



## News Release

### Winnipeg researcher's risk model adopted globally

Embargoed until Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 10 am CST

A new study published today in the **Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)** confirms the global significance of the work of Winnipeg researcher Dr. Navdeep Tangri who invented a model to predict the risk of kidney failure.



The risk equation developed by Dr. Tangri using Canadian patient data and published in JAMA in 2011 showed that a series of common lab tests used together can reliably predict which kidney patients are at risk of kidney failure. This new study tested the risk equation using the patient records for over 700,000 kidney patients in more than 30 countries.

While chronic kidney disease is fairly common in Manitoba and other jurisdictions, kidney failure is relatively rare. Kidney failure is, however, devastating for patients who require lifesaving dialysis. That's also very costly for healthcare systems. Patients who know their risk can take concrete steps to reduce that risk with diet, exercise, and taking medications prescribed by their physician.

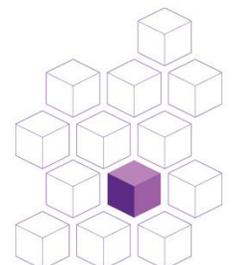
"I'm really proud to have the study published and grateful for the collaboration of my colleagues at CDIC and at the Chronic Kidney Disease Prognosis Consortium internationally. We're working to have this model accepted globally by physicians so that we can make a real difference in preventing kidney failure worldwide." Dr. Tangri said

He and his colleagues at the Seven Oaks Hospital Chronic Disease Innovation Centre (Seven Oaks CDIC) have been working with the model since it was first invented and have integrated the model to reduce wait lists and improve kidney care at Seven Oaks Hospital. The risk equation is also already being used by physicians working in north Winnipeg and with patients who can learn and reduce their own risk. This new study demonstrates that the model can be used by doctors and kidney patients worldwide.

According to JAMA "The original risk equations (developed by Dr. Tangri) achieve excellent discrimination (ability to differentiate those who developed kidney failure from those who did not) across ... age, race and diabetes status."

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CDIC is a new research institute with a vision of changing the way healthcare is delivered. It supports a small corps of principal investigators, research coordinators and graduate students affiliated with the University of Manitoba Faculty of Medicine but are based at Seven Oaks General Hospital where they are often able to translate their research into improved practice.

“This risk prediction model is at the root of much of the work we are doing with screening and prevention in higher risk communities and to improve the efficiency of chronic disease care in Manitoba and it highlights the value of CDIC which has recognized the need to support this critically important work to benefit patients here and internationally,” said Dr. Paul Komenda, Research Director at Seven Oaks CDIC.

An [interactive website](#) has been created for family physicians to use the risk prediction model for their patients, including guidelines for managing low risk patients and advice for referring higher risk patients to a specialist.

The website also includes a video that will be useful for both physicians and media to understand the kidney failure risk equation.

Dr. Tangri and the CKD Prognosis Consortium will be disseminating the results widely to engage lab directors, EMR providers and medical associations to use and endorse the risk equation. Already the province of Ontario has indicated that as of April 2016 it will implement use of the risk equation as a standard for kidney specialists to use as criteria for reimbursement for higher risk patients.

Meanwhile Dr. Tangri and his colleagues at the CDIC will be researching the impact of communicating the risk of kidney failure to physicians and to patients to demonstrate the benefits on patient outcomes and system efficiency.

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**Note to reporters:** The video and risk calculation website will be live on Tuesday, January 12. A password protected interim site can be previewed on request.

For more information or to arrange an interview with Dr. Tangri please contact:  
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