

**MEDIA RELEASE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Kidney Health Australia welcomes new evidence for treating diabetic kidney disease**

Kidney Health Australia has welcomed new evidence from the CREDENCE trial presented by The George Institute of Global Health, which shows a new treatment drug could reduce kidney failure in patients suffering from diabetic kidney disease.

Clinical Director for Kidney Health Australia, Associate Professor, Shilpa Jesudason, said the evidence presented on the breakthrough drug canagliflozin could offer real hope for patients suffering from diabetic kidney disease.

“Diabetes is one of the leading causes of chronic kidney disease in patients, and patients suffering from both conditions are at higher risk of kidney failure,” Prof Jesudason says.

Prof Jesudason said in the last 10 years there was a 60% increase in the number of people with type 2 diabetes starting dialysis to treat chronic kidney disease. “We are at crisis point with the public health impacts of kidney disease and slowing the progression of diabetic kidney disease is a top priority.

“We urgently need more breakthroughs in the management and treatment of chronic kidney disease and we hope this drug proves a game changer in reducing kidney failure in diabetic kidney patients,” Prof Jesudason says.

Chronic kidney disease currently affects 1 in 10 Australian adults, with 1.5 million unaware they are in the early stages of the disease. Australians at risk of developing chronic kidney disease are those who have diabetes, high blood pressure, established heart problems, have had a previous stroke, a family history of kidney failure, are obese, smoke, have a history acute kidney injury, are 60+ years or, are of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin. For more information visit [www.kidney.org.au](http://www.kidney.org.au)

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### **About Kidney Health Australia**

Kidney Health Australia is a not-for-profit and the peak body for kidney health in Australia with a vision 'to save and improve the lives of people living in Australia affected by kidney disease'.

### **Kidney Health Facts**

- Kidney-related disease kills more people than breast cancer, prostate cancer and road accidents combined

- Figures released by the Bureau of Statistics late last year revealed that 65 people are dying with kidney-related disease every day
- Kidney disease sufferers can lose 90% of kidney function without experiencing any symptoms
- One in three people living in Australia is at risk of developing chronic kidney disease
- Of the staggering 1.7 million people affected by kidney disease, 1.5 million are not aware they have it
- Tragically, one in five Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders have indicators of chronic kidney disease and are four times more likely to die from it than the non-Indigenous population
- Kidney-related disease is estimated to cost the Australian economy \$4.1 billion a year

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