



MEDIA RELEASE
July 28, 2016

Dr. Marie-Josée Hébert Awarded The Kidney Foundation of Canada 2016 Medal for Research Excellence

Montreal, Quebec – July 28, 2016 – The Kidney Foundation of Canada is pleased to announce prolific scientist and renowned transplant researcher Dr. Marie-Josée Hébert of Montreal as the recipient of the 2016 Medal for Research Excellence.

“The Medal for Research Excellence was first awarded in 1996 and is a wonderful tradition at The Kidney Foundation of Canada,” said Paul Kidston, National President. “We are so pleased to add Dr. Hébert’s name to this list of esteemed researchers. Research investment is so vital to the work of the Foundation, as it provides patients with hope for a better tomorrow.”

Dr. Hébert’s major research focus is related to the pivotal role of renal fibrosis in chronic kidney disease and transplant rejection. She has translated her experimental findings into the clinical realm. Her research has been described as a “quantum leap for understanding renal fibrosis.”

As co-chair of the Canadian National Transplant Research Program (CNTRP), Dr. Hébert truly exemplifies research excellence in nephrology with a highly productive career in basic and translational research. Dr. Hébert is currently Vice-Rector Research, Discovery, Creation, Innovation, at the University of Montreal, is a researcher and nephrologist-transplant physician at CHUM, a professor in the faculty of medicine and holds the Shire Chair in Renal Transplantation and Regeneration.

“Over the years, Dr. Hébert has demonstrated a strong commitment to the mission of The Kidney Foundation of Canada, and has given tirelessly to the Foundation,” said Elisabeth Fowler, National Director of Research. “For her many accomplishments, we are exceptionally proud to add The Kidney Foundation’s Medal for Research Excellence to her esteemed portfolio.”

Dr. Hébert’s research has also yielded many presentations and extensive publications in many high impact journals. It is expected her work will be widely cited and will influence the work of many others in the same field for years to come.

Dr. Hébert is known as being a thoughtful and generous mentor, having shepherded several of her trainees to first authorship on a number of high impact papers from her laboratory. She is making substantial contributions in training new scientists, which is necessary to maintain momentum in kidney-related research.

“Everyone at the Quebec branch of The Kidney Foundation is delighted that Dr. Hébert received this well-deserved award,” said Quebec Branch President Sylvie Charbonneau. “Dr. Hébert has always been a strong supporter of The Kidney Foundation and our cause. This award is a wonderful acknowledgement of her outstanding contribution to the fight against kidney disease.”

A ceremony to present the Medal for Research Excellence to Dr. Hébert in the company of her professional colleagues, family and friends will take place on November 25, 2016. Location and further details will be announced closer to the event date.

About the Medal for Research Excellence: The Kidney Foundation established the Medal for Research Excellence in 1996 to honor Canadian researchers whose work is recognized by their peers for having improved the treatment and care of people living with kidney disease and related conditions. It is awarded to a Canadian resident who is recognized nationally and internationally for excellence in kidney research. Excellence in research is determined by the impact of an individual's research on the discovery of new knowledge that has advanced the field of kidney related research. Another important award factor is the potential of the research to significantly improve patient care.

About The Kidney Foundation: The Kidney Foundation of Canada is the national volunteer organization committed to improving outcomes of people with kidney disease. Since 1964 The Kidney Foundation of Canada has contributed over \$115 million to medical research projects to ensure that treatment options and patient results continuously improve.

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