

RAYMOND M. HAKIM, MD, PhD

RAYMOND M. HAKIM, MD, PhD is currently an attending physician at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Division of Nephrology.

Prior to 2012, Dr. Hakim was the Chief Medical Officer and Senior Executive Vice President, Clinical & Scientific Affairs for Fresenius Medical Services.

Dr. Hakim started his career as an engineer, and received his PhD from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in engineering in 1967. He worked as a Research Engineer at Hydro-Quebec in Montreal, Canada until 1972, when he enrolled at McGill Medical School. He completed his residency in internal medicine at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal, and his Nephrology fellowship at Harvard Medical School and at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts in 1980. From 1980 to 1987, he served on the faculty of Harvard University and was Associate Professor of Medicine and staff at the Brigham and Women's hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. In 1987, he joined the faculty at the Vanderbilt University Medical School as Professor of Medicine and Director of the Clinical Division of Nephrology. He was also the Medical Director of the Vanderbilt Dialysis unit.

In 1995, Dr. Hakim became one of the founders of Renal Care Group. In 2005 and 2006, Renal Care Group had the lowest mortality and morbidity among all other dialysis providers, as published by the USRDS. This distinction was achieved despite a rapid growth in the number of patients served by RCG, which became public in 1996 with less than 3,000 patients in its facilities, and ended with a merger with Fresenius Medical Care in 2007. At that time, Renal Care Group was providing dialysis services to 32,000 patients in the U.S. He became the Chief Medical officer of Fresenius in 2008. In 2013, Dr. Hakim became a member of the Public Policy board of the ASN.

Dr. Hakim attributes this success to a team effort in applying the principles of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) throughout the organization. His strategy might be summed up by the question he persistently poses to himself, clinical staff, physicians, patients, management, and the ESRD community: "How Can We Do Better for the Patients Entrusted to Our Care?"

Dr. Hakim has presented extensively and has written over 180 articles regarding issues in dialysis. He has also contributed chapters to over 30 books.