Acknowledgements

I take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to Prof. K.R.S Sambasiva Rao, Head, Department of Biotechnology, Acharya Nagarjuna University, Nagarjuna Nagar- 522510, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, for his invaluable help, guidance, supervision and persistent encouragement provided during my research work.

I thank Acharya Nagarjuna University for providing me an opportunity to carry out my research work as full time scholar. I take this opportunity to thank all the faculty and research scholars for their help at the time of need.

I am grateful to Dr. S.V.L. Narayana Rao, Consultant Nephrologist, Aravind Kidney Centre, Brundavanam, Nellore, for his support in getting the blood and urine samples from the selected villages and for his valuable suggestions during the course of my work. I am also thankful to Mr. Rafi, Head, Clinical Laboratory division, Aravind Kidney Centre and his Laboratory technicians for their help during the collection of samples and in carrying out the biochemical analysis. I am thankful to my teacher, Sri S.V. Prasad, Lecturer in Biochemistry, Rao’s Degree and P.G College for his moral support and encouragement. I am also grateful to my coworkers Mr. M. Mallikarjun (Office in charge, HIB), Mr. Sarat Chandra and John Vinay (Technical Assistants, HIB) and Mr. Avej, Lecturer In Business management, Quaba Engineering College,
Nellore for their support. I am very much grateful to my friends Miss. Sushma, BDS (Narayana Dental College) and Miss. Gualab Jani for their help during this work.

Last but not least, I am thankful to my parents Mr. Madhavaiah and Mrs. Jayalakshmi, my beloved wife, Tharangini and my brother Krishna Mohan and his wife Lalitha Kumari and our little kid Bhavya Sri, for their moral support and encouragement, without which the completion of present study would have been very difficult.

P. Jaganmohan Rao