Key questions defining research program:

- Quality Initiative - Investigate actual AVF/AVG maturation rates (along with Dr. Yuo with Vasc surgery) here at UPMC. Maturation being defined by removal of a TDC or use of AVF/AVG without a prior TDC placed
- Quality Initiative – Assess accuracy of vancomycin dosing in our ESRD patients at PUH with aim to develop a more standardized protocol hospital wide (if confirmed findings of moderate high incidence of inaccurate and missed vanco dosing)
- Quality initiative – Reducing inappropriately placed PICCs in advanced CKD patients along with investigating if positive association with increased VTEs

Key words describing research program:

- Hemodialysis vascular access (AVF/AVGs) maturation rates and QI
- Vancomycin dosing and hospitalized ESRD patients and QI
- CC line use (with CKD IV and ESRD) and QI

Titles for shovel-ready research projects:

- QI – UPMC AVF and AVG maturation rates
- QI – Assessing vancomycin dosing accuracy in hospitalized ESRD patients – a systems assessment
- QI – Assessing PICC line use in CKD patients at PUH

Data sources for shovel-ready research projects:

- Powerchart (via Cognos from Wolff Center) for procedure codes for surgery of AVF/AVG creation to create study cohort, EPIC medical chart review for Pre-HD care, then combination of outpatient DCI HD unit records +/- phone calls to HD units for confirmation of dialysis catheter removal/successful use of AVF
- Powerchart, pharmacy data
- Powerchart, (completely in-patient study here)