



The foundation of kidney care.

# FACING THE FACTS

2019

Includes highlights from the Canadian Organ Replacement Register<sup>i</sup>

## Kidney Disease

- 1 in 10 Canadians has kidney disease; that's 4 million people.<sup>ii</sup>
- The leading cause of kidney failure is diabetes at 39%.
- The number of people living with kidney disease has grown 35% since 2008.\*
- 46% of new renal failure patients are under the age of 65.\*
- Nearly 49,000 Canadians are being treated for kidney failure.<sup>iii</sup>
- Treatment for those with end-stage kidney disease:
  - 57.5% are on dialysis
  - 42.5% have a functioning transplant<sup>iii</sup>
- Of those patients on dialysis, more than three-quarters were receiving institutional hemodialysis, the most expensive treatment option.<sup>iii</sup>
- A person can lose more than 50% of their kidney function before symptoms appear. Symptoms are silent in the early stages.
- There is no cure for kidney disease.
- In 2016, kidney disease was the 11<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in Canada.<sup>iv</sup>
- Nearly 25% of patients in Canada are late-referral, which means they started dialysis only 90 days after first seeing a nephrologist.\*

### Take Action:

1. Register your intention to donate your organs: either on your healthcare card, driver's license or through your provincial donor registry.
2. Speak to your family and loved ones to make sure they know and honour your wishes.
3. Consider living organ donation.
4. To join the Kidney Paired Donation Program Registry, visit [www.blood.ca/en/organs-tissues](http://www.blood.ca/en/organs-tissues)
5. Know your risk for kidney disease and learn what you can do to treat kidney failure. [www.kidney.ca/risk](http://www.kidney.ca/risk).

## Organ Donation

- 78% of the 4,300 Canadians on the waiting list for an organ transplant are waiting for a kidney.<sup>v</sup>
- Of the people on dialysis, only 16% are on the waiting list for a transplant.<sup>iii and iv</sup>
- The five-year survival rate for adults with transplanted kidneys is 92% from living donors and 82% from deceased donors.\*
- There were 1,771 kidney transplants performed in 2017.<sup>iii</sup>
- Median wait time for a deceased-donor kidney transplant is 4 years.\*
- Median wait times for 2017 were:
  - longest in Manitoba (6 years)
  - shortest in Nova Scotia (3 years)
- 27% of kidney transplants are made possible by living donors.<sup>iii</sup>
- 45% of all living donors are unrelated to the recipient.<sup>iii</sup>
- Per million population, there are only 22 people who will become organ donors and 15 people will be living donors.
- Rates per million population for kidney transplants from deceased donors:
  - Highest rate BC & Yukon Territory 41.4%
  - Lowest rate Saskatchewan 19.8%
- Rates per million population for kidney transplants from living donors:
  - Highest rate Manitoba 20.9%
  - Lowest rate Atlantic provinces 3.3%
- Since 2008, the Kidney Paired Donation program has completed 637 transplants.<sup>iv</sup>



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### Burden and Cost of Care

Kidney disease and its treatment can take a great physical and psychological toll.

Patients with kidney failure must undergo hemodialysis treatments three times per week, each one taking four to five hours. Transportation to and from dialysis can be a significant and costly challenge.

Out-of-pocket costs associated with dialysis can amount to 12.5% of some patients' income.<sup>vii</sup>

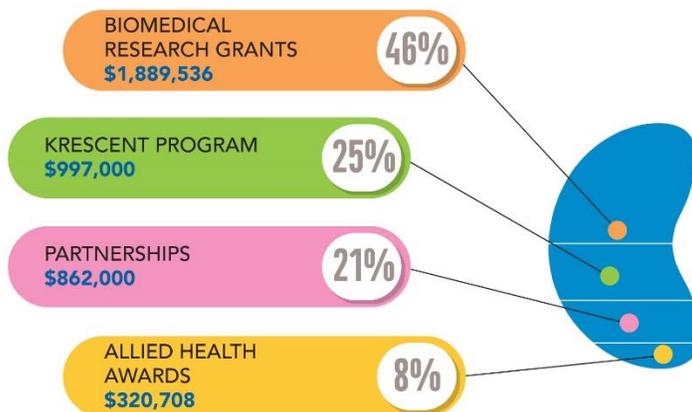
Dialysis is the most common treatment for kidney failure and costs the health care system nearly \$100,000 per patient per year.<sup>ii</sup>

The cost to the health care system for chronic kidney disease is approximately \$40 billion per year.<sup>ii</sup>

### Research Investment

The Kidney Foundation of Canada is committed to supporting research excellence through its grant programs, having contributed well over \$123 million to research since 1964.

## Total invested in research in 2018: \$4,069,244



i) Organ replacement in Canada: CORR annual statistics, 2018, <https://www.cihi.ca/en/organ-replacement-in-canada-corr-annual-statistics-2018>

ii) Manns, Braden et al. "The Financial Impact of Advanced Kidney Disease on Canada Pension Plan and Private Disability Insurance Costs" *Canadian journal of kidney health and disease* vol. 4 2054358117703986. 17 Apr. 2017, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5406196/>

iii) Organ replacement in Canada: CORR annual statistics, 2018, <https://www.cihi.ca/en/organ-replacement-in-canada-corr-annual-statistics-2018>, supplemented with data collected by the Quebec Branch of The Kidney Foundation of Canada as provided by renal units.

iv) Statistics Canada. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1310039401>

v) CORR e-Statistics on Organ Transplants, Waiting Lists and Donors 2017, <https://www.cihi.ca/sites/default/files/document/corr-estatics-2017-en.xlsx>

vi) Canadian Blood Donor Services, Kidney Paired Donation (KPD) Program, <https://professionaleducation.blood.ca/en/organes-et-tissus/programmes-et-services/kidney-paired-donation-kpd-program>.

vii) Burden of Out-of-Pocket Costs for Canadians with Kidney Failure report, 23% of survey respondents reported an annual income below \$20,000; and the annual average out-of-pocket costs to patients related to dialysis ranged from \$1,400 to \$2,500. [www.kidney.ca/burden](http://www.kidney.ca/burden)

\* Excludes Québec.