

## **CDTRP Annual Scientific meeting**

### **Princess Okoh**

#### **Understanding the barriers to accessing Living Donor Kidney Transplantation in the African, Caribbean, and Black community**

African, Caribbean, and Black (ACB) kidney patients are more likely than white patients to develop kidney failure. Living donor kidney transplantation (LDKT) is the best treatment for patients with kidney failure. However, patients with kidney failure from the ACB community in Canada are 60-70% less likely to receive LDKT compared to white patients. Our qualitative study involving members of ACB communities sought to understand the role of race, racialization, and social determinants of health in shaping their understanding, beliefs, health behaviors, perception of risk related to LDKT. We also wanted to explore their information needs about LDKT. Purposive and snowball sampling were used to recruit self-identified ACB participants for in-person and virtual focus groups. A community-based participatory approach guided discussions on racial and ethnic identity, medical experiences and knowledge and perspectives on LDKT. Transcripts were analyzed using thematic analysis through data familiarization, generation of codes (inductive and deductive), and construction of themes. Major themes that emerged from the study include a desire for tailored and trustworthy information on LDKT, cultural and health beliefs, and mistrust of the health care system. Participants expressed that culturally competent, preventive, and holistic information about kidney health, kidney disease and LDKT must be created in collaboration with ACB communities.