

Continuing the Fight Against Kidney Disease



Kidney Research Centre

Centre de recherche sur
les maladies du rein

Kidney Research Centre
2014-2015 Annual Report

About the KRC

The Kidney Research Center (KRC) was established in 2000 at The Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, University of Ottawa, and is the first centre of its kind in Canada devoted exclusively to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of kidney disease. The KRC team consists of laboratory scientists, clinician investigators, students and research trainees, technologists, research coordinators, research managers, and clerical and administrative staff. Since 2000, the KRC has experienced significant growth in the size of its team of researchers, and in the scope of the research being conducted.



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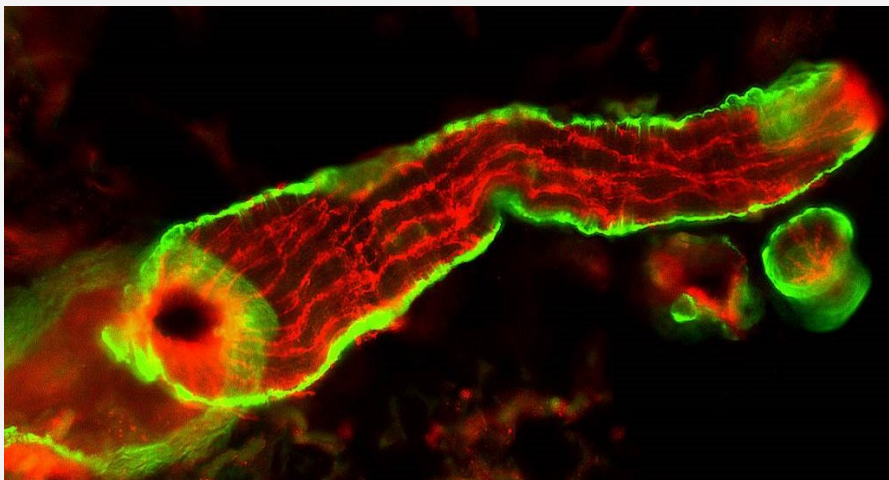
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Cover: Dr. Dylan Burger (KRC Scientist) with KRC student trainees Maddison Turner and Shareef Akbari.

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Shown (left) is a blood vessel from healthy mouse kidney. Green colour is used to identify the endothelial lining of the blood vessel while red is used to identify the vessel wall.

*Image courtesy of KRC Research Associate **Dr. Alex Gutsol***



Kidney Research Centre 2014 -2015 Annual Report

Executive Summary

In the last 20 years, an exponential rise in the incidence of chronic kidney disease (CKD) has occurred in Canada, with more and more people requiring kidney replacement therapy with dialysis or transplantation. The ageing population and the rising prevalence of diabetes account for a major component of the increased numbers of people affected by kidney disease. No matter what the cause of this increase, however, there is certainty about one aspect: only research can lead to improved ways to prevent, detect and treat all forms of kidney disease. From its inception in 2000, the Kidney Research Centre (KRC) has been dedicated to this cause. During the academic year 2014-15 more than 60 peer reviewed manuscripts were published by KRC investigators, encompassing basic, translational and clinical investigation. A broad range of research topics was addressed, including laboratory studies on the pathogenesis of kidney tubulointerstitial fibrosis, clinical research on factors that influence the initiation of dialysis, research on the use of temporary dialysis catheters, and studies that demonstrated the impact of a commonly used anti-rejection medicine (sirolimus) on kidney transplant outcomes. The complete list of publications for the academic year is presented in the Appendix of this report.

On the basic research side, Dr. Dylan Burger was appointed as a Scientist at the KRC (OHRI, Chronic Disease Program), and Assistant Professor (Dept. of Cellular and Molecular Medicine) at the University of Ottawa in July 2014. Dr. Burger's laboratory investigates the role of plasma and urinary microparticles as biomarkers and mediators of kidney injury, in experimental models and humans with CKD. Dr. Burger is recipient of a prestigious KRESCENT New Investigator Award, and has received peer review grant support from the Canadian Diabetes Association, and the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI).

In 2014-15, the model for clinical research at the KRC underwent significant reorganization, under the direction of Dr. Deb Zimmerman. With support from the Division of Nephrology, Ms. Brittany Hollingsworth was appointed as a dedicated research administrative assistant at KRC to help implement a new model of study management that promises to improve efficiencies in study start-up, conduct, oversight, and completion.

Dr. Manish Sood continues to receive support as the Jindal Research Chair for the Prevention of Kidney Disease. Dr. Sood has been very productive since his arrival in Ottawa in 2013, and he is pursuing graduate training in Epidemiology at the University of Ottawa. In 2014-15, Dr. Sood also received funding from the Dr. Peter J. Swedko Memorial Legacy Fund, established by the Swedko family. Dr. Swedko was a young nephrologist and early innovator in use of information technology

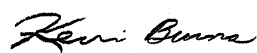
to guide nephrology care, before he passed away after a brief illness in 2004.

As in 2013-14, funding for health research remains at critically low levels in Canada, creating major challenges for investigators focused on specialty areas such as kidney disease. Despite this challenge, investigators at the KRC were successful in 2014-15 in receiving substantial grant support. In addition to Dr. Burger's grant successes noted above, Dr. Marcel Ruzicka was awarded a grant from The Ottawa Hospital Academic Medical Organization (TOHAMO) and the Innovation Fund Provincial Oversight Committee (IFPOC) to study if protein supplementation can prevent hyponatremia (low sodium) in elderly patients treated with thiazide diuretics for hypertension. Dr. Greg Knoll (Director of Kidney Transplantation at The Ottawa Hospital) received a grant from the CIHR to study the impact of screening for coronary artery disease in kidney transplant candidates. Dr. Knoll was also awarded a major CIHR Foundation grant (\$3.9 M over 7 years), to undertake patient-centred research related to kidney transplantation. This new funding will support the translation of kidney transplantation knowledge into clinical practice to enhance health outcomes and train the next generation of kidney transplant researchers. Projects include developing decision aids to help patients with their treatment choice, identifying complications and adverse events in order to improve quality of life and survival, and developing metrics to properly measure the quality of transplant care.

In addition to peer review grants, research programs at KRC benefit from institutional support, private donations, and community fund-raising. In 2014-15, in collaboration with The Ottawa Hospital Foundation, the University of Ottawa established a \$250 k research fund at KRC, matching the \$500 k contribution of a private donor. Community events such as the Wall and Ceiling Contractors' Association (WACCA) Golf Tournament, the Annual Italian Night, and the Alive to Strive Kidney Fitness Project raised more than \$100 k for our research programs. This tremendous support allows us to pursue studies destined to help people affected by kidney disease.

The KRC is dedicated to training young scientists. We are therefore proud to note that in 2015, Dr. J-F Thibodeau (Dr. Kennedy's lab) successfully completed his PhD training, and Mr. Ramzi Hassouneh (Dr. Hébert's lab) was awarded his MSc degree. Dr. Jose Vinas (Dr. Burns' lab) was awarded a Kidney Foundation of Canada Trainee Scholarship, presented at the Annual Italian Night, to support his project on human cell therapy to accelerate kidney repair.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the staff of the KRC for another successful year of research. In particular, special thanks are due to Ms. Gaby Cherton-Horvat, our KRC lab manager. In addition to training our staff and creating a safe and professional laboratory work environment over the year, Gaby dedicated many hours to collect and assemble the information for this report.



Kevin D. Burns MD CM, FRCP

Professor of Medicine, Division of Nephrology, Dept. of Medicine

Director, KRC



Rapport annuel du Centre de recherche sur les maladies du rein de 2014-2015

Résumé

Au cours des 20 dernières années, le Canada a connu une hausse exponentielle de l'incidence des maladies rénales chroniques (MRC). De plus en plus de personnes nécessitent le traitement d'une insuffisance rénale par dialyse ou transplantation. Le vieillissement de la population et l'augmentation de la prévalence du diabète sont la principale composante de l'augmentation du nombre de personnes souffrant de maladies rénales. Quelle que soit la cause de cette augmentation, une chose est sûre : seule la réalisation de recherches peut engendrer une amélioration des méthodes de prévention, de détection et de traitement de toutes les formes de maladies rénales. Depuis sa création en 2000, le Centre de recherche sur les maladies du rein (CRMR) a cette cause à cœur. Au cours de l'année académique 2014-2015, plus de 60 manuscrits revus par les pairs ont été publiés par les chercheurs du CRMR. Ces documents comprenaient des recherches fondamentales, translationnelles et cliniques. Toute une gamme de thèmes de recherche a été traitée. On a notamment réalisé des études en laboratoire sur la pathogénie de la fibrose tubulo-interstitielle rénale, des recherches cliniques sur les facteurs qui influent sur le commencement de la dialyse, des recherches sur l'utilisation de cathéters de dialyse temporaires et des études démontrant l'incidence d'un médicament anti-rejet couramment utilisé (sirolimus) sur les résultats des transplantations rénales. La liste complète des publications de l'année scolaire figure en annexe du présent rapport.

Pour ce qui est de la recherche fondamentale, Dylan Burger a été nommé scientifique au CRMR (IRHO, Programme sur les maladies chroniques) et professeur adjoint (Département de médecine cellulaire et moléculaire) à l'Université d'Ottawa en juillet 2014. Le laboratoire de Dr. Burger étudie le rôle des microparticules plasmatiques et urinaires à titre de biomarqueurs et de médiateurs des lésions rénales chez les modèles expérimentaux et les humains souffrant de MRC. M. Burger est le lauréat de la prestigieuse bourse Nouveau chercheur KRESCENT et a reçu le soutien de l'Association canadienne du diabète et de la Fondation canadienne pour l'innovation (FCI) pour l'obtention de ces deux subventions évalué par les pairs.

En 2014-2015, le modèle de recherche clinique du CRMR a subi une réorganisation majeure, sous la direction du Dr. Deb Zimmerman. Avec l'appui de la Division de néphrologie, Brittany Hollingsworth a été nommée adjointe administrative de recherche spécialisée au sein du CRMR. Son rôle est d'aider à la mise en œuvre d'un nouveau modèle de gestion des études qui promet d'améliorer le lancement, la conduite, la supervision et l'achèvement des études.

Manish Sood continue de recevoir une aide à titre de titulaire de la chaire de recherche Jindal sur la prévention des maladies du rein. Dr. Sood est très productif depuis son arrivée à Ottawa en 2013 il a débuté une formation aux cycles supérieurs en épidémiologie à l'Université d'Ottawa. En 2014-2015, M. Sood a également reçu un financement du Fonds de dotation en héritage commémoratif Dr Peter J. Swedko, établi par la famille Swedko. M. Swedko était un jeune néphrologue et l'un des premiers à utiliser la technologie de l'information pour orienter les soins néphrologiques avant son décès des suites d'une brève maladie en 2004.

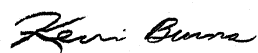
Tout comme en 2013-2014, le niveau du financement de la recherche en santé demeure extrêmement faible au Canada, ce qui engendre des difficultés majeures pour les chercheurs qui se concentrent dans des créneaux

spécialisés, comme les maladies rénales. Malgré ces difficultés, en 2014-2015, les chercheurs du CRMR ont réussi à obtenir d'importantes subventions. En plus de l'obtention par Dr. Burger des subventions mentionnées au préalable, Dr. Marcel Ruzicka a obtenu des subventions de la Ottawa Hospital Academic Medical Organization (TOHAMO) et de l'Innovation Fund Provincial Oversight Committee (IFPOC) pour déterminer si un régime protéiné peut prévenir l'hyponatrémie (faible concentration de sodium) chez les patients âgés dont l'hypertension est soignée avec des diurétiques thiazidiques. Dr. Greg Knoll (directeur de la transplantation rénale à l'Hôpital d'Ottawa) a reçu une subvention de l'Institut de recherche en santé du Canada (IRSC) pour étudier l'incidence de la détection de maladies coronariennes chez les candidats à une transplantation rénale. Dr. Knoll a également reçu une subvention majeure de la Fondation de l'IRSC (3,9 millions de dollars sur sept ans), pour réaliser des recherches liées à la transplantation rénale axées sur les patients. Ces nouveaux fonds soutiendront la traduction des connaissances sur la transplantation rénale en pratiques cliniques en vue d'améliorer les résultats en matière de santé et de former la prochaine génération de chercheurs en transplantation rénale. Les projets comprennent l'élaboration d'aides à la prise de décision qui permettront aux patients de choisir leur traitement, de cerner les complications et les effets indésirables, afin d'améliorer la qualité de vie et le taux de survie, et d'établir des mesures servant à mesurer adéquatement la qualité des soins associés aux transplantations.

En plus des subventions valués par les pairs, les programmes de recherche réalisés par le CRMR bénéficient du soutien d'institutions, de dons privés et de collectes de fonds communautaires. En 2014-2015, en collaboration avec la Fondation de l'Hôpital d'Ottawa, l'Université d'Ottawa a établi un fonds de recherche de 250 000 \$ au sein du CRMR, en contrepartie de la contribution de 500 000 \$ d'un donateur privé. Des événements communautaires tels que le tournoi de golf de la Wall and Ceiling Contractors' Association (WACCA), la Soirée italienne annuelle et le projet Vivre ses défis pour la santé des reins ont permis de récolter plus de 100 000 \$ pour nos programmes de recherche. Ce soutien exceptionnel nous permet de poursuivre les études visant à soutenir les personnes souffrant de maladies rénales.

Le CRMR se consacre aussi à la formation de jeunes scientifiques. Nous sommes donc fiers d'annoncer qu'en 2015, J-F Thibodeau (laboratoire de Dr. Kennedy) a achevé son Philosophiae Doctor (Ph.D) et que Ramzi Hassouneh (laboratoire de M. Hébert) a obtenu sa maîtrise ès sciences (M.Sc). Dr. Jose Vinas (laboratoire de Dr. Burns) a obtenu une bourse pour stagiaire de la Fondation canadienne du rein, remise lors de la Soirée Italienne annuelle, à l'appui de son projet sur la thérapie cellulaire utilisant des cellules humaines pour accélérer la réparation des lésions rénales.

J'aimerais profiter de cette occasion pour remercier le personnel du CRMR pour cette nouvelle année de recherche couronnée de succès. J'aimerais particulièrement remercier Gaby Cherton-Horvat, la gestionnaire du laboratoire du CRMR. En plus de former notre personnel et d'établir un milieu de travail convivial et professionnel dans nos laboratoires, Gaby a consacré de nombreuses heures à la collecte et au regroupement de renseignements pour la production du présent rapport.



Kevin D. Burns M.D., CM, FRCPC, directeur du CRMR



KRC Scientist Shares Expertise Through Social Media

Dr. Swapnil Hiremath is a nephrologist at The Ottawa Hospital, and a Clinician Investigator at the KRC. Apart from these daytime responsibilities, he is an active contributor to several social media initiatives. Just over a year ago, he teamed up with Dr. Joel Topf and started a twitter-based, open, online journal club called “#nephJC”. Since April 2014, they have had 29 sessions with over a 1000 unique participants and more than 15,000 tweets. Participants discuss scientific articles as well as clinical practice guidelines

during their live chats, which occur twice a month. Dr. Hiremath believes the journal club serves multiple purposes: for critical appraisal of research, wider dissemination—ensuring doctors and scientists have the most up to date information, and a social purpose by allowing nephrologists, trainees, and even individuals from other related specialties, to connect, network and build relationships. Apart from #nephJC, Swapnil also maintains a blog for the American Journal of Kidney Disease (his posts are available at: <http://ajkdblog.org/tag/hiremath/>). Recent blog topics include a summary and interpretation of a major study looking at magnesium levels in hemodialysis, a knowledge quiz for physicians treating low sodium in pregnancy, and a summary of activities at the recent meeting of the Canadian Society of Nephrology.

Lastly, Dr. Hiremath feels that it is vital for medical professionals to be active in social media to advocate for best medical practices and to combat misinformation. For example, a recent article published on “NPR Health” discussed the issue of dialysis access. The article dealt with a topic close to Dr. Hiremath’s heart, however it contained a number of inaccuracies and Dr. Hiremath launched a twitter campaign to highlight the problems with the story. This resulted in the reporter contacting him for an interview and producing a follow up article which clarified Dr. Hiremath’s concerns (<http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2015/06/30/418652008/caveats-about-favored-access-method-for-dialysis>

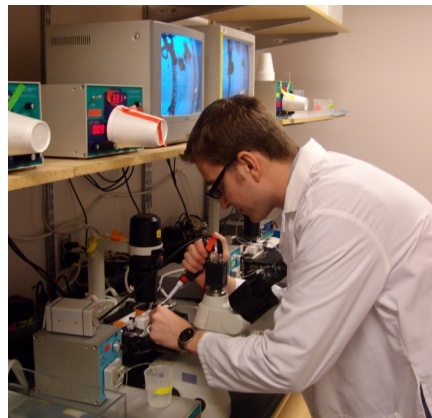
Profile at a glance:

Dr. Swapnil Hiremath is a Staff Nephrologist at the Ottawa Hospital, an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa, an Associate Investigator in the Clinical Epidemiology Programme at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI), and Clinician Investigator at the Kidney Research Centre. His primary research interest is in using systematic reviews, meta-analyses and decision-analytic modeling to improve care for patients with hypertension, chronic kidney disease, hemodialysis and patients with acute kidney injury.

KRC Welcomes Public at 2015 Open House

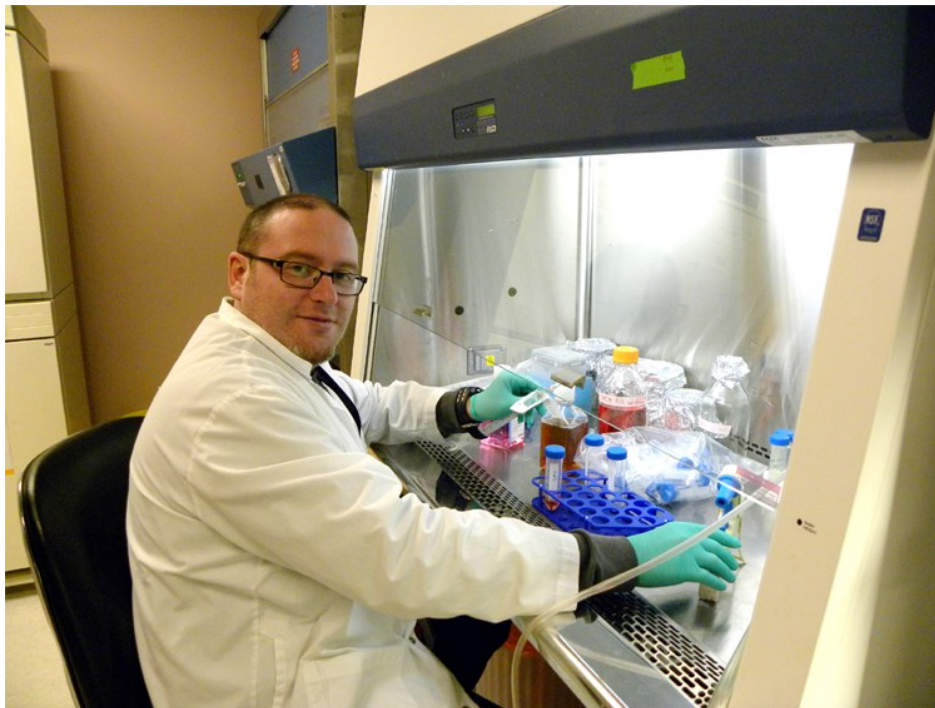
Centre de recherche sur les maladies du rein
Kidney Research Centre

On March 26, the KRC hosted its second Open House. The day was a great success with over 60 participants including patients, health care workers, students, scientists, and members of the public. Attendees had the opportunity to tour the facilities, view research highlights and ask questions of KRC Scientists. Thanks to all our attendees for sharing in our exciting research!



Italian Night Continues Tradition of Fundraising and Celebration

On Saturday March 7th the KRC joined in celebrating the 31st annual Serata Italian Night Dinner which raises funds for patient services, awareness initiatives, scholarships and research at the KRC. The dinner was held at the Sala San Marco and featured great food, networking, and entertainment. Dr. Jose Viñas (right), a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Kevin Burns studying kidney regeneration, was the recipient of the 2015 Agostino Monteduro Italian Night Scholarship. The KRC is thankful for the tireless efforts of the Italian Night Organizing Committee in support of research aimed at improving the lives of people affected by kidney disease.



Dr. Jose Viñas (2015 awardee of the Agostino Monteduro Italian Night Scholarship) hard at work in the KRC laboratories. Dr. Viñas is working to repair injured kidneys using cell therapy.

Alive to Strive Race Raises Funds and Promotes Awareness of Kidney Disease

April 26 marked the 5th annual Alive to Strive Kidney Fitness Project Race. This year's edition featured more than 700 participants and marked two major fundraising milestones. The event has now raised more than \$100,000 for its active living grant program as well as over \$50,000 for the Kidney Research Centre and other supported charities! Thank you once again to Marie-Eve Chainey (President of the Board of Directors) and the entire Alive to Strive Organizing Committee!



For more information visit:

Web: <http://www.alivetostrive.ca/>

Twitter: [@alive_to_strive](https://twitter.com/alive_to_strive)

WACCA Golf Tournament Benefits the KRC

Each year the Walls and Ceilings Contractors Association (WACCA) organizes a fund-raising golf tournament for its members and partners in an effort to give back to the community. For the 31st annual event the organizers elected to have the proceeds go to support research at the KRC. The event, which was held at the Kanata Golf and Country Club on September 15th, was a tremendous success raising more than \$85,000. The KRC would like to sincerely thank Mr. Albert Lefebvre (head organizer) and the rest of the WACCA organizing committee for their efforts in organizing the event as well as all of the golfers and sponsors of the tournament.



Pictured (L-R): Mr. David Gibson, Dr. Kevin Burns (KRC Director), Ms. Jennifer van Noort (TOH Foundation), Mr. Albert Lefebvre, Mr. Donald Sutherland.

Appendix

1. KRC Staff / Trainees
2. Publication List 2014-15
3. KRC Funding Summary 2014-15
4. KRC Invited Presentations / Lectures
5. Awards and Distinctions
6. Visiting Speakers

KRC STAFFING 2014-15

MEMBERS OF THE DIVISION OF NEPHROLOGY / KIDNEY RESEARCH CENTRE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Scientific Rank</u>
Dr. Ayub Akbari	Associate Professor Division of Nephrology	Senior Clinical Investigator, OHRI
Dr. Robert Bell	Associate Professor Division of Nephrology	
Dr. Mohan Biyani	Assistant Professor Division of Nephrology	Clinical Investigator, OHRI
Dr. Pierre Antoine Brown	Assistant Professor Division of Nephrology	Clinical Investigator, OHRI
Dr. Ann Bugeja	Assistant Professor Division of Nephrology	
Dr. Dylan Burger	Assistant Professor Dept of Cellular and Molecular Medicine University of Ottawa	Scientist, OHRI, KRC
Dr. Kevin D. Burns	Professor of Medicine Division of Nephrology University of Ottawa	Senior Scientist, OHRI
Dr. Edward Clark	Director of Kidney Research Centre Assistant Professor Division of Nephrology University of Ottawa	Clinical Investigator, OHRI
Dr. Janet Davis	Assistant Professor Division of Nephrology	
Dr. Cedric Edwards	Assistant Professor Division of Nephrology	
Dr. Todd Fairhead	Assistant Professor Division of Nephrology	Associate Scientist, OHRI
Dr. Richard L. Hébert	Full Professor Dept of Cellular & Molecular Medicine University of Ottawa	
Dr. Swapnil Hiremath	Assistant Professor Division of Nephrology	Senior Clinical Investigator, OHRI
Dr. Stephanie Hoar	Assistant Professor Division of Nephrology	
Dr. Jolanta Karpinski	Associate Professor Division of Nephrology	Clinical Investigator, OHRI, KRC
Dr. Chris Kennedy	Professor Dept of Cellular & Molecular Medicine	Senior Scientist, OHRI
Dr. Greg Knoll	Professor of Medicine Division of Nephrology	Scientist, OHRI
Dr. Susan Lavoie	Associate Professor Division of Nephrology	Clinical Investigator, OHRI
Dr. David Z. Levine	Emeritus Professor Division of Nephrology	Affiliate Investigator, OHRI
Dr. Peter Magner	Associate Professor Division of Nephrology	Clinical Investigator, OHRI
Dr. Brendan McCormick	Head, Division of Nephrology Associate Professor Division of Nephrology	Clinical Investigator, OHRI
Dr. Soraya Moghadam	Clinical Associate Division of Nephrology	

RESEARCH PERSONNEL

MEMBERS OF THE DIVISION OF NEPHROLOGY / KIDNEY RESEARCH CENTRE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Scientific Rank</u>
Dr. Steven Nadler	Associate Professor Division of Nephrology	
Dr. Marcel Ruzicka	Associate Professor Division of Nephrology	Clinical Investigator, OHRI
Dr. Manish Sood	Jindal Research Chair for Prevention of Kidney Disease University of Ottawa Assistant Professor Division of Nephrology	Associate Scientist, OHRI
Dr. Rhian Touyz	Adjunct Professor of Medicine Dept of Medicine University of Ottawa BHF Chair of Cardiovascular Medicine Director, Institute of Cardiovascular & Medical Sciences Professor of Medicine University of Glasgow	Affiliate Investigator, OHRI
Dr. Deborah Zimmerman	Associate Professor Division of Nephrology	Clinical Investigator, OHRI

VISITING PROFESSOR (SABBATICAL)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Home Institution</u>
Dr. Geert Branko Braam	Professor of Medicine Adjunct Professor of Physiology Internist / Nephrologist	University of Alberta Hospital Department of Medicine Division of Nephrology and Immunology

RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>
Dr. Glauca Callera	Dr. R. Touyz
Dr. Alexey Gutsol	Dr. K. Burns
Dr. Chet Holterman	Dr. C. Kennedy
Dr. Rania Nasrallah	Dr. R. L. Hébert
Dr. Jose Vinas	Dr. K. Burns
Dr. Fengxia Xiao	Dr. K. Burns / Dr. C. Kennedy
Dr. Mercedes Munkonda	Dr. D. Burger

CLINICAL SCHOLARS, TRAINEES AND FELLOWS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
Dr. Rima Abou Arkoub	Clinical Fellow
Dr. Jitendra Goswami	Clinical Fellow
Dr. John Paul Harmon	Clinical Fellow (RCPSC)
Dr. Houssam Itani	Clinical Fellow
Dr. Vaibhav Keskar	Clinical Fellow
Dr. Dinesh Kumar	Clinical Fellow
Dr. Teerath Kumar	Clinical Fellow
Dr. Amit Langote	Renal Transplant Clinical Fellow
Dr. Praveen Malavade	Clinical Fellow
Dr. Amber Molnar	Clinical Scholar Division of Nephrology University of Ottawa
Dr. Krishna Patil	Clinical Fellow
Dr. Akash Ranka	Clinical Fellow
Dr. Partha Shetty	Renal Transplant Clinical Fellow

POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWS - BASIC SCIENCE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>
Dr. Tayze Antunes	Vascular (patho) biology of TRPM7 channels in hypertension	Dr. R. Touyz

GRADUATE STUDENTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>
Randa Haneef	ECFC exosomes in acute kidney injury	Dr. K. Burns
Ramzi Hassouneh	The effect of prostanoids on diabetic mouse kidneys	Dr. R. L. Hébert
Naomi Read	The role of ubiquitin C-terminal hydrolase L1 in ACT-N4-associated focal segmental glomerulosclerosis	Dr. C. Kennedy
Jean-Francois Thibodeau (OGST awardee)	Podocyte EP receptors and the filtration barrier in diabetic kidney disease	Dr. C. Kennedy

HONORS STUDENTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>
Awais Rahman	Dr. C. Kennedy
Zakirullah Sanayes	Dr. C. Kennedy

PART-TIME STUDENTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>
Shareef Akbari	Dr. D. Burger
Maddison Turner	Dr. D. Burger

SUMMER STUDENTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>
David Eckert	Dr. R. L. Hébert
Jamie Ghossein	Dr. R. L. Hébert
Richard Hae	Dr. K. Burns
William Knoll	Dr. K. Burns
Andrea Liu	Dr. C. Kennedy
Justin Morin	Dr. C. Kennedy
Milica Novakovic	Dr. C. Kennedy

VISITING STUDENTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>
Maximilien Jayat	Dr. R. L. Hébert
Claire Martin	Dr. C. Kennedy

TECHNICAL STAFF

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>
Gabriele Cherton-Horvat	Laboratory Manager	Dr. K. Burns
Ying He	Senior Laboratory Technician	Dr. R. Touyz
Andreea Slatculescu	Research Technician	Dr. T. Fairhead
Lihua Zhu	Laboratory Technician	Dr. C. Kennedy
Joseph Zimpelmann	Senior Laboratory Technician	Dr. K. Burns

CLINICAL RESEARCH STAFF

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>
Valerie Cronin	Clinical Research Coordinator	G. van den Hoef / Dr. D. Zimmerman
Kim Hicks	Clinical Research Coordinator	G. van den Hoef
Debora Hogan	Clinical Research Coordinator	Dr. G. Knoll
Brittany Hollingsworth	Research Administrative Assistant	Dr. D. Zimmerman
Julie Leidecker	Clinical Research Coordinator	Dr. D. Zimmerman
Pauline Messier	Research Administrative Assistant	G. van den Hoef
Hannah Trottier	Summer Student	G. van den Hoef
Gigi van den Hoef	Clinical Research Manager	Dr. K. Burns
Jessica Wagner	Clinical Research Coordinator	G. van den Hoef / Dr. D. Zimmerman

PUBLICATIONS (July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015)

1. **Akbari A***, Clase CM, Acott P, Battistella M, Bello A, Feltmate P, Grill A, Karsanji M, Komenda P, Madore F, Manns BJ, Mahdavi S, Mustafa RA, Smyth A, Welcher ES. Canadian Society of Nephrology Commentary on the KDIGO Clinical Practice Guideline for CKD Evaluation and Management. *Am J Kidney Dis* 65: 177-205, 2015.
2. Breau RH, Kokolo MB, Punjani N, Cagiannos I, Beck A, Niznick N, Buenaventura C, Cowan J, **Knoll G**, Momoli F, Morash C, **Ruzicka M**, Schachkina S, Tinmouth A, Xie H, Fergusson DA. The effects of lysine analogs during pelvic surgery: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Transfus Med Rev* 28: 145-55, 2014.
3. **Brown PA, Akbari A, Molnar AO**, Taran S, **Bissonnette J, Sood M, Hiremath S**. Factors Associated with Unplanned Dialysis Starts in Patients followed by Nephrologists: A Retrospective Cohort Study. *PLoS One* 10: e0130080, 2015.
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KRC OPERATING GRANT FUNDING (2014-15)

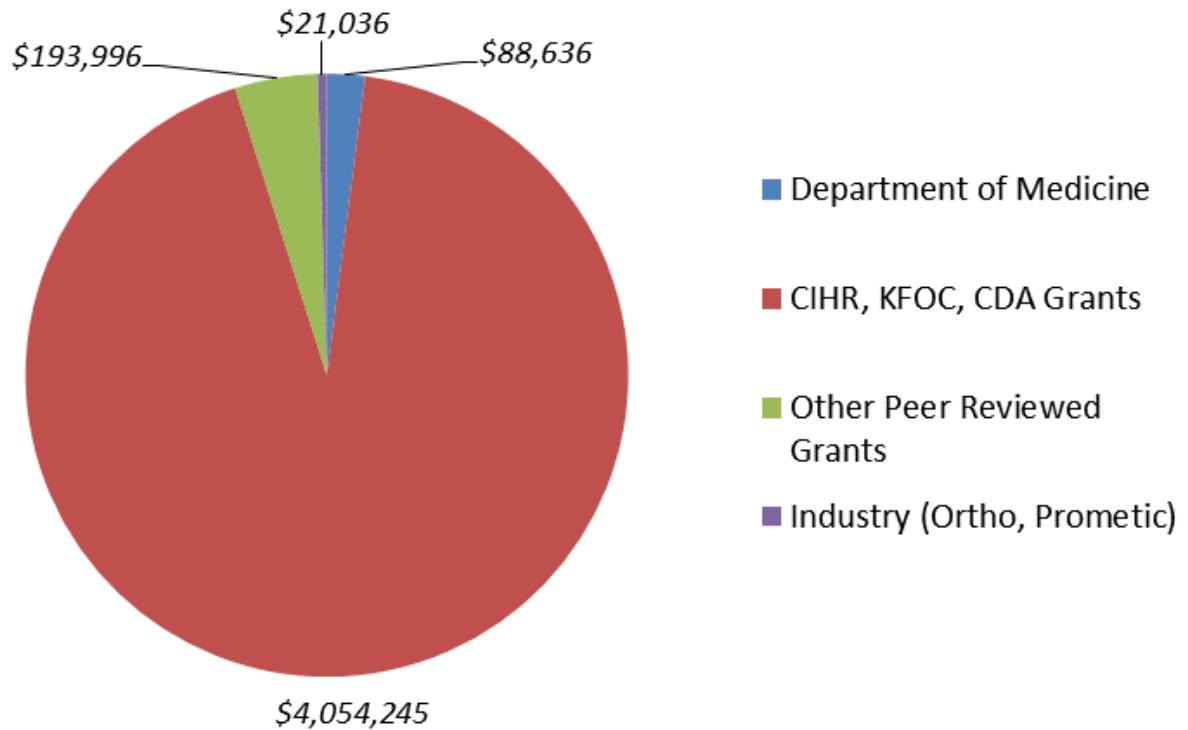


Chart Shows KRC Funding for Research Grants in 2014-15 Where the KRC Scientist is the Principal Investigator

CIHR: Canadian Institutes of Health Research
KFOC: Kidney Foundation of Canada
CDA: Canadian Diabetes Association

Principal Investigators with CIHR / KFOC / CDA Grants

Dr. D. Burger
Dr. K. Burns
Dr. R. L. Hébert
Dr. C. Kennedy
Dr. G. Knoll
Dr. R. Touyz

KRC INVESTIGATORS - INVITED PRESENTATIONS / LECTURES

Speaker	Month / Year	Presentation Title and Event
Dr. A. Akbari	Feb. 2015	Renal disease in pregnancy. OB/MFM Rounds, TOH General Campus. Ottawa, ON.
	Mar. 2015	Pregnancy in patients with CKD. Visiting Professor at Mubarak Hospital. Kuwait City, Kuwait.
	Mar. 2015	Pregnancy with CKD. Visiting Professor at Salmaniya Medical Centre. Kingdom of Bahrain.
	Mar. 2015	Pregnancy and the kidney. Visiting Professor at Hamad Medicine Corporation. Doha, State of Qatar.
Dr. M. Biyani	Nov. 2014	Long term outcomes in kidney donors. Annual Conference of Indian Society of Organ Transplantation. Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India.
	Feb. 2015	Chronic kidney disease, diagnosis and management. National Meeting of Association of Physicians of India. New Delhi, Delhi, India.
Dr. D. Burger	Oct. 2014	Insights into vascular and renal health from membrane microparticles. The Ottawa Hospital, Nephrology Grand Rounds. Ottawa, ON.
	Apr. 2015	Extracellular vesicles: micro sized windows into kidney health and disease. Canadian Society of Nephrology Annual General Meeting. Montreal, QC.
	Apr. 2015	Role of membrane microparticles in vascular and renal health. University of Virginia School of Medicine. Charlottesville, VA, USA.
	Jun. 2015	Membrane microparticles: markers and mediators of vascular and renal disease. Western University, London, ON.
	Jun. 2015	Microparticles: novel markers and mediators of vascular and renal disease. St. Michaels Hospital. Toronto, ON.
Dr. K. Burns	Sep. 2014	ACE2 and its role in the kidney. Membrane Biology Group, University of Alberta. Edmonton, AB.
	Sep. 2014	Human endothelial progenitor cells in AKI. University of Alberta, Nephrology Grand Rounds. Edmonton, AB.
	Sep. 2014	Examining the protective role of exosomal miRNAs and their potential for therapeutic use in acute kidney injury. Advances in Genome Science (Illumina), OHRI. Ottawa, ON.
	Nov. 2014	AKI - Clinical aspects and potential role of progenitor cell therapy. Advanced Nephrology Day – Nursing, TOH. Ottawa, ON.
	Nov. 2014	KRESCENT Workshop. Montreal, QC.
	Jan. 2015	Translational science: lessons from kidney research and the KRESCENT program. David Hawkins Annual Lecture, Memorial University. St. John's, NL.
	Mar. 2015	Use of human cord blood endothelial colony forming cells in acute kidney injury: role of exosomes and miR-486. Research Seminar Series, St. Michael's Hospital. Toronto, ON.
	Apr. 2015	KRESCENT Workshop. Montreal, QC.
	Apr. 2015	AKI and the use of human cord blood derived progenitor cells. CSN AGM. Montreal, QC.
Dr. E. Clark	Aug. 2014	Temporary hemodialysis catheters: recent advances. International Society for Hemodialysis, Hemodialysis University. Chicago, IL, USA.
Dr. S. Hiremath	Apr. 2015	Social media and nephrology: why? Canadian Society of Nephrology Annual Meeting. Montreal, QC.
	May 2015	Contrast nephropathy update. Joint Congress, Canadian Association of Radiology and Medical Radiation Technologists. Montreal, QC.
	Jun. 2015	Everything you wanted to know about tweeting and didn't know whom to ask. Ontario Renal Network, 'Kidney Talks'. Toronto, ON.

Dr. C. Kennedy	Dec. 2014	Blood pressure control: from mouth to kidney. The Ottawa Hospital, Division of Nephrology, Nephrology Grand Rounds. Ottawa, ON.
Dr. G. Knoll	Sep. 2014	Generic immunosuppression in transplantation: are these medications safe and effective? Invited lecture at the 14th Congress of the Middle East Society for Organ Transplantation. Istanbul, Turkey.
	Nov. 2014	Clinical trial end points for emerging and future therapies. American Society of Nephrology Annual Scientific Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, USA.
	May 2015	Novel prevention of BK: monitoring, cellular assays and quinolones. Invited lecture at the American Transplant Congress. Philadelphia, PA, USA.
Dr. B. McCormick	Nov. 2014	Urgent start PD. Nephrology Rounds. Sudbury, ON.
	Jan. 2015	PD catheter insertions. Peritoneal Dialysis University. Montreal, QC.
	Jun. 2015	Urgent start PD. Eastern Canada CANNT. Bathurst, NB.
Dr. M. Sood	Nov. 2014	Medications and declining kidney function: what to know, what to fear, what to do. College of Family Physicians of Canada – Ontario Chapter, Annual Scientific Assembly. Toronto, ON.
	Apr. 2015	Automated alert systems for AKI. National Kidney Foundation Spring Clinical Meeting 2015. Dallas, TX, USA.
	Apr. 2015	Atrial fibrillation and the use of warfarin for stroke prevention in dialysis patients: CON. National Kidney Foundation Spring Clinical Meeting 2015. Dallas, TX, USA.
	Apr. 2015	The Canadian Journal of Kidney Health and Disease: An update. Canadian Society of Nephrology 47th AGM. Montreal, QC.
	Jun. 2015	Peritoneal dialysis in first nations communities. Ontario Renal Network Kidney Talks Conference. Toronto, ON.
	Jun. 2015	Chronic kidney disease as a risk factor for thrombotic and bleeding events. XXV International Congress of the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis. Toronto, ON.
Dr. D. Zimmerman	Nov. 2014	Finding your passion. CANWIN 2014, American Society of Nephrology. Philadelphia, PA, USA.
	Apr. 2015	Cancer screening in ESRD. CSN Annual Meeting. Montreal, QC.
	May 2015	Healthy living to treat and prevent disease. 'Activate Ottawa'. Ottawa, ON.

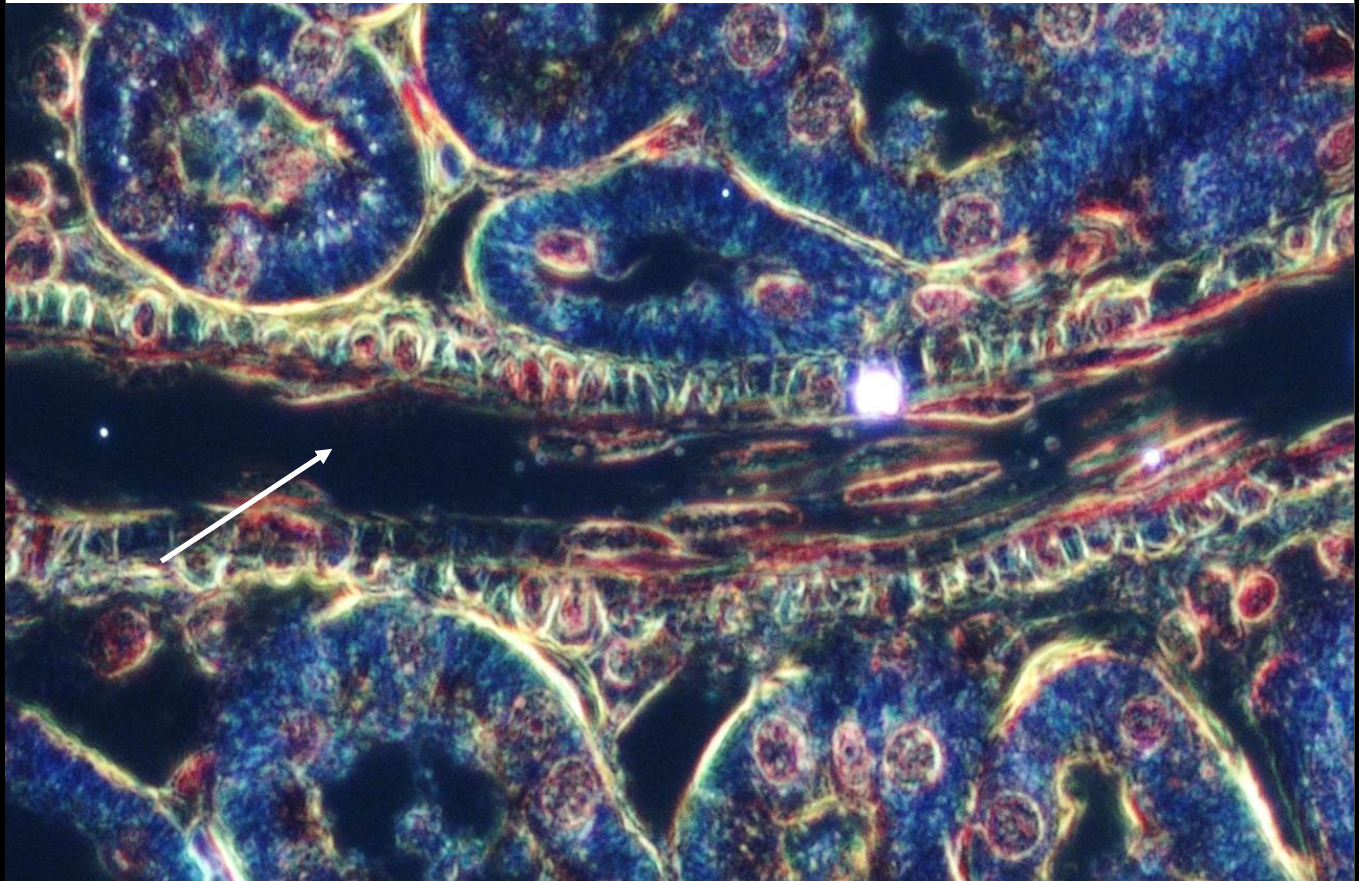
AWARDS / DISTINCTIONS 2014-15

Recipient	Year	Award
Dr. Dylan Burger	2014 - 2017	KRESCENT New Investigator Award. Salary Award: CIHR / Kidney Foundation of Canada / Canadian Society of Nephrology
	2015	Canadian Society of Nephrology / Amgen New Investigator Lectureship Award.
Dr. Kevin Burns	2014	Dr. John B. Dossetor Research Award. Kidney Foundation of Canada
	2015	Annual Dr. David Hawkins Lecture at Memorial University of Newfoundland. Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, NL.
Dr. Greg Knoll	2015 - 2020	Tier 1 University Research Chair. Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa
Dr. A. Molnar	2013 - 2015	Research Fellowship Award. Department of Medicine, University of Ottawa
	2013 - 2015	KRESCENT Post Doctoral Fellowship Award.
Naomi Read	2014	Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology (QEII-GSST). Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
	2014	University of Ottawa Excellence Scholarship. Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
Dr. Jean-Francois Thibodeau	2015	Vanderbilt University 2015 Mouse Kidney Injury Workshop participant. Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, USA. Awarded to 10 applicants worldwide.
Dr. Jose L. Vinas Munoz	2015	Italian Night Scholarship. Kidney Foundation of Canada
Dr. D. Zimmerman	2014	Patient Advocacy Award. Department of Medicine, University of Ottawa

VISITING SCHOLARS 2014-15

Date	Scholar	Title of Presentation	Seminar
05feb2015	Dr. Robin Parks Senior Scientist, Regenerative Medicine Program, OHRI, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Ottawa, Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology, University of Ottawa, Co-Director, Centre for Neuromuscular Disease, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON	Adenovirus-mediated gene therapy for the treatment of genetic disease.	KRC Journal Club
26feb2015	Dr. Marie-Josée Hébert, MD, FRCPC Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Montreal, Director, Transplant Program, University of Montreal, Shire Chair in Nephrology, Renal Transplantation and Regeneration, Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal, Montreal, QC	Packaging the molecular heritage of dying vascular cells: implications in rejection and auto-immunity.	KRC Journal Club
03mar2015	Dr. Amy Waterman Associate Professor of Medicine, UCLA Division of Nephrology, Los Angeles, CA, USA	Improving transplant education in dialysis centers: lessons learned.	Nephrology Grand Rounds
24mar2015	Dr. Belinda Jim, MD Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Associate Program Director of Nephrology Fellowship, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Jacobi Medical Center, Bronx, NY, USA.	Annual Sourirajan Lecture: Hypertension in Pregnancy- a Nephrologist's Perspective.	Medical Grand Rounds
24mar2015	Dr. Belinda Jim, MD Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Associate Program Director of Nephrology Fellowship, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Jacobi Medical Center, Bronx, NY, USA.	Preeclampsia - what's new and what's not.	Nephrology Grand Rounds
12may2015	Dr. Branko Braam, MD, PhD, FASN Professor of Medicine, Adjunct Professor of Physiology, Division of Nephrology and Immunology, University of Alberta Hospital, Edmonton, AB	Salt in hypertension and CKD: what is too little and what is too much?	Nephrology Grand Rounds
21may2015	Dr. Branko Braam, MD, PhD, FASN Professor of Medicine, Adjunct Professor of Physiology, Division of Nephrology and Immunology, University of Alberta Hospital, Edmonton, AB	Angiotensin receptors and circulating cells.	KRC Journal Club
18jun2015	Jason Zelt, MSc Candidate Queen's University, School of Medicine, Department of Biomedical and Molecular Sciences, Kingston, ON	Determinants and properties of phosphate and calcium disposition in chronic kidney disease: mineral accrual and therapeutics.	KRC Journal Club
30jun2015	Dale Calibaba Home Dialysis Patient	Believe in the possibility. One man. One bike. Inspiring a community.	Nephrology Grand Rounds - Special Presentation

Continuing the Fight Against Kidney Disease



Shown above is a sample of healthy mouse kidney. The white arrow indicates a large blood vessel feeding the surrounding kidney tubules seen in blue.

Image courtesy of KRC Research Associate **Dr. Alex Gutsol**