



Kidney Research Centre
Centre de recherche sur
les maladies du rein

KRC Newsflash

Research advances, awards and upcoming events in the kidney research community

Research Advances

August/September 2019

Alpha-Blocker use and the risk of hypotension and hypotension-related clinical events in women of advanced age.

Alpha-blockers (ABs) are one of multiple medications often used for the management of high blood pressure (BP). One concern with AB use is early rapid blood pressure lowering, leading to a risk of falls, fainting and injuries. The study by **Dr. Sood** and colleagues assessed the risk of low BP, and related adverse events with AB use compared with other BP lowering drugs in individuals > 66 years old in Ontario from 1995 to 2015. The study focused on women since men may also be prescribed ABs for prostate issues. Out of 734 907 eligible women in Ontario, 14 106 were given an AB (average age, 75.7). The risk of presenting to an emergency room or being hospitalized for low BP, falls, fainting or injury was 20% higher with AB use compared to other BP lowering medications. Low BP and fainting were 1.7- and 1.4-fold higher with AB use with no difference in falls, injuries, heart events, or death. Treatment of high BP in women with ABs may lead to a higher risk of low BP and adverse events compared with other BP lowering agents. The findings suggest that ABs should be used with caution.



Hiremath S, Ruzicka M, Petrcich W, McCallum MK, Hundemer GL, Tanuseputro P, Manuel D, Burns K, Edwards C, Bugeja A, Magner P, McCormick B, Garg AX, Rhodes E, Sood MM. Alpha-Blocker use and the risk of hypotension and hypotension-related clinical events in women of advanced age. *Hypertension* 74:645-651, 2019.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31327266>

New Insights into Mechanisms of Acute Kidney Injury in Heart Disease.

Acute kidney injury is common in patients who have congestive heart failure (the so-called 'cardiorenal syndrome') and is also associated with a high risk of poor outcomes. In a recently published review in the *Canadian Journal of Cardiology*, Nephrology fellow **Dr. Sriram Sriperumbuduri**, along with **Drs. Edward Clark** and **Swapnil Hiremath** discussed the mechanisms of this acute kidney injury. Certain medications can cause what may be perceived as acute kidney injury; however, taking a 'permissive hypercreatinemia' concept into account allows doctors to differentiate the improved prognosis of "induced" versus "spontaneous" acute kidney injury. The review elaborates on the various mechanisms by which cardiac surgery can cause acute kidney injury, and discusses the different causes in the setting of radiologic contrast administration.



Sriperumbuduri S, Clark E, Hiremath S. New Insights into Mechanisms of Acute Kidney Injury in Heart Disease. *Canadian Journal of Cardiology* 35(9):1158-1169, 2019.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31472814>.

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Information regarding The Ottawa Hospital's Living Kidney Donor program is available on The Ottawa Hospital website.

www.ottawahospital.on.ca/en/clinical-services/deptpgrmcs/programs/kidney-donation/.

The KRC Newsflash is published by scientists and staff at the KRC. For more information, please contact the KRC Administrative Assistant, Jennifer Brownrigg.

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The dedicated laboratory scientists and clinician investigators at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute's Kidney Research Centre (KRC) work together to improve the lives of people affected by kidney disease.





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KRC Outreach

KRC Golf Tournament



Dr. Kevin Burns,
Director of the KRC.

The KRC is grateful to everyone who participated in and/or volunteered at this year's sold out KRC Golf Tournament held on Monday Sept. 9 at the Meadows Golf & Country Club. Following dinner, Dr. Kevin Burns, KRC Director highlighted the important role that the tournament has played over the past 16 years to support the KRC. Mr. Mauro Burri (*photo right*), a three-time kidney transplant recipient shared his incredible story of courage and determination in living with kidney disease. The 2019 tournament raised \$28,000, which will go to study the potential therapeutic effects of microvesicles in kidney disease and hypertension.



Mr. Mauro Burri

Thank you to our Honorary Co-Chairs Hockey Hall of Fame coach Brian Kilrea and CTV's Michael O'Byrne and the generous main sponsors: the CLV Group, Urbandale, and TSN 1200 Ottawa. A very special thank you to the organizing committee members: Eric Fawcett, Sam Karkache, Doli Kirkish, Noha Kirkish, Kim Shelp and Derek Suprunchuk and the team from The Ottawa Hospital Foundation.

La Serata Italiana

The late Agostino Monteduro established the annual Italian night dinner event in Ottawa in 1984. Since then, the dinner has grown into a major gala and this year La Serata Italiana Organizing Committee presented the KRC with a cheque for \$50,000. The KRC thanks the members of the Committee and the Kidney Foundation of Canada for their dedication to advancing kidney research and supporting KRC trainee scholarships.

Save the date for the 2020 gala: Saturday, March 7, 2020.



KRC staff and members of La Serata Italiana Committee.

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