2023 Grants Cycle Update

The 2023 application cycle for KidneyCure research grants, including the Ben J. Lipps Research Fellowship Program, the Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Award Program, the Transition to Independence Grants Program, and the William and Sandra Bennett Clinical Scholars Program, closed on December 7, 2022. Over 110 applications were received. The Grants Review Committee, chaired by Bruce C. Kone, MD, FASN, and Ambra Pozzi, PhD, DrPH, convened virtually on March 13–14 for the final review. The KidneyCure Board of Directors will assess the committee’s recommendations in April, and up to 24 investigators will join the esteemed roster of KidneyCure grant recipients this year. More details will be available in July.

Grant Recipient Video: Brandi M. Wynne, PhD

Brandi M. Wynne, PhD, an assistant professor in the Internal Medicine Department at the University of Utah School of Medicine, received a 2018 Carl W. Gottschalk Research Scholar Grant for her project "Renal Dendritic Cell-Derived Interleukin 6 Increases Sodium Reabsorption and Blood Pressure." In this video, Dr. Wynne shares what excites her most about her work and why research funding is critical to finding cures.

Grant Recipients at Work

Current and former KidneyCure grant recipients are working across the research spectrum to advance our understanding and treatment of kidney diseases. Find highlights of recent publications, press, etc. as submitted by former KidneyCure grant recipients here.

If you have any questions, please contact us at kidneycure@asn-online.org or 202-640-4660.

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Grant Recipients at Work

Highlights of recent publications, press, and achievements as submitted by current and former KidneyCure grant recipients. Grant award year is indicated in parentheses.

Ulf H. Beier, MD, DrMed (2017)
- The poly(C)-binding protein Pcbp2 is essential for CD4+ T cell activation and proliferation

Justin Miles Belcher, MD, PhD (212)
- Responsiveness to Vasoconstrictor Therapy in Hepatorenal Syndrome Type 1
- Recent Advances in the Management of Hepatorenal Syndrome: A US Perspective

Vivek Bhalla, MD, FASN (2010)
- Endothelial Cell-Specific Molecule-1 Inhibits Albuminuria in Diabetic Mice
  - Editorial: The Role of Esm-1 in Diabetic Kidney Disease: More Than Just a Biomarker

Fabian Bock, MD, PhD (2021)
- Publication:
  - Kidney collecting duct cells make vasopressin in response to NaCl-induced hypertonicity
- Award:
  - ASCI / Emerging-Generation Awards, 2023
  - American Society for Clinical Investigation honors 10 Vanderbilt physicians
- Press:
  - Nephrology society lauds Bock’s research on kidney development

Dhruti P. Chen, MD (2010)
- Kidney Disease Progression in Membranous Nephropathy among Black Participants with High-Risk APOL1 Genotype
- PRTN3 variant correlates with increased autoantigen levels and relapse risk in PR3-ANCA versus MPO-ANCA disease
- Age of Onset and Disease Course in Biopsy-Proven Minimal Change Disease: An Analysis From the Cure Glomerulonephropathy Network

Irene Chernova, MD, PhD (2020)
- The ion transporter Na+-K+-ATPase enables pathological B cell survival in the kidney microenvironment of lupus nephritis

Pei-Lun Chu, MD, PhD (2014)
- Publication:
  - Collectrin (Tmem27) deficiency in proximal tubules causes hypertension in mice and a TMEM27 variant associates with blood pressure in males in a Latino cohort
- Press:
  - American Journal of Physiology Renal Physiology First Author Highlights
Zheng Dong, PhD, FASN (2001)
- PFKFB3 mediates tubular cell death in cisplatin nephrotoxicity by activating CDK4
- Cisplatin nephrotoxicity: new insights and therapeutic implications

Orhan Efe, MD (2022)
- Acute myeloid leukemia and myelofibrosis Simultaneous transformation of essential thrombocythemia during treatment with hydroxyurea

Kevin F. Erickson, MD, MS, FASN (2017)
- The US Supreme Court and Future of Financing Dialysis Care
- In-center hemodialysis unit patient experience with telehealth
- Fifty Years of a National Program for the Treatment of Kidney Failure

Samira S. Farouk, MD, MS, FASN (2020)
- Publications
  - Reimagining Nephrology Fellowship Education to Meet the Future Needs of Nephrology
  - Salt and Water: A Review of Hypernatremia
  - Curriculum Innovations: “Eye”-ing Enhanced Educational Methods for Neurology Trainees
- Podcasts:
  - The Nephron Segment: Transgender Health & NephMadness 2023
  - The Nephron Segment: Mental Health & Kidney Disease
  - RunTheList Pod: Interpretation of Urine Studies

Eman Y. Gohar, MS, PhD (2022)
- Publication:
  - G protein-coupled estrogen receptor 1 regulates renal endothelin-1 signaling system in a sex-specific manner
- Award:
  - 2023 Benedict R. Lucchesi Young Scientist Award from the American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics Cardiovascular Section

Ashima Gulati, MD, PhD, FASN (2015)
- Hypomorphic PKD1 alleles impact disease variability in autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease

Gentzon Hall, MD, PhD (2016)
- Tobacco exposure in adults and children with proteinuric glomerulopathies: a NEPTUNE cohort study

Rasheeda K. Hall, MD, MS, FASN, MBA (2015)
- Physical activity is a potential measure of physical resilience in older adults receiving hemodialysis

Matthew B. Lanktree, MD, PhD (2017)
- Atypical Polycystic Kidney Disease as defined by Imaging
• A practical approach to curate clonal hematopoiesis of indeterminate potential in human genetic datasets
• Clonal Hematopoiesis of Indeterminate Potential and Kidney Function Decline in the General Population

Benjamin Lidgard, MD (2022)
• High-Density Lipoprotein Lipidomics in Chronic Kidney Disease

Kenneth Lim, MD, PhD, FASN (2022)
• Award:
  o 2023 Young Physician Scientist Award

Sarah N. Lipp (2021)
• FOXD1 is required for 3D patterning of the kidney interstitial matrix

Amar J. Majmundar, MD, PhD (2020)
• Genetic Variants in ARHGEF6 Cause Congenital Anomalies of the Kidneys and Urinary Tract in Humans, Mice, and Frogs
• OXGR1 is a candidate disease gene for human calcium oxalate nephrolithiasis

Naoka Murakami, MD, PhD, FASN (2019)
• Low-dose interleukin-2 promotes immune regulation in face transplantation: A pilot study
• Reply to ‘Use of convalescent plasma in the treatment of COVID-19’

Sanjeev Noel, PhD (2020)
• Immune Checkpoint Molecule TIGIT Regulates Kidney T Cell Functions and Contributes to AKI
• T cell Nrf2/Keap1 gene editing using CRISPR/Cas9 and experimental kidney ischemia-reperfusion injury

Ester Oh, PhD (2022)
• Cerebrovascular pulsatility index is higher in chronic kidney disease

Meghan Pearl, MD (2018)
• Envarsus XR® pharmacokinetics in adolescents post-kidney transplantation - A pilot study
• Deceased donor organ allocation in pediatric transplantation: A historical narrative

Jennifer L. Pluznick, PhD (2013)
• The transcription factor Foxi1 promotes expression of V-ATPase and Gpr116 in M-1 cells

Felix Poppelaars, MD, PhD (2021)
• An interleukin 6-based genetic risk score strengthened with interleukin 10 polymorphisms associated with long-term kidney allograft outcomes

Hila Milo Rasouly, PhD
• The impact of genetic education on referral of patients to genetic evaluation: Findings from a national survey of nephrologists
Aylin R. Rodan, MD, PhD, FASN (2013)
• Intracellular Ion Control of WNK Signaling

Katherine E. Shipman (2016)
• Impaired Endosome Maturation Mediates Tubular Proteinuria in Dent Disease Cell Culture and Mouse Models

Tomokazu Souma, MD, PhD (2019)
• Publications:
  o Sex differences in resilience to ferroptosis underlie sexual dimorphism in kidney injury and repair
  o A macrophage-endothelial immunoregulatory axis ameliorates septic acute kidney injury
• Press:
  o Kidney Disease Is Tougher on Men Than Women, and Researchers Now Know Why
  o Low testosterone levels may protect women from kidney injury

Alexander Staruschenko, PhD, FASN (2008)
• Ion channels and channelopathies in glomeruli
• The small GTPase regulatory protein Rac1 drives podocyte injury independent of cationic channel protein TRPC5

Joshua S. Waitzman, MD, PhD (2020)
• Reimagining Nephrology Fellowship Education to Meet the Future Needs of Nephrology
• Apolipoprotein L1 (APOL1) cation current in HEK-293 cells and in human podocytes

Dan Wang, PhD (2021)
• A kidney proximal tubule model to evaluate effects of basement membrane stiffening on renal tubular epithelial cells

Yanhua Wang, PhD (2021)
• The impact of senescence on muscle wasting in chronic kidney disease

Clintoria R. Williams, PhD (2022)
• Zinc Deficiency: A Potential Hidden Driver of the Detrimental Cycle of Chronic Kidney Disease and Hypertension

Brandi M. Wynne, PhD (2018)
• PIP2 Interacts Electrostatically with MARCKS-like Protein-1 and ENaC in Renal Epithelial Cells
• Addressing global disparities in blood pressure control: perspectives of the International Society of Hypertension
• Interleukin 6 mediated activation of the mineralocorticoid receptor in the aldosterone-sensitive distal nephron

Ikuyo Yamaguchi, MD, PhD (2007)
• Ambulatory blood pressure monitoring in children: A retrospective single-center study