

17<sup>th</sup> International Conference on

# NEPHROLOGY & UROLOGY

March 12-13, 2018 London, UK

## Vascular calcification: An imminent disease epidemic

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Vascular calcification reduces vessel elasticity. The consequence of this leads to cardiovascular morbidity and mortality. The extent of calcium deposits in vessel walls are key risk factors for ischemic events. The best studied is coronary artery calcification because of CT based imaging modalities. Coronary artery calcification is markedly increased in patients with chronic kidney disease. Research has shown vascular calcification is an active and complex process that involves numerous mechanisms responsible for calcium deposition in arterial walls. Indeed, the majority of vascular calcification is thought to be de-differentiation of vascular smooth muscle cells to osteoblast/chondrocyte like cells. The pathology, molecular biology, potential mechanism and the latest therapeutic options will be discussed.

### Biography

Suresh Mathew obtained his Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and his Medical degree at Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. After completing his Residency in Internal Medicine at Temple University, he obtained his fellowship in Nephrology at the Johns Hopkins University. He worked as Assistant Professor of Nephrology at Cooper University Hospital Camden, New Jersey. Later he joined in Washington University School of Medicine, Saint Louis, Missouri to do his research in vascular calcification which led to several publications. Currently he works as a Nephrologist at Christian Hospital which is a part of BJC Health Care. He is a Member of the American Society of Nephrology and is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and Nephrology. He also serves as Medical Director for one of the DaVita dialysis facility.

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