



## OUR RESEARCHERS | DR. SONIA BUTALIA

**Thank you for your generosity. Diabetes Canada is grateful to our donors for supporting critical research that will end diabetes.**

**Through your support, Dr. Sonia Butalia, associate professor in the Departments of Medicine and Community Health Sciences at the University of Calgary, is bringing us one step closer to better, more equitable treatment for people living with diabetes.**

In Canada, who you are impacts how healthy you'll be. This is health inequity – when your ethnic background or level of income or where you live affects your health outcomes. This is unfair and unjust.

The most common complication of diabetes is cardiovascular disease, which includes heart attacks, strokes, and heart failure.

Since 2015, studies have shown a newer medication is highly effective at reducing heart failure in people with diabetes. Unfortunately, when Dr. Sonia Butalia and her team looked at a small group of family medicine practices, less than 20% of people living with diabetes who would benefit from this medication were actually prescribed the treatment.

Through Diabetes Canada's support, Dr. Butalia will gain a better understanding of why this lack of treatment is taking place. She and her team will speak with people living with diabetes as well as doctors, and look at anonymous prescribing information to determine if there are certain groups of people living with diabetes and heart failure who are not receiving this treatment.

Together, this information will help reduce barriers to care for different groups and improve equitable approaches to medication use.

**Thank you for giving hope for a healthier future to all people with diabetes.**