KidneyCancerAssociation™
Unstoppable Together.

The **Kidney Cancer Association** (KCA) was founded in 1990 by Eugene P. Schonfeld and a small group of patients and doctors in Chicago, Illinois and has grown into an international non-profit organization. The KCA promotes scientific advances through two annual research symposiums and a robust grant program, participates in legislative advocacy, and seeks to be a source of education and resources for patients, caregivers, and anyone impacted by kidney cancer.

Our vision *is to be the universal leader in finding the cure for kidney cancer.*

Our mission *is to be a global community dedicated to serving and empowering patients and caregivers, and leading change through advocacy, research, and education.*

Support
The KCA provides information, guidance, and support resources for patients, caregivers, and anyone impacted by kidney cancer.

- Just Diagnosed Toolkit – A step-by-step guide for newly diagnosed patients.
- Patient Navigator Program – One-on-one support with a Patient Liaison including help finding a specialist, local support services, financial information, and more information about a diagnosis.
- Virtual Patient Symposium – Educational sessions where patients and caregivers can learn from kidney cancer experts and other patients, caregivers and survivors.
- Virtual Support Community – A virtual community to connect with others with shared experiences.
- Patient Video Library – Healthcare professionals answer common questions about kidney cancer diagnoses, treatments, exercise, and more.

Research
Funding research is a pillar of the KCA's mission since the organization's inception. The KCA has awarded over 60 grants in 30 years. Currently, the KCA funds $1.375 million in research grants annually.

- Grants
  - Advanced Discovery Award – two $500,000 grants awarded to scientist/clinician teams proposing new research that will make an immediate impact in kidney cancer.
  - Young Investigator Award – four $75,000 grants awarded to promising researchers planning to pursue an investigative career in kidney cancer.
  - Focus Award – Psychosocial – one $75,000 grant awarded to researchers investigating the psychosocial issues facing people impacted by kidney cancer.

Education
The KCA provides education and enrichment opportunities for healthcare professionals.

- Symposiums
  - European International Kidney Cancer Symposium (EIKCS) – Spring
  - International Kidney Cancer Symposium (IKCS) – Fall
- Continuing Medical Education (CME) programming
  - Free accredited sessions for healthcare professionals to further their kidney cancer education and clinical knowledge.

- Mentorship Program
  - Leading kidney cancer specialists are paired with promising physicians to expose them to kidney cancer research and clinical practice and contribute to their success.

Advocacy

The KCA is active in legislative advocacy efforts. As part of the Defense Health Research Consortium (DHRC) since 2014, we work to protect and enrich government funding for medical research programs. Specifically, the KCA advocates for increased federal funding for the National Institutes of Health, the National Cancer Institute, and the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs' Kidney Cancer Research Program (KCRP). Funding for the KCRP has grown steadily from $10 million in 2016, when it began, to $50 million in 2021.

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