARATION**

##### **1. R21- Submitted and in revision- LLUMC – Development of a Unique Fusion Protein Vaccine for Type 1 Diabetes**

Co-PIs – Firek A, Langridge W

##### **2. R21- LLUMC- Development of an Edible Vaccine against SARS Cov-2 using the fusion of CTB with SPIKE**

Co-PIs – Firek A, Langridge W

#### **PREVIOUSLY FUNDED STUDIES (OUT OF 35)**

##### **1. A multicenter, international, randomized, parallel group, double blind, placebo-controlled Cardiovascular Safety and Renal Microvascular outcome study with LINagliptin, 5 mg once daily in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus at high vascular risk (CARMELINA)**

Sponsor: Boehringer Ingelheim, 2014- 2018

##### **2. LPS14347: Toujeo study**

Sponsor: Sanofi Pharmaceuticals, 2015-2018

##### **3. A 24-week, multicenter, international, randomized (1:1), parallel-group, open-label, comparative study of insulin glargine versus liraglutide in insulin-naïve patients with Type 2 diabetes treated with oral agents and not adequately controlled, followed by a 24-week extension period with insulin glargine for patients not adequately controlled with Liraglutide (LANTUS\_03680)**

Sponsor: Sanofi Pharmaceuticals, 2013- 2016

##### **4. Co-Diagnosis of Benign Paroxysmal Positional Vertigo and Unilateral Vestibular Hypofunction: Ipsilateral versus Contralateral Presentation, and Referral Rate to Physical Therapy**

PI – San Lucas S

Sponsor: VA Research Funding –LLVARE

##### **5. ELIXA (cardiovascular outcomes for diabetic patients Sanofi EFC1 1319)**

Co-PI – Firek A

Sponsor: Sanofi Pharmaceuticals, 2011-2017

##### **6. Evaluating a novel Multidimensional approach to Diabetes management in the Skilled Nursing Environment**

Sponsor: VA, 2012- 2014

##### **7. Development of the “IntelliNote”- A smart IT derived solution using decision support in improving patient outcome**

Sponsor: IT Greenfield Innovation Award

##### **8. Osteoblast effects of prostate cancer phenotype**

Sponsor: LLVARE Seed Grant, 2008-2014

**9. Health Disparities in Hispanic Diabetic Patients- New insights in improving outcome using the “En Balance” program**

PI - Corderro- MacIntyre Z

Sponsor: NIH Health Disparity

**10. The Effects of Cognitive Impairment on Defining the Adherence Gap in Patients with Heart Failure Complicated with Diabetes**

PI - Leann Hawkins

Sponsor: VA QUERI Pilot, 2010-2013

**11. Exercise Effects on Adiponectin Regulation- Effects of Long-Term Aerobic Exercise**

PI – Hessinger D

Sponsor: LLU Research, 2007-2016

**12. Evaluating the Etiology of Low Bone Density in HIV Infected Veterans**

Co-PIs – Firek A, Damodaran C

Sponsor: VA-LLVARE, 2010- 2016

**13. Comparative Effectiveness of Tresiba versus Toujeo**

Co-PIs – Firek A, Munir I

Sponsor: Novo Nordisk

**LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS**

Invited lectures 2008-2016 (previous dates on request)

1. Endocrine challenges in the Female, National VA Primary Care Lecture Series - November 2, 2017
2. Challenges of type 1 DM Therapy Diabetes Symposium, Dignity Health System Grand Rounds, San Bernardino CA – October 17, 2017
3. The Low T syndrome new hope or more Hype, RUNS Grand Rounds, Moreno Valley CA – September 3, 2017
4. Hypogonadism. American Medical Tennis Assoc., Palm Desert CA – March 10, 2016
5. Transgender Care of Veteran, National VA Primary care lecture series – March 3, 2016
6. Puzzling Cases in Endocrinology, LLUMC Internal Medicine Grand Rounds, Loma Linda CA – September 9, 2015
7. ACP Endocrinology Board Review, Redlands CA – July 15, 2015
8. Complex Endocrine Cases- Pheochromocytoma LLUMC Grand Rounds, Loma Linda, CA – March 4, 2015
9. Revisiting the Low T Syndrome. Primary Care Grand Rounds JL Pettis VAMC, Loma Linda CA – August 27, 2014
10. Endocrine and Diabetes Board Review American College of Physicians Western region, West LA, CA – July 12, 2014
11. Resetting our Goals for Cardiovascular Risk Reduction LLUMC Grand Rounds – June 26, 2014
12. Diabetes V-DIGMA and Telemedicine solutions LLUMC – VA Grand Rounds – April 2, 2014
13. Clinical Inertia and Impact on Clinical Practice Riverside County Regional Medical Center Wider Grand Rounds, Moreno Valley, CA – November 10, 2010
14. Endocrine Case Presentations Grand Rounds JL Pettis Memorial VAMC, Loma Linda CA – November 10, 2010

15. Exercise and fitness for Diabetes intervention. Riverside County Regional Medical Center Wide Grand Rounds, Moreno Valley, CA – May 12, 2009
16. Can you be Fat and Fit JL Pettis Grand Rounds? JL Pettis Memorial VAMC, Loma Linda CA – March 25, 2009
17. Healthy People Diabetes update. Eisenhower Medical Center, Rancho Mirage CA – March 12, 2009
18. “Osteoporosis Update” Grand Rounds Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, NV.– March 3, 2009
19. Update of Diabetes Management in LTCF. Hilo, Hawaii – February 11, 2009
20. Healthy Hearts and Strong Pipes. Diabetes Care and the ABC’s: 3rd Annual Pathway to Heart Health Conference. Morongo Valley, CA – August 28, 2008
21. Improving Inpatient DM Care. Fountain Valley Medical Center. Fountain Valley CA – August 6, 2008
22. Improving DM Outcome in Geriatric Patients and LTC facility Resident. Hawaii Geriatrics. Honolulu, HI – July 11, 2008
23. Advances in Diabetes Care and Outcomes. Hawaii Endocrine Club. Honolulu, HI – July 10, 2008
24. Long Term care Facility Diabetes Management Strategies. Pharmerica LTC Medical-Pharmacy Honolulu, HI – July 10, 2008
25. Hypertension Update. Palm Springs Endocrine Club. Palm Springs, CA – May 13, 2008
26. “Osteoporosis Update”. Inland Empire Pharmacy Society, Ontario CA – April 10, 2008
27. “Osteoporosis- Old Bones or New Disease.” Grand Rounds, Balboa Naval Medical Center, San Diego CA – April 4, 2008
28. “Incidentalomas and Strange Cases from Endocrinology.” LLUMC Grand Rounds. Loma Linda, CA – March 12, 2008

### **TEACHING ACTIVITY**

2016-Present	UCR/RUHS Research Mentor- Providing mentoring for both UCR Medical Students and Internal Medicine and Family Practice
2004-Present	American College of Physicians Invited Speaker. ACP Annual Review Course on Endocrinology and Diabetes. Invited speaker and developed curriculum for the annual ACP board review session on Endocrinology and Diabetes
1995-Present	UCR School of Medicine-Thomas Hader Biomedical Program, University of California at Riverside-UCLA School of Medicine, Riverside, CA- Developing educational material and providing lectures to both first- and second-year medical students in Endocrine- Diabetes physiology and pathophysiology
1990-Present	LLU School of Medicine- Providing instruction to medical students (level 3 and 4) in didactic and case centered topics of Endocrinology and Diabetes. Supervise and mentor students in the outpatient and

inpatient evaluation of patients with Endocrine conditions and diabetes

1990-Present	LLUMC- Internal Medicine residency program- Providing clinical and didactic education to all levels of residents in Endocrinology and Diabetes. Supervising inpatient and outpatient evaluation of patients with Endocrine and Diabetes and a consultant and serving as a clinical chief within the Endocrine clinics at the VA, LLUMC/FMO, Arrowhead Regional and RUHS
2016-2017	VA Transgender Care Team- Lead Endocrinologist of the SCAN-ECHO education program for National VA Medical Centers providing training nationally for transgender care
2015-2017	VA National Transgender Education Team- Lead Endocrinologist. Developed with the team the didactic materials for training VA providers in caring for transgender veterans
2009-2011	JL Pettis VAMC- LLU – Morning Report Mentor. Oversee the presentation and discussion of cases on a rotating basis presented in morning report by the Internal Medicine Residents
2008-2016	JL Pettis VAMC-Internal Medicine Academic Ward Attending. Supervising the inpatient evaluation and management of General Medicine Ward patients with the Internal Medicine Residents and Medical Students on a rotating basis for 4 weeks per year
2002-2005	LLU School of Medicine -Director Clinical Pharmacology Teaching- Designed and organized curriculum and presented lectures to the medical students

### **MEDICAL STUDENT TEACHING**

UCR – Year 1	I provide the teaching for the MS1 class in Endocrine physiology
UCR – Year 2	I provide the majority of teaching for the MS2 class in Endocrine Pathophysiology
UCR MS 2, 3, 4 Clinical Endocrinology	I am one of the two teaching attending for the rotating UCR and Loma Linda students that attend the Endocrinology and Diabetes clinic and the inpatient consulting service

### **Graduate Teaching (Residents, other)**

Endocrinology and Diabetes Clinic	I am one of two attendings that provide teaching to the UCR and LLU Residents in our Endocrine, Diabetes, and in-patient consulting service
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Resident Education I provide routine educational lectures and case study presentations to both the UCR and LLU residents on a rotating schedule

### **ADDITIONAL ITEMS THAT RELATE TO TEACHING**

#### Teaching Awards and Special Pedagogical Activities

1. 2020 – UCR Alumni Recognition Award for Excellence in Training
2. 2017 – UCR Golden Brain Award

### **TEACHING MATERIALS**

1. **UCR MS1 and MS2 Endocrine physiology and pathophysiology-** I have prepared the primary education material and slide sets for both the first and second year UCR Medical School in my courses listed above.
2. **Research and IRB Education- RUHS/UCR/LLUMC-** Faculty IRB Instructional materials designed for instructing faculty, residents and students in preparing research and QI proposals, instruction in human subjects' protection and IRB submissions
3. **Transgender Medical Education and Lecture slide series-** Prepared the medical aspects of transgender care chapter and have developed with UCR medical students a lecture series on Transgender care. The UCR medical students have designed an educational assessment program to evaluate the effectiveness. MS2 Marissa Fox led this program.
4. **Celiac Disease Education Series-** Overseeing the preparation and implementation of a comprehensive education program related to Celiac disease. This program was conceived and developed by my UCR medical student research team led by MS2 Michelle Epps.
5. **Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Awareness Program-** We have developed using validated and published surveys an education program to bring awareness to primary care providers of the SDOH in clinical practice. This program includes an educational slide series and was developed by mu UCR medical student team with my guidance. MS2 Mark Halim

### **DIVERSITY**

1. **Community Health Disparity Activities-** Over the last four years I have been a part of the Health Disparity Research Group at LLUMC and at RUHS. We have conducted the successful EB BALANE and EN BALACE PLUS a community education and nutrition program focused on Hispanics with diabetes.
2. **Cultural Sensitive Health Disparity Education-** I have developed a program focused on Medical Residents using educational materials and lecture series to address cultural differences related to health care
3. **Ethnic-Cultural Challenges in Research Participation-** I have prepared a proposal to address the de lack of participation in clinical research by various ethnic groups. We hope to develop a partnership with members of the community to develop and promote increased participation from various underrepresented ethnicities.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

#### Research Papers

1. Fox, M, Jafari J, Bobb, B, Epps M, **Firek A.** A Novel online Program to Improve Transgender Education for Resident Physicians Transgender Health (In revision) 2020

2. Bobb B, Fox M, **Firek A**. Routine Thyroid Ultrasonography in Largely Latino Population with Hyperthyroidism Is Not Clinically Useful Endocrine Practice 2020 (In review)
3. Durán AM, Salto LM, Câmara J, Basu A, Paquien I, Beeson WL, **Firek A**, Cordero-MacIntyre Z, De León M. Effects of omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty-acid supplementation on neuropathic pain symptoms and sphingosine levels in Mexican-Americans with type 2 diabetes. *Diabetes Metab Syndr Obes*. 2019 Jan 8;12:109-120.
4. Tamborlane WV, Barrientos-Pérez M, Fainberg U, Frimer-Larsen H, Hafez M, Hale PM, Jalaludin MY, Kovarenko M, Libman I, Lynch JL, Rao P, Shehadeh N, Turan S, Weghuber D, Barrett T; **Ellipse Trial Investigators**. Liraglutide in Children and Adolescents with Type 2 Diabetes. *N Engl J Med*. 2019 Aug 15;381(7):637-646.
5. Yu MB, Guerra J, **Firek A**, Langridge WHR. Extracellular vimentin modulates human dendritic cell activation. *Mol Immunol*. 2018 Dec;104:37-46.
6. DeLeon M, **Firek A**, et al Omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acid supplementation ameliorates painful diabetic neuropathy symptoms and decreases elevated sphingosine levels in Mexican-Americans with type 2 diabetes. *Diabetes, Metabolic Syndrome and Obesity: Targets and Therapy* 2018, Sep12
7. Hernandez AF, Green JB, Janmohamed S, D'Agostino RB Sr, Granger CB, Jones NP, Leiter LA, Rosenberg AE, Sigmon KN, Somerville MC, Thorpe KM, McMurray JJV, Del Prato S; **Harmony Outcomes committees and investigators**. Albiglutide and cardiovascular outcomes in patients with type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease (Harmony Outcomes): a double-blind, randomised placebo-controlled trial. *Lancet*. 2018 Oct 27;392(10157):1519-1529. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(18)32261-X. Epub 2018 Oct 2.
8. Kaigle A, Sawan-Garcia R, **Firek A**. Approach to the provision of transgender health care in a veteran population. *Ment Health Clin*. 2018 Mar 26;7(4):176-180. doi: 10.9740/mhc.2017.07.176. eCollection 2017 Jul.
9. Salehi N, **Firek A**, Munir I. Pituitary Apoplexy Presenting as Ophthalmoplegia and Altered Level of Consciousness without Headache. *Case Rep Endocrinol*. 2018 May 9;2018:7124364.
10. Yu MB, **Firek A**, Langridge WHR. Predicting methotrexate resistance in rheumatoid arthritis patients. *Inflammopharmacology*. 2018 Jun;26(3):699-708.
11. **Firek A**, Perez MC, Gonda A, Lei L, Munir I, Simental AA, Carr FE, Becerra BJ, De Leon M, Khan S. Pathologic significance of a novel oncoprotein in thyroid cancer progression. *Head Neck*. 2017 Dec;39(12):2459-2469. Epub 2017 Oct 11.

12. Nissen SE, Yeomans ND, Solomon DH, Lüscher TF, Libby P, Husni ME, Graham DY, Borer JS, Wisniewski LM, Wolski KE, Wang Q, Menon V, Ruschitzka F, Gaffney M, Beckerman B, Berger MF, Bao W, Lincoff AM; **PRECISION Trial Investigators**. Cardiovascular Safety of Celecoxib, Naproxen, or Ibuprofen for Arthritis. *N Engl J Med*. 2016 Dec 29;375(26):2519-29. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa1611593. Epub 2016 Nov 13.
13. Kim NS, Mbongue JC, Nicholas DA, Esebanmen GE, Unternaehrer JJ, **Firek AF**, Langridge WH. Chimeric Vaccine Stimulation of Human Dendritic Cell Indoleamine 2, 3-Dioxygenase Occurs via the Non-Canonical NF- $\kappa$ B Pathway. *PLoS One*. 2016 Feb 16;11(2):e0147509. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0147509. eCollection 2016. PubMed PMID: 26881431; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4755608.
14. Shipherd JC, Kauth MR, **Firek AF**, Garcia R, Mejia S, Laski S, Walden B, Perez-Padilla S, Lindsay JA, Brown G, Roybal L, Keo-Meier CL, Knapp H, Johnson L, Reese RL, Byne W. Interdisciplinary Transgender Veteran Care: Development of a Core Curriculum for VHA Providers. *Transgend Health*. 2016 Feb 1;1(1):54-62
15. Salto LM, Bu L, Beeson WL, **Firek A**, Cordero-MacIntyre Z, De Leon M. The Ala54Thr Polymorphism of the Fatty Acid Binding Protein 2 Gene Modulates HDL Cholesterol in Mexican-Americans with Type 2 Diabetes. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2015 Dec 23;13(1):ijerph13010052. doi: 10.3390/ijerph13010052. PubMed PMID: 26703680; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4730443.
16. Nicholas DA, Salto LM, Boston AM, Kim NS, Larios M, Beeson WL, **Firek AF**, Casiano CA, Langridge WH, Cordero-MacIntyre Z, De Leon M. Identification of Anti-Long Chain Saturated Fatty Acid IgG Antibodies in Serum of Patients with Type 2 Diabetes. *Mediators Inflamm*. 2015;2015:196297. doi: 10.1155/2015/196297. Epub 2015 Nov 8. PubMed PMID: 26633920; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4655071.
17. Caballero CA, **Firek AF**, Kashner TM. Effect of Group Medical Appointments on Glycemic Control of Patients With Type 2 Diabetes. *Diabetes Spectr*. 2015 Nov;28(4):245-51. doi: 10.2337/diaspect.28.4.245. PubMed PMID: 26600725; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4647173.
18. Mbongue JC, Nicholas DA, Zhang K, Kim NS, Hamilton BN, Larios M, Zhang G, Umezawa K, **Firek AF**, Langridge WH. Induction of indoleamine 2, 3-dioxygenase in human dendritic cells by a cholera toxin B subunit-proinsulin vaccine. *PLoS One*. 2015 Feb 25;10(2):e0118562. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0118562. eCollection 2015.
19. Mbongue J, Nicholas D, **Firek A**, Langridge W. The role of dendritic cells in tissue-specific autoimmunity. *J Immunol Res*. 2014;2014:857143. doi:1155/2014/857143. Epub 2014 Apr 30. Review.
20. Fried LF, Emanuele N, Zhang JH, Brophy M, Conner TA, Duckworth W, Leehey DJ, McCullough PA, O'Connor T, Palevsky PM, Reilly RF, Seliger SL, Warren SR, Watnick S, Peduzzi P,

Guarino P; **VA NEPHRON-D Investigators**. Combined angiotensin inhibition for the treatment of diabetic nephropathy. *N Engl J Med*. 2013 Nov 14;369(20):1892-903. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa1303154. Epub 2013 Nov 9. Erratum in: *N Engl J Med*. 2014;158:A7255. PubMed PMID: 24206457.

21. Wheeler G, Montgomery SB, Beeson L, Bahjri K, Shulz E, **Firek A**, De Leon M, Cordero-MacIntyre Z. En Balance: the effects of Spanish diabetes education on physical activity changes and diabetes control. *Diabetes Educ*. 2012 Sep-Oct;38(5):723-32. Epub 2012 Sep 10. PubMed PMID: 22968219; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC3885415.

22. Hawkins LA, Kilian S, **Firek A**, Kashner TM, Firek CJ, Silvet H. Cognitive impairment and medication adherence in outpatients with heart failure. *Heart Lung*. 2012 Nov-Dec;41(6):572-82. doi: 10.1016/j.hrtlng.2012.06.001. Epub 2012 Jul 10. PubMed PMID: 22784869.

23. Chukwueke I, **Firek A**, Beeson L, Brute M, Shulz E, De Leon M, Cordero-MacIntyre ZR. The En Balance Spanish diabetes education program improves apolipoproteins, serum glucose and body composition in Hispanic diabetics. *Ethn Dis*. 2012 Spring;22(2):215-2

24. Salto LM, Cordero-MacIntyre Z, Beeson L, Schulz E, **Firek A**, De Leon M. En Balance participants decrease dietary fat and cholesterol intake as part of a culturally sensitive Hispanic diabetes education program. *Diabetes Educ*. 2011 Mar-Apr;37(2):239-53. doi: 10.1177/0145721710394874. Epub 2011 Feb 22. PubMed PMID: 21343598; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC3062643.

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26. Peterson RM, Beeson L, Shulz E, **Firek A**, De Leon M, Balcazar H, Tonstad S, Cordero-MacIntyre ZR. Impacting obesity and glycemic control using a culturally-sensitive diabetes education program in Hispanic patients with type 2 diabetes. *Int J Body Compos Res*. 2010;8(3):85-94. PubMed PMID: 21318090; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC3036541.

27. Beeson WL, Batech M, Schultz E, Salto L, **Firek A**, DeLeon M, Balcazar H, Cordero-MacIntyre Z. Comparison of body composition by bioelectrical impedance analysis and dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry in Hispanic diabetics. *Int J Body Compos Res*. 2010;8(2):45-50. PubMed PMID: 21318088;

28. Mujumdar PP, Duerksen-Hughes PJ, **Firek AF**, Hessinger DA. Long-term, progressive, aerobic training increases adiponectin in middle-aged, overweight, untrained males and females. *Scand J Clin Lab Invest*. 2011 Apr;71(2):101-7. doi: 10.3109/00365513.2011.554995. Epub 2011 Jan 27. PubMed PMID: 21271804.

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1. Langridge W and **Firek A**. Effects of CTB-Insulin on Dendritic cell Function, Cellular Immunology (In Review)

2. Duran A, DeLeon M, **Firek A**, et al. Effects of Fish oil on painful DM neuropathy- a liposomal analysis Diabetes, Metabolic Syndrome and Obesity (In Review)

#### Chapters

1. **Firek AF**, Garcia R. Preparing Clients for Hormone Therapy in Adult Transgender Care, Kauth MJ and Shipherd JD eds, Routledge 2018 ed 1

#### Abstract/Poster Presentations (See CECORC Scholarly Activities)

1. PTHrP stimulates insulin-like growth factor binding protein secretion by osteoblast-like cells: Possible role of cyclic AMP in abstracts of the 72nd Annual Meeting of the Endocrine Society, June 20-23, 1990, Atlanta, GA.

2. **Firek A**, Laakso K, Fryer M, Heath III H. Determination of tissue sensitivity to parathyroid hormone (PTH) in skin derived fibroblasts (Fbs) from patients with familial benign hypercalcemia, in Abstracts of the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research, August 28-31, 1990, Atlanta, GA.
3. Topping O, Turner R, Carter W, **Firek A**, Laakso K, Evans G, Heath III H. Unexpected inhibition by human interleukin 1  $\alpha$  of parathyroid hormone-related peptide effects on calcium and bone metabolism in the rat, in Abstracts of the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research, August 28-31, 1990, Atlanta, GA.
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