



# Kidney Health Research Grant

## 2024 Priority Announcement/ Partnership Opportunities

The following Priority Announcements/ Partnership Opportunities will be available as a part of the 2024 Kidney Health Research Grant competition. Please refer to the Kidney Health Research Grant policies for Priority Announcement/ Partnership Policy details.

### **PRIORITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **1. Research in Health Equity**

The KFOC will provide funding for project applications that are considered relevant to developing, encouraging, promoting, or providing advancement for health concerns directly related to an underserved group in Canada. Please note, that justification of why this population is to be considered underserved, must be included in the eligibility justification. Project design must include respect for cultural or population values and applicants must provide evidence of direct involvement from the population being addressed in project design, implementation, and/or knowledge dissemination. Additionally, budget considerations for contributions should be considered.

This opportunity may include but is not limited to Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit and/or Métis) health. Please see below for additional requirements:

#### **Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit and/or Métis) Health**

Projects must include direct relevance to Indigenous health concerns, and must include respect for Indigenous values, cultures, and ways of knowing. Please note that in order to be eligible for this research opportunity, applicants must provide evidence of Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit or Métis) involvement in the project design, implementation, and knowledge dissemination and should provide budget considerations to support indigenous involvement in the project (included but not limited to: honorariums for elders/knowledge keepers, tobacco/sacred medicine or other offerings, translation of project materials to indigenous languages, etc.).

#### **2. Awareness, Access, and Action**

The KFOC will provide funding for project applications that focus on increasing awareness of the impact of kidney disease on patients and/or improving patient access to evidence-based treatments and optimal care. This priority includes but is not limited to:

- Projects focusing on the health economics of kidney disease.
- Projects focused on collecting population health data to provide evidence for the current state of kidney care.
- Projects that focus on exploring strategies to improve patient access to health information or care.
- Projects that will provide evidence to inform health policy changes and/or advocacy.



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### 3. Mental Health Awareness and Support on the Kidney Transplant Journey

The KFOC will provide funding for project applications focusing on promoting, advancing, or increasing awareness of mental health in living organ donors, transplant recipients, or their caregivers. This priority includes but is not limited to:

- Projects that focus on the integration of meaningful support for mental health throughout the transplant/donation journey.
- Projects that contribute to the resources or quality development indicators needed to support people on a transplant/donation journey.
- Projects that investigate and focus on peer support in transplant/donation programs.
- Projects that will provide evidence to inform health policy changes and/or advocacy for patients and/or caregivers on a transplant/donation journey.

## PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### 1. Kidney Foundation of Canada/ Can SOLVE CKD Partnership

To assist in dissemination and broadening of research in the kidney health field that focuses on, or engages in, patient-oriented research, a partnership grant opportunity will be available to support Kidney Health Research Grants which contain a patient-oriented focus, or a strong patient engagement lens.

Applicants must specify an interest in the partnership program at the time of application, including noting how patient engagement and patient-oriented research is pertinent to their course of work.

Please note the following:

- It is strongly encouraged for applicants to this partnership grant to have evidence of interaction with lived-experienced partners at the time of application.
- Applicants should NOT be currently receiving funds from Can-SOLVE CKD for the proposed work.
- Applicants do not need to have previous experience working with Can-SOLVE CKD.
- Awardees will be encouraged to utilize Can-SOLVE CKD resources to assist in their program development and will be encouraged to attend Can-SOLVE CKD related events/ training opportunities.

### 2. The CSN-Otsuka Vicky Karoutas Memorial Award

The Canadian Society of Nephrology (CSN), in collaboration with The Kidney Foundation of Canada and Otsuka Canada Pharmaceutical, is establishing the Vicky Karoutas Memorial Award to support research studies addressing important issues for patients with kidney disease.

The proposal must be patient-oriented and primed to improve kidney health, kidney care, kidney disease management, and patient outcomes. Elements of patient-oriented research activities



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may include the development of new technologies, educational or therapeutic interventions, epidemiological studies, health policy studies, and clinical trials. Applicants must show engagement with lived experience partners or communities within their application.

This award is in commemoration of Vicky Karoutas; a leader within the Nephrology community in Canada. Vicky has been instrumental in creating awareness on kidney health, the importance of kidneys, and how to protect them. In her role at Otsuka Canada, she was always making decisions with a patient lens, and doing everything possible (and impossible) to provide hope and improve the lives of patients with kidney disease.

This award is to perpetuate her legacy of fight against chronic kidney disease and reducing the burden of kidney disease throughout Canada.

Please note the following:

- Applicants must apply to the KFOC Kidney Health Grant Competition in its entirety and select that they have a patient-oriented focus/component to be selected for this award and be found eligible for funding through the general pool by peer review.
- Support is provided for one year at a total amount of \$25,000 CDN on top of the Kidney Health Research Grant funds.
- To be eligible to receive this award, applicants must hold a valid CSN membership
- The top ranked project in the general pool which includes a patient-oriented lens will be offered this award after approval from KFOC, CSN and Otsuka Canada.
- Awardee will be required to submit a proposed budget for the additional funds (time will be given to create this budget and submit it after award is given, and is NOT to be included in the proposal).
- The award will be announced annually during the CSN AGM, and given with the first-year grant payment through KFOC.
- This award is not connected to any other partnership.