



The foundation of kidney care.

## *NATIONAL MEDIA RELEASE*

# **Dr. Brendan Barrett awarded Kidney Foundation Medal for Research Excellence**

[Montreal, Quebec – October 3, 2019] The Kidney Foundation of Canada is pleased to announce Dr. Brendan Barrett is the recipient of the 2019 Medal for Research Excellence.

Dr. Brendan Barrett has contributed generously to the Canadian kidney research landscape for over 25 years through his work in transformational research. He is currently the Chief Scientific Officer of the Translational and Personalized Medicine Initiative, funded by the Canadian Institute for Health Research (NL SUPPORT, Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research), the province of Newfoundland & Labrador, the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and IBM.

Dr. Barrett was presented the prestigious award at a reception held in his honour on September 17 at The Frank and Eileen Gronich Lecture Theatre, Memorial University in St. John's, Newfoundland.

“Dr. Barrett is a consummate ambassador of the best Canadian kidney investigation has to offer on the world stage,” says Elizabeth Myles, National Executive Director of The Kidney Foundation of Canada. “He serves as a valuable mentor and role model to his junior colleagues thanks to his leadership, advice and team building prowess.”

Described by his colleagues as a “gentle giant” and a “pillar” of Canadian research, Dr. Barrett is also the principal investigator for eastern Canada for the Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) Chronic Kidney Disease network under review by CIHR and co-investigator on the CIHR funded ACCESS trial investigating the role of fistulas versus other access for elderly patients starting dialysis. Dr Barrett has been an influential, intelligent and sensible leader in several important Canadian studies, including CanPREVENT: the Canadian Prevention of Renal and Cardiovascular Endpoints Trial which enhanced understanding of how to improve multidisciplinary care for people with chronic kidney disease.

Dr. Barrett's key contributions in the innovative use of non-ionic contrast media to prevent contrast nephropathy have made him recognized worldwide as the foremost expert on the subject. He has advanced understanding on topics in progressive chronic kidney disease and end-stage kidney disease.

Dr. Barrett has dedicated a substantial amount of his time serving on and elevating the Canadian research community through Kidney Foundation activities. These include serving as a member of the Biomedical Scientific Committee for seven years and acting as a member of the Foundation's Research Council, and of the National Medical Advisory Committee.

**About the Medal for Research Excellence:** Since its creation in 1996, the Medal for Research Excellence has been awarded annually to a Canadian resident who is recognized nationally and internationally for excellence in kidney research. Excellence can be determined by the impact of an individual's research on the discovery of new knowledge to advance the field of kidney-related research. Another key factor is the potential of the recipient's research to significantly improve patient care.



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**About The Kidney Foundation of Canada:** *Kidney health and improved lives for all people affected by kidney disease* - for over 50 years, this vision has guided The Kidney Foundation of Canada to be a collaborative, inventive and focused leader in the development of programs, services, research opportunities and awareness campaigns that have had a positive impact on Canadians living with, or at risk of developing kidney disease. Since 1964 The Kidney Foundation of Canada has contributed \$123 million to medical research projects to ensure that treatment options and patients results continue to improve.

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For more information, please contact:

Paul St-Germain  
The Kidney Foundation of Canada  
Email [paul.stgermain@kidney.ca](mailto:paul.stgermain@kidney.ca)  
Phone: 1-800-361-7494 Ext. 249