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Urologic Complications of Diabetes: Findings from the DCCT/EDIC

The Diabetes Control and Complication Trial (DCCT) and its observational follow up Epidemiology of Diabetes Intervention and Complications (EDIC) represent landmark achievements in diabetes research. The DCCT enrolled 1441 men and women with type 1 diabetes (T1D) in a randomized trial of intensive vs. conventional insulin therapy, delaying the onset and progression of diabetic complications and dramatically changing the management of patients worldwide. Implementation of tight glycemic control has reduced the frequency of devastating complications of T1D such as early death, blindness and amputation. Diabetic patients now face new challenges including cognitive decline, autonomic dysfunction and urological disorders.

Dr. Sarma is the Principal Investigator of the US National Institutes of Health funded UroEDIC, an ancillary study examining urological complications in the DCCT/EDIC cohort. Dr. Sarma will be presenting findings from this study which combines over 20 years of detailed medical information and >90% participation in urological symptom assessment annually since 2006, making it the longest running most extensive urological evaluation of persons with T1D. In addition, Dr. Sarma is the PI of several additional NIH-funded studies on reproductive outcomes in type 1 diabetes and prostate cancer biomarkers in population-based cohorts. She has authored over 100 peer-reviewed publications and several book chapters. Aside from her research in the Department of Urology she also holds an appointment in the Department of Epidemiology and teaches epidemiological methods to students in the Masters of Clinical Research, Design and Statistical Analysis program. She recently received funding for the UroEPI K12 which is an NIH funded institutional training program to develop clinician scientists in the field of benign urological epidemiology.