



PREVENTION | CLINICAL RESEARCH

Project: Semaglutide for the prevention of post-transplant diabetes

Through donor support, Dr. Sunita Singh, Medical Director of University Health Network's Living Kidney Donation Program, is working on a new treatment to prevent diabetes in people receiving kidney transplants.

A kidney transplant is the best treatment for people living with kidney failure as it allows people to live longer with a better quality of life. However, one in four kidney transplant recipients will develop diabetes after transplant. This is largely due to the medications that must be used to prevent rejection of the transplant. Kidney transplant recipients who get diabetes after transplant are up to three times more likely to have heart disease and die prematurely.

To date, there are no treatments to prevent the development of diabetes after kidney transplant.

Semaglutide is a safe and effective drug that is commonly used to treat diabetes and obesity. Dr. Singh and her team believe that this drug may prevent the development of diabetes in kidney transplant recipients. They are studying whether semaglutide is effective in decreasing blood sugar levels and the rate of diabetes, as well as other important markers of health for kidney transplant recipients including body weight, cholesterol levels, and liver, kidney and heart function.

Their research will help determine if semaglutide is a safe and effective option for the prevention of diabetes in kidney transplant recipients.