

# ABOUT THE KIDNEY HEALTH EDUCATION & RESEARCH GROUP

The UHN Kidney Health Education and Research Group is a multidisciplinary group working together with patients, families, health care providers and community organizations to:

- Enhance kidney health by conducting innovative, patient-centered outcomes research
- Promote equitable access to kidney transplantation, specifically amongst patients who belong to ethno-cultural and religious minority communities
- Increase public awareness and provide education about kidney disease and transplantation

## RESOURCES

To learn more about kidney disease, dialysis, transplantation, and mental wellness visit us at [www.nefros.net](http://www.nefros.net) to access credible resources available in various languages.

## REFERENCES

1. Arora, P. Vasa, P., Brenner, D., Iglar, K., McFarlane, P., Morrison, H., Badawi, A. (2013). Prevalence estimates of chronic kidney disease in Canada: results of a nationally representative survey. *CMAJ*, 185(9), doi.org/10.1503/cmaj.120833
2. Mucsi, I., Bansal, A., Famure, O., Li, Y., Mitchell, M., Waterman, A., Marta, N., Kim, J.S. (2017). Ethnic Background is a Potential Barrier to Living Donor Kidney Transplantation in Canada: A Single-Center Retrospective Cohort Study. *Transplantation*, 101(4), doi: 10.1097/TP.0000000000001658
3. Ali, A., Ayub, A., Richardson, C., Edwards, N., Ahmed, T., Novak, M., Mucsi, I. South Asian and Muslim Canadian Patients Are Less Likely to Receive Living Donor Kidney Transplant Offers Compared to Caucasian, Non-Muslim Patients. American Transplant Congress, 2018. Seattle, WA.
4. Zillen, P.A. "Everything you can do yourself for a Kidney Transplant". Retrieved from: <http://www.njursamverkan.se/a-kidney-transplant/>

## CONTACT US

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# ETHNO- CULTURAL BARRIERS TO KIDNEY TRANSPLANT

## Kidney Health Education & Research Group

*A University Health Network Based Group*



[www.nefros.net](http://www.nefros.net)



## CURRENT ISSUES

Kidney transplantation (KT) is considered the best treatment option for chronic kidney disease, which affects about 3 million Canadians <sup>(1)</sup>. However, ethnic minority populations in Canada face significant barriers in accessing KT.

- African Canadian, East Asian, and South Asian patients are 65%, 73%, and 57% less likely than Caucasian patients to receive a living donor KT, respectively<sup>(2)</sup>
- South Asian and Muslim patients are less than half as likely to receive an offer for living donation compared to Caucasian, non-Muslim patients<sup>(3)</sup>
- African and East Asian patients are significantly less likely to have a potential living donor identified at first evaluation than Caucasian patients<sup>(2)</sup>

Currently, there is limited research that exists to help us understand what prevents patients belonging to ethnic minority groups from pursuing KT.

## OUR APPROACH

We aim to develop a culturally competent and religiously sensitive kidney health education guide for South Asian, East Asian, Black, African, Afro-Caribbean, and Muslim communities in order to improve transplant knowledge and enhance access to KT.

### RESEARCH PHASES

#### 1. Environmental Scan

Review of current kidney educational programs and resources available to various ethnic and religious minority communities in Canada.

#### 2. Knowledge Assessment and Ethno-Cultural Barriers Analysis

Administration of focus groups and surveys to understand the specific ethno-cultural barriers as well as any concerns raised by the community.

#### 3. Education Toolkit Development

Development of the kidney health education guide regarding deceased and living donor kidney transplantation.

#### 4. Assessment and Distribution of Toolkits

Assessment of transplant-related knowledge before and after receiving information from the tailored education guide.



*“The fact that it is even possible to move an organ from one individual to another – and that it works – is quite amazing. It is equally humanly amazing that a person can give a close relative or friend the chance of a new, healthier life by giving one of their own healthy kidneys.”*

- Per Ake Zillen, Author of “Everything you can do yourself for a Kidney Transplant”<sup>(4)</sup>

## PARTNERSHIPS



...and more!

We would like to thank our partners, supporters, and team members for their continued support.