Optimal kidney health for all Albertans

VISION

The Kidney Health Strategic Clinical Network™ partners with Albertans to achieve excellence in sustainable quality kidney care and outcomes. Through innovation and use of best evidence, we will optimize prevention, early identification and appropriate management across all ages and stages of kidney health.

MISSION

STRATEGIC GOALS

1. Reduce risk of acute kidney injury and chronic kidney disease through early identification and appropriate management

2. Integrate care and improve management and outcomes of patients with kidney disease

3. Optimize the use of home dialytic therapies, transplantation and conservative kidney management in appropriate patients of all stages with kidney failure

PRIORITIES

1a. Identify early - manage according to risk

1b. Identify and reduce acute kidney injury risk

1c. Address modifiable risk factors for chronic kidney disease

2a. Increase use of therapies to delay progression of chronic kidney disease

2b. Reduce variation in glomerulonephritis identification and treatment

2c. Measure patient reported outcomes and experience

3a. Increase uptake of home dialysis

3b. Improve transplant access and experience

3c. Reduce variation & increase access to conservative kidney management

3d. Improve appropriate timing of dialysis initiation

PRINCIPLES

Patient & Family Centred Care
Engagement
Culture of Quality
Sustainability
Standardized, Evidence-informed Approaches
Research, Innovation & Evaluation

ENABLERS

Performance Measurement
Patient & Provider Education
Sustainable Funding
Pan-SCN Approaches
Communication
Clinical Pathways
Patient Reported Outcomes
## Overview of the Status of Projects & Initiatives by Strategic Goal (2016 - 2019)

### Strategic Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.</th>
<th>Reduce risk of acute kidney injury and chronic kidney disease through early identification and appropriate management</th>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Integrate care and improve management and outcomes of patients with kidney disease</td>
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### Priorities

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<tr>
<th>1a</th>
<th>Increase early identification of chronic kidney disease - manage according to risk:</th>
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<td>1b</td>
<td>Identify those at high risk of acute kidney injury (AKI) and develop strategies to reduce the risk:</td>
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<td>1c</td>
<td>Collaborate with other SCNs to prevent chronic kidney disease and address modifiable risk factors for many chronic diseases:</td>
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#### 1a
- Indigenous Health Screening Triage & Treatment Project
- RxEACH - The Alberta Vascular Risk Reduction Community Pharmacy Project

#### 1b
- Acute Kidney Injury pathway (PRIHS 3 Grant)
- Improving recognition and early management of AKI

#### 1c
- No projects underway

#### 2a
- Chronic Kidney Disease clinical pathway, risk prediction tools and tools for patient self-management.
- Nephrology e-Referral / e-Advice
- Statin & ACEi / ARB use in patients with Chronic Kidney Disease

#### 2b
- Glomerulonephritis pathway

#### 2c
- Implement routine measurement of PROMs and PREMs, including clinical pathways designed to improve symptoms and patient quality of life.

#### 3a
- START - Starting Dialysis on Time At home on the Right Therapy

#### 3b
- Living Donor Transplant (Process Improvement, Financial Barriers, Education)

#### 3c
- Conservative Kidney Management pathway (PRIHS 2 Grant)

#### 3d
- START - Starting Dialysis on Time At home on the Right Therapy
### Highlights: Projects and Priority Initiatives

The Kidney Health Strategic Clinical Network leads, partners on and supports a number of provincial and local projects and initiatives.

#### - Projects / Initiatives Underway -

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project / Initiative</th>
<th>Objective / Short Description</th>
<th>KH SCN’s Role</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Alberta Kidney Days: Annual Symposium 2018 – Connections Across the Care Continuum.</strong> <a href="http://www.AlbertaKidneyDays.com">www.AlbertaKidneyDays.com</a></td>
<td>The objective of the Alberta Kidney Days symposium is to provide learning, networking and knowledge translation opportunities that promote collaborative care and quality improvement and align with renal care priorities of the nephrology, primary care and allied healthcare communities. The symposium is being hosted in partnership by Alberta Health Services Kidney Health Strategic Clinical Network, the Kidney Foundation of Canada (Alberta Branches), and the Southern and Northern Alberta Renal Programs.</td>
<td>Leading</td>
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<td><strong>Acute Kidney Injury (AKI)</strong></td>
<td>The Cardiovascular Heart and Stroke and the Kidney Health SCNs are supporting a Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System (PRIHS) 3 grant to develop clinical decision support tools and strategies to reduce the risk of contrast-induced AKI.</td>
<td>Partnering &amp; Supporting</td>
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<td><strong>Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Clinical Pathway</strong>   <a href="http://www.ckdpathway.ca/">http://www.ckdpathway.ca/</a></td>
<td>The CKD Clinical Pathway is a resource for primary care providers to aid in the diagnosis, medical management and referral of adults with CKD. It was developed by the Interdisciplinary Chronic Disease Collaboration (ICDC) in collaboration with other key stakeholders. The KH SCN has partnered with the ICDC, Alberta Kidney Care and the Physicians Learning Program to help spread this initiative throughout the Province.</td>
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<td>Conservative Kidney Management (CKM) Pathway</td>
<td>Under a Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System (PRIHS) 2 grant the Kidney Health SCN is supporting the development, implementation and evaluation of a Provincial Conservative Kidney Management Clinical Pathway in the Renal Insufficiency Clinics in Northern Alberta Renal Program. The pathway focuses on living well without dialysis by providing information for patients and healthcare professionals on quality of life and symptoms management.</td>
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<td>Nephrology eReferral / eAdvice</td>
<td>Netcare’s eReferral portal provides a secure environment that allows primary care physicians to submit requests for consults and seek advice from nephrologists on their patients. The Nephrology eReferral was developed by Dr. Aminu Bello at the University of Alberta in collaboration in the Northern Alberta Renal Program and Netcare’s Path to Care team. In conjunction with the Chronic Kidney Disease Clinical Pathway, the Kidney Health SCN is helping to increase awareness of this information among primary care staff.</td>
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| Living Donor Kidney Transplant             | Kidney transplantation is considered the optimal therapy for eligible patients, as it improves both survival and quality of life. It is also the most cost-effective treatment for kidney failure in appropriate patients, reducing costs to the overall healthcare system and freeing up capacity for other lifesaving treatments. Despite these benefits, the number of people receiving kidney transplants in Alberta is currently much lower than ideal. By addressing currently known barriers to living kidney donation, the Kidney Health SCN has formed a working group focused on increasing the rate of living donor kidney transplants in Alberta over the next several years. The goals of the working group are to:  
  - overcome barriers to living donation by streamlining the living donor workup process  
  - create strategies to overcome financial burdens to living donation  
  - improve education for donors and recipients. | Leading                |
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| Starting dialysis on Time At home on the Right Therapy (START) | In partnership with the Kidney Health SCN and Alberta Kidney Care, the Northern and Southern Alberta Renal Programs are participating in the START project. The START project aims to address the increasing demand for dialysis through the following goals:  
- maximizing the safe and effective use of peritoneal dialysis  
- ensuring patients are starting dialysis at the appropriate time  
- improving patient outcomes and experiences  
- reducing costs to the healthcare system. | Leading       |
| Quality Indicators & Measurement (QIM) Working Group | The working group has joint accountability to KH SCN & AKC Leadership teams. The purpose of the QIM working group is to:  
- Establish quality indicators and a reporting framework that aligns with the strategic priorities identified by the KH SCN and Alberta Kidney Care.  
- Inform long-term program planning for Alberta’s renal programs by enabling evidence-based decision making, monitoring and evaluation for kidney care in Alberta. | Leading       |
### Projects / Initiatives in Development

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<td><strong>Glomerulonephritis (GN) Pathway</strong></td>
<td>In collaboration with the Universities of Alberta and Calgary, Alberta Kidney Care and the Kidney Health Strategic Clinical Network, work is underway to develop a provincial, evidence based care pathway for the identification and management of patients with GN.</td>
<td>Partnering &amp; Supporting</td>
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<td><strong>Indigenous Health Screening Triage &amp; Treatment Program</strong></td>
<td>The Kidney Health SCN is partnering with CanSOLVE CKD, Indigenous populations throughout Alberta, the Kidney Foundation and other important stakeholders to explore the interest for, and the feasibility of, offering a screening, triage and treatment pilot program to identify individuals with, or at risk of developing, chronic kidney disease, diabetes and high blood pressure.</td>
<td>Leading</td>
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<td><strong>RxEACH - The Alberta Vascular Risk Reduction Community Pharmacy Project</strong></td>
<td>The Kidney Health SCN is collaborating with EPICORE, the Universities of Alberta and Calgary and the Cardiovascular Health and Stroke Strategic Clinical Network to explore opportunities to scale and spread the project across the province. More information on the project can be found on <a href="https://www.epicorecentre.ualberta.ca/projects/Rxeach_study.html">https://www.epicorecentre.ualberta.ca/projects/Rxeach_study.html</a></td>
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<td><strong>Statin &amp; ACEi / ARB use in patients with Chronic Kidney Disease</strong></td>
<td>To determine if chronic kidney disease should be considered a criteria for determining whether patients are at high risk of future coronary events. The Kidney Health SCN is collaborating with the University of Calgary and Calgary Laboratory Services to explore opportunities to scale and spread the project across the province.</td>
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