



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**For immediate release**

**Dr. Adeera Levin Awarded  
Kidney Foundation of Canada's  
2014 Medal for Research Excellence**

**June 2, 2014 – Montreal, Quebec** – For her outstanding accomplishments in kidney disease research, Dr. Adeera Levin has been awarded the 2014 Kidney Foundation of Canada Medal for Research Excellence. Dr. Levin, a nephrologist and researcher at St. Paul's Hospital, Providence Health Care, and the University of British Columbia, is the first BC researcher to receive this award. Recently named President (2015 to 2017) of the International Society of Nephrology, she is the second woman and first Canadian ever elected to this post. She is also the inaugural editor of the new [Canadian Journal of Kidney Health and Disease \(CJKHD\)](#), an open-access scholarly publication and the first of its kind to serve the Canadian nephrology community.

**Innovative Research**

Dr. Levin's research has focused on the early development of kidney disease and its association with other conditions, particularly cardiovascular disease (CVD). Her description of unique abnormalities in the physiology of kidney patients with CVD such as remarking the presence of anemia and abnormal levels of vitamin D, phosphate and parathyroid hormone (PTH), was novel and resulted in a series of basic research collaborations to better understand the biology of chronic kidney disease (CKD) and CVD.

As lead investigator of the Prediction of Death, Dialysis and Interim Cardiovascular Events (CanPREDDICT) study, a large pan-Canadian project, she seeks to understand the factors leading to renal and cardiovascular disease progression in CKD patients. This new translational program, a first for nephrology in Canada, will study the genetic information (genotype) and observable characteristics (phenotype) of 2,500 patients.

**Outstanding Patient Care, Mentorship and Knowledge Translation Work**

Head of the Division of Nephrology at the University of British Columbia and Executive Director of the BC Renal Agency, Dr. Levin has leveraged her epidemiological training, clinical knowledge and health outcomes research to develop an evidence-based system that enhances the care of patients across the continuum of care, from diagnosis to treatment.

"Dr. Adeera Levin has always emphasized the importance of collaboration and evidence-based medicine, and its acquisition when it is lacking, to guide patient care or health care resource allotment," says Dr. Michelle Hladunewich, Head of the Divisions of Obstetric Medicine and Nephrology at the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. "Her collaborative spirit is most notable. It extends beyond her countless trainees to the many young investigators across Canada, introducing them to international opportunities."

Dr. Levin is Chair of both the national Curriculum Task Force for the Kidney Research Scientist Core Education and National Training (KRESCENT) program, where she mentors promising young researchers, and of the Knowledge User group of the Canadian Kidney Knowledge Translation and Generation Network (CANN-NET), where she coordinates pan-Canadian studies in CKD. She also chaired the Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) CKD Work group, responsible for the updated 2012 diagnostic and treatment guidelines. Dr. Levin has authored over 200 peer-reviewed publications, numerous book chapters and co-edited a text book on chronic kidney disease.

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.

About The Kidney Foundation: The Kidney Foundation of Canada is the national volunteer organization committed to reducing the burden of kidney disease. It does so by funding stimulating and innovative research; providing education and support; promoting access to high quality health care; and increasing public awareness and commitment to advancing kidney health and organ donation.

About The Kidney Foundation's New Challenge Campaign: In 2012, The Kidney Foundation launched the public phase of a campaign to raise \$72 million to further invest in building world-class research capacity; foster early detection and prevention of kidney disease; power local and national program and policy initiatives; and build organizational capacity to even more effectively and efficiently serve the needs of people living with kidney disease. To date \$61 million has been raised. To find out more about this bold, new campaign, visit [www.kidney.ca/campaign](http://www.kidney.ca/campaign).

-30-

For more information contact:

Irene Aguzzi  
National Director, Communications and Marketing  
The Kidney Foundation of Canada  
514-369-4806, ext. 227

Wim Wolfs, M.Sc., MBA  
National Director of Research  
The Kidney Foundation of Canada  
514-531-2212