



# PRESS RELEASE

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## KIDNEYCURE ANNOUNCES 2021 GRANT RECIPIENTS

### **Highlights**

- *KidneyCure (the ASN Foundation) is honored to continue its support of investigators committed to advancing kidney health. Building on decades of success, KidneyCure makes it possible to improve knowledge and treatment by identifying and funding high-impact projects.*
- *Investigators funded by KidneyCure are making a difference in key areas that impact care for millions. KidneyCure is proud to support excellence and innovation, and to extend the advances that the foundation has propelled since its inception.*

**Washington, DC (July 1, 2021)** — *The 2021 grant recipients, listed below, will extend this trajectory of achievement, and continue to improve quality of life for those living with kidney diseases.*

### **Transition to Independence Grant Program**

The Transition to Independence Grants Program helps young investigators achieve independent research careers and is supported by contributions provided by ASN, Akebia Therapeutics, Inc., and individual donors.

#### **Carl W. Gottschalk Research Scholar Grants**

Eirini Kefalogianni, PhD

Washington University in St. Louis

*Immunomodulatory Roles of Circulating TNFR1/2 in Diabetic Nephropathy*

Ronak Lakhia, MD

University of Texas Southwestern

*Role of Cis-Regulatory Elements in Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease*

Eugene Lin, MD, MS, FASN

Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California

*The Impact of Medicare Advantage on Patients with End-Stage Kidney Disease*

Jennie Lin, MD, MS

Northwestern University

*Endoplasmic Reticulum Stress and Macrophage Function in APOL1 Nephropathy*

Alla Mitrofanova, PhD

University of Miami

*STING as a Potential Therapeutic Target for Diabetic Kidney Disease*

Evan C. Ray, MD, PhD, FASN

University of Pittsburgh

*Regulation of Divalent Cation Homeostasis by Muc1*

Yanhua Wang, PhD

Emory University

*Roles of Aldosterone and Phosphatases in Vasopressin Escape*

**John Merrill Grant in Transplantation**

John Yongjoon Choi, MD

Brigham and Women's Hospital

*Harnessing Regulatory CD8+ T Cells to Suppress Antibody-Mediated Rejection*

**Norman Siegel Research Scholar Grant**

Meredith Posner Schuh, MD

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

*Bridging the Gap of Late Gestation Human Nephrogenesis Using a Non-Human Primate Model*

**OHF-KidneyCure Research Scholar Grant**

Tanecia Mitchell, PhD

University of Alabama at Birmingham

*The Impact of Crystalluria on Immunity during Kidney Stone Formation*

**Ben J. Lipps Research Fellowship Program**

The Ben J. Lipps Research Fellowship Program supports nephrology fellows who will advance the understanding of kidney biology and disease and is fully endowed by contributions provided by Fresenius Medical Care, ASN, the American Renal Patient Care Foundation, Inc., Amgen, Baxter, and the PKD Foundation.

**Ben J. Lipps Research Fellows**

Fabian Bock, MD, PhD

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

*Rac1 is Required for Renal Tubular Function and Repair*

Amanda J. Clark, MD

University of Texas Southwestern  
*NAD+ Biosynthesis Impairment in Acute Kidney Injury*

Irma Husain, MBBS, MD  
Duke University  
*Role of Macrophage AIF-1 in Ischemia Reperfusion Injury and Kidney Allograft Rejection*

Felix Poppelaars, MD, PhD  
University of Colorado Denver  
*Molecular Imaging: A Novel Tool for Noninvasive Tracking of Disease Activity in Lupus Nephritis*

Ghazal Z. Quinn, MD  
University of Pennsylvania  
*Immune Cells in Renal Fibrosis and Chronic Kidney Disease*

**Sharon Anderson Research Fellow**

Mary Hannan, PhD, NP  
University of Illinois Chicago  
*The Influence of Sedentary Behavior on Health Outcomes in Individuals with Chronic Kidney Disease*

**Jared J. Grantham Research Fellow**

Enrico Cocchi, MD  
Columbia University  
*Somatic Mutations in Kidney Disease*

**Dimitrios G. Oreopoulos Research Fellow**

Dan Wang, PhD  
Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center  
*The Role of Glomerular Basement Membrane Glycation and Stiffening in Development of Proteinuria*

**George B. Rathmann Research Fellow**

Konstantin Deutsch, MD  
Boston Children's Hospital  
*Recapitulating the Human SRNS Phenotype in CRISPR/Cas9 Zebrafish Models by Circumventing NMD*

**Donald E. Wesson Research Fellow**

Caroline M. Hsu, MD  
Tufts Medical Center  
*Predictors of Peritoneal Dialysis Technique Survival*

### **William and Sandra Bennett Clinical Scholars Program**

The William and Sandra Bennett Clinical Scholars Program provides funding to clinician educators to conduct a project to advance all facets of nephrology education and teaching.

Suzanne Boyle, MD, MS

Temple University

*Creation and Validation of a Tool to Assess Clinical Reasoning in Nephrology Fellows*

### **ASN Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Program**

The ASN Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Program provides funding to early career-stage PhD students to conduct original research projects and make contributions to the understanding of kidney biology and disease.

Sarah N. Lipp, BS

Purdue University

*Identifying the Role of the Interstitial Extracellular Matrix Network During Murine Renal Development*

Elinor Mannon, BA

Augusta University Research Institute

*Oral NaHCO<sub>3</sub> Alters K<sup>+</sup> Balance and Promotes Insulin Resistance*

Riana Parvez, MS

University of Southern California

*Lineage Convergence in the Regulation of Fluid Homeostasis in the Kidney*

To learn more about the 2021 recipients, please visit [KidneyCure.org](https://www.kidneycure.org).

*KidneyCure was established in 2012 and funds the Transition to Independence Grants Program, the Ben J. Lipps Research Fellowship Program, the William and Sandra Bennett Clinical Scholars Program, the ASN Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Program, and the American Society of Nephrology-Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program. Since ASN began funding grants in 1996, the society and the foundation have awarded more than \$45 million in funding for cutting edge research. For more information on KidneyCure or its grant programs, please visit [www.kidneycure.org](https://www.kidneycure.org) or contact [grants@asn-online.org](mailto:grants@asn-online.org) or 202.640.4660.*

*Since 1966, ASN has been leading the fight to prevent, treat, and cure kidney diseases throughout the world by educating health professionals and scientists, advancing*

*research and innovation, communicating new knowledge, and advocating for the highest quality care for patients. ASN has more than 20,000 members representing 131 countries. For more information, please visit [www.asn-online.org](http://www.asn-online.org) or contact the society at 202-640-4660.*

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