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I grew up in Norwalk, Connecticut. I did my undergraduate studies at Yale University and graduated in 1988. I spent a year after college and before medical school teaching English in a small city, Hekinan, in Japan. I attended medical school at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx. Both my residency and fellowship were done at the University of Washington and Seattle Children's Hospital. After residency, I worked as a general pediatrician in private practice in Kirkland, Washington for 2 years before returning to the UW for fellowship training in pediatric nephrology. After an additional research year in fellowship, I started as faculty in the Department of Pediatrics in the physician-scientist track in 2002. My areas of research interest and my early grants were investigating acute and chronic kidney injury after hematopoietic cell transplant. We reported on kidney injury, albuminuria, and hypertension in cancer patients before onconephrology was a subspecialty within nephrology. Though I continue to work in this area, my research interests expanded to both short and longer term kidney outcomes and hypertension of children born extremely premature (<28 weeks gestation).

Another passion of mine is addressing food insecurity and social determinants of health and investigating the impact of food insecurity on patients and families living with kidney disease and on dialysis. I have worked with a team at Seattle Children's Hospital to design, implement, and sustain the food pantry at our hospital which opened approximately 4 years ago.

My greatest accomplishments are my almost 30-year marriage to my husband, Charles, also a physician, and our three wonderful children. Our eldest son is 24 years old and lives in LA pursuing a music career and our identical twin boys are 19 years old and sophomores in college. In my free time, I enjoy reading, biking, hiking, playing tennis, swimming in Lake Washington, and traveling with my family.