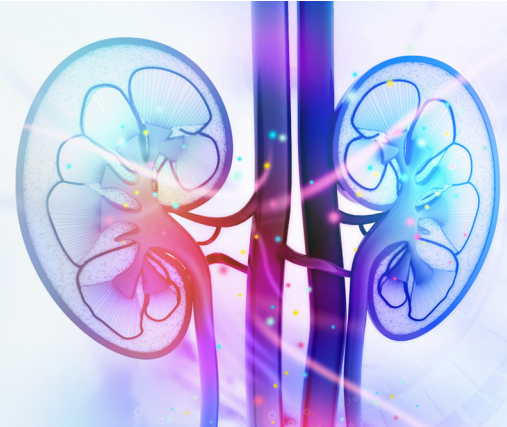


Spotlight on Kidney Cancer

An estimated 80,980 new cases of kidney cancer were diagnosed in 2025. The five-year relative survival rate is 79%.

Kidney cancer is more common in men compared to women, and most commonly impacts non-Hispanic American Indian and Alaska Native populations.



Our Impact on Kidney Cancer Research

We've funded

13 grants totaling \$5.3 million.

V Foundation funded researchers, over their careers, have:

Received

**104 grants totaling
\$3.12 billion in funding.**

Produced

**over 1,500
publications.**

Worked on

**12 clinical
trials.**

V Foundation Funded Researchers – Proven Positive Impact

- Pavlos Msaouel, M.D., Ph.D.**, a 2022 Translational Grantee at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, recently published the results of a phase 1 clinical trial for a new combination of therapy in kidney cancer. They tested a powerful triple therapy approach designed to break through cancer's defenses:
 - Nivolumab (a checkpoint inhibitor) removes the brakes on the immune system, helping it recognize and attack cancer cells more effectively.
 - Ipilimumab (a second checkpoint inhibitor) works alongside nivolumab to boost immune system activity even further, activating key immune cells to sustain the attack.
 - Sitravatinib (a tyrosine kinase inhibitor, or TKI) blocks signals that tumors use to survive and resist treatment.
- The results were encouraging as 45.5% of patients saw their tumors shrink and 86.4% had their cancer at least temporarily controlled. One-year survival was 80.8%, a promising signal for this early-phase trial, but the goal is always a longer, better quality of life.
- Kidney cancer survival rates drop drastically when it spreads beyond the kidney, from 93% to just 18%. That's why studies like this target advanced cases are so critical.



*Pavlos Msaouel, M.D., Ph.D.,
2022 Translational Grantee*