



Personalized Medicine & Biomarkers

What is personalized or precision medicine?

The last decade has seen great progress in science technology. The goal of personalized medicine (sometimes called precision medicine) is to use new scientific tools to understand disease based on *individual* differences in genetics, biology, and environment.

What is the goal of personalized medicine?

The goal is to move away from “one size fits all” treatments and to personalized care. Researchers want to bring new technologies to clinical care so that doctors can deliver the most effective and safest treatment to the *individual*.

What is a biomarker?

A biomarker is a measurement that provides specific information about a person’s health. A biomarker can be in the form of a blood or urine test, a gene or even a molecule in tissue. Biomarkers are the key to delivering personalized medicine.

How will biomarkers help people with kidney disease?

Biomarkers will be used to make a diagnosis, give individual and personalized information about prognosis, and to monitor treatment responses. As scientists discover new biomarkers, they also can provide new treatments to test in kidney disease.

How will NEPTUNE use my samples and information to find biomarkers?

NEPTUNE engages scientists from around the world to study the research samples provided by participants. To identify biomarkers of kidney disease, researchers use modern scientific tools (for example, genetics) and track an individual patient’s health in large databases. Researchers make all efforts to keep the information confidential. Your contributions will help change the future treatment of kidney disease.