Research Advances

The KRESCENT Program (2005-2015): An evaluation of the state of kidney research training in Canada

The Kidney Research Scientist Core Education and National Training (KRESCENT) Program was launched in 2005 to enhance kidney research capacity in Canada and foster knowledge translation to improve care. An evaluation conducted by KRESCENT Program Director Dr. Kevin Burns and colleagues showed that after its first 10 years, KRESCENT trained more than 60 productive kidney researchers, and contributed to several novel discoveries as well as improved collaboration amongst scientists.


Kidney disease among registered Métis citizens of Ontario: A population-based cohort study

Indigenous people in Canada have rates of kidney disease that are 3 times higher than the non-Indigenous Canadian population, yet no studies have specifically examined patterns of kidney disease among Métis citizens living in Ontario. KRC Jindal Research Chair Dr. Manish Sood and colleagues found the rates of chronic kidney disease were slightly higher among Métis citizens compared with the general population (3.1% vs 2.6%). On the other hand, the incidence of acute kidney injury (sudden kidney failure) was similar in Métis citizens and the general population. Of those hospitalized with acute kidney injury, outcomes among Métis citizens and the general population were also similar, except for mortality after 1 year, which was higher for Métis citizens (24.5% vs 15.3%).

http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/2054358117703071#articleShareContainer

Microparticle formation in peritoneal dialysis: A proof of concept study

In a recent article in the Canadian Journal of Kidney Health and Disease, KRC Scientists Drs. Brendan McCormick, Marcel Ruzicka, Dylan Burger, and Swapnil Hiremath reported for the first time that tiny fragments of cells called “microparticles” are formed during peritoneal dialysis and appear in the dialysis fluid. It is hoped that measurement of these “microparticles” may one day be used to help guide the peritoneal dialysis prescription for individual patients.

http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/2054358117699829

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   The Ottawa Hospital Kidney Research Centre
   2518-451 Smyth Road
   Ottawa ON K1H 8M5

Kidney Fact

Nearly 1/3 of the people who died in 2015 while waiting for an organ needed a kidney. That’s 73 people.

~Kidney Foundation of Canada

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**Research Advances (continued)**

**Lower serum magnesium is associated with vascular calcification in peritoneal dialysis patients: a cross-sectional study**

Deposits of calcium (calcification) are commonly found in blood vessels in the heart in people on long-term dialysis, and high levels are associated with poorer patient outcomes. In animal studies, Magnesium (Mg) has been shown to inhibit calcification in blood vessels, but whether the same effect occurs in humans is uncertain. **Dr. Deb Zimmerman** and colleagues found that in people on peritoneal dialysis, low levels of blood Mg was associated with a higher chance of blood vessel calcification, suggesting that Mg may indeed inhibit calcium deposits in humans. If this association is also found in studies involving larger numbers of patients, the effects of treatments that increase blood Mg on vascular calcification will warrant further study in people with chronic kidney disease.

http://rdcu.be/qJAT

**Distinctions and Awards**

**Dr. Dylan Burger**
Has been named the new co-Chair of the Membership Committee for Hypertension Canada.

**Mr. David Eckert**
Congratulations to Mr. David Eckert (a graduate student in the laboratory of Dr. Richard Hébert) on the successful defense of his Master’s thesis. Thesis title: “The role of PGE2/EP1 receptors in the hypertensive mouse kidney”.

**KRC Outreach**

**Alive to Strive**
Alive to Strive is committed to helping those living with chronic kidney disease maintain a healthy lifestyle. It is a front-line organization working directly with individuals living with kidney disease to encourage better health and provide a supportive network.
http://alivetostrive.ca

**La Serata Italiana/Italian Night**
The Annual Serata Italiana/Italian Night in support of the KRC and The Kidney Foundation of Canada is held annually in March.
http://kidney.ca/italiannightottawa

**Kidney Research Centre Golf Tournament**
In the past year, with the support of the KRC golf tournament, Scientists at the KRC have conducted world-class research that seeks to regenerate injured kidneys, research that promises to improve detection of kidney disease, and research that has already changed clinical practice in kidney transplantation around the world. Please join us at this year’s Golf Tournament on Monday September 18th at The Meadows Golf & Country Club.
http://www.krc-events.com/