



Center for
Scientific Review

Evaluating Panel Quality in Review:

**Kidney, Urology, Gastrointestinal, Diabetes,
Obesity, Nutrition and Endocrine Study Sections**

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Director, Division of Physiological and
Pathological Sciences

Study Sections

Title	Acronym
Kidney Molecular Biology and Genitourinary Organ Development	KMBD
Pathobiology of Kidney Disease	PBKD
Urology and Urogynecology	ZRG1 DKUS 90
Clinical, Integrative and Molecular Gastroenterology	CIMG
Gastrointestinal Mucosal Pathobiology	GMPB
Hepatobiliary Pathophysiology	HBPP
Cellular Aspects of Diabetes and Obesity	CADO
Clinical and Integrative Diabetes and Obesity	CIDO
Integrative Nutrition and Metabolic Processes	INMP
Integrative Physiology of Obesity and Diabetes	IPOD
Molecular and Cellular Endocrinology	MCE

Institutes Represented

Institute	Applications (% of Total)
NIDDK	76
NIAID	6
NCI	3
NICHD	3
NIA	3
NHLBI	3
Other ICs Combined	6

Current Status

- External panel has met
- Report completed
- Internal panel partially assembled

External Review Panel

Chairperson

Accili, Domenico, MD
Professor of Medicine
Director, Diabetes and Endocrinology Research Center
Columbia University

Members

Bergman, Richard, PhD
Professor and Director,
Biomedical Sciences Department
Diabetes and Obesity Research Institute
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
University of California, Los Angeles

Chang, Eugene, MD
Professor
Department of Medicine
Director, Inflammatory Bowel Disease Research Center
University of Chicago

Kaplan, Lee, MD, PhD
Associate Professor
Director, Obesity, Metabolism and Nutrition Institute
Massachusetts General Hospital
Harvard Medical School

Lamb, Dolores, PhD
Professor of Urology
Director, Center for Reproductive Genomics
Weill Cornell Medical Center

Merchant, Juanita, MD, PhD
Professor of Medicine
Chief, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
University of Arizona

Moore, David, PhD
Professor
Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology
Baylor College of Medicine

Schaffer, Jean, MD
Professor of Medicine
Director, Diabetes Research Center
Washington University

Sharkey, Keith, PhD
Professor, Departments of Physiology, Pharmacology
and Medicine
Crohn's and Colitis Chair in Inflammatory Bowel
Disease Research
University of Calgary

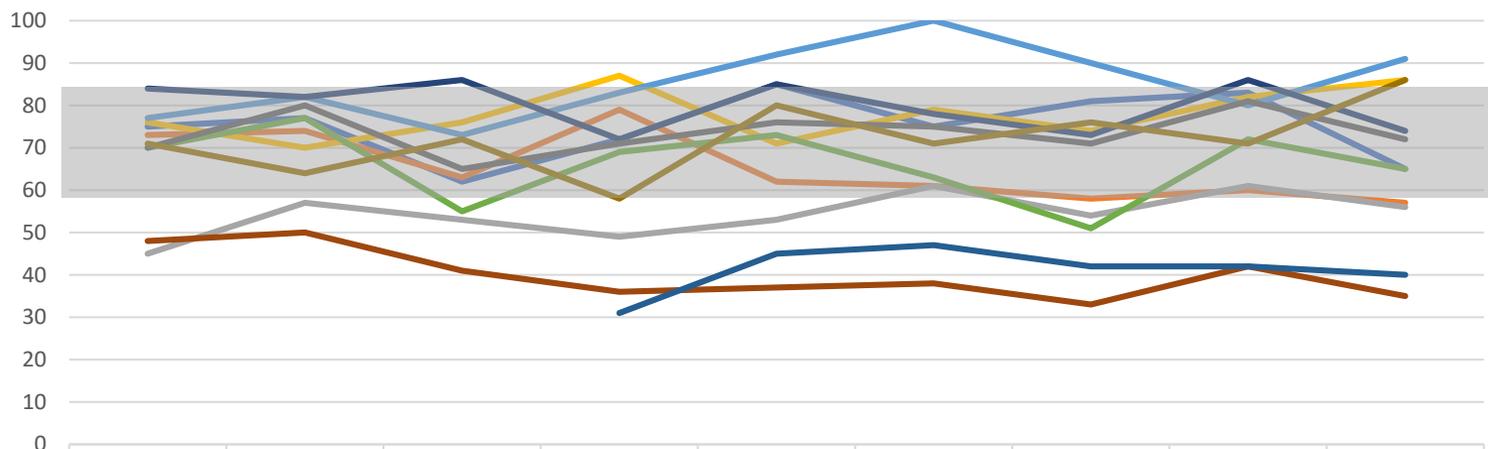
Szabo, Gyongyi, MD, PHD
Professor
Division of Gastroenterology
Department of Medicine
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Weisz, Ora, PhD
Professor, Department of Medicine and Cell Biology
University of Pittsburgh

West, Jennifer L., PhD
Professor
Department of Biomedical Engineering
Duke University

Zeidel, Mark, MD
Professor of Medicine
Chair, Department of Medicine
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Harvard Medical School

Application Number Trends



	201601	201605	201610	201701	201705	201710	201801	201805	201810
CADO	75	77	62	72	85	75	81	83	65
CIDO	73	74	63	79	62	61	58	60	57
CIMG	45	57	53	49	53	61	54	61	56
GMPB	76	70	76	87	71	79	74	82	86
HBPP	77	82	73	83	92	100	90	80	91
INMP	70	77	55	69	73	63	51	72	65
IPOD	84	82	86	72	85	78	73	86	74
KMBD	48	50	41	36	37	38	33	42	35
MCE	70	80	65	71	76	75	71	81	72
PBKD	71	64	72	58	80	71	76	71	86
ZRG1 DKUS-R (90)				31	45	47	42	42	40

Recommendation Examples

- **Retain study section profile**
 - PBKD
 - Cohesive group of topics
 - Size is ideal
 - Boundaries/overlap with related study sections clear and appropriate
- **Merge study sections**
 - KMBD and ZRG1 DKUS 90
 - Size is below optimal range for both study sections
 - Extensive biological overlap and unclear boundaries

Recommendation Examples

- **Reorganize a group of study sections**
 - CADO, CIDO, IPOD
 - Diabetes and obesity reviewed in all three
 - » Distributes these topics too broadly
 - Desirable to have basic, integrative and clinical studies reviewed in the same study section
 - Create two disease-related study sections
 - » One focused on diabetes
 - » Another focused on obesity
 - » Separating diseases avoids “camp” issues
 - **IPOD may become too small when diabetes and obesity moved out**
 - » Example of need for input from internal panel
 - » Merit of ENQUIRE process

Surveys of Reviewers and Program Officers

1. The panel was able to prioritize applications according to their impact/scientific merit.
2. The roster of reviewers was an appropriate assembly of scientific expertise for the set of applications in the meeting.
3. Assignments of applications to reviewers made appropriate use of their broad expertise.
4. The nature of the scientific discussions supported the ability of the panel to evaluate the applications being reviewed.
5. Please provide any additional comments about this study section in the text box below.

Reviewers: 299 surveys sent, 69% response

Program Officers: 136 surveys sent, 49% response

Survey Results: Program Officers

- **Top Categories for Positive Comments**
 - Proficient, informative and supportive SROs
 - Appropriate and representative expertise of reviewers
 - General satisfaction with study section outcomes
- **Top Categories for Negative Comments**
 - Scoring concerns, e.g., compression, inconsistency with written reviews of weaknesses and strengths
 - Need more reviewers with specific content and technological expertise

Survey Results: Reviewers

- **Top Categories for Positive Comments**
 - Productive, informative and respectful discussions
 - Fair, thorough and high-quality review
 - Appropriate and diverse expertise of reviewers
- **Top Categories for Negative Comments**
 - Too much score compression
 - Unqualified reviewers – lacked expertise
 - Biased reviewers (e.g., turf issues, PI reputation)

Questions?