



## **KCCure Chromophobe Research Grant Award goes to Dr. David Braun at Yale Cancer Center**

The [Kidney Cancer Research Alliance \(KCCure\)](#) announced today that Dr. David A. Braun of Cancer Center has been selected to receive the 2026 KCCure Chromophobe RCC Research Grant Award of \$75,000 for his proposal, *Defining and targeting the T cell antigen landscape in chromophobe kidney cancer*.

This year's grant program marked the largest and most competitive Chromophobe RCC research cycle in KCCure history, with ten proposals submitted from leading institutions across the United States. Each application underwent a scientific review process conducted by an expert panel representing medical oncology, surgical oncology, translational research, and basic science, with proposals evaluated for scientific merit, innovation, feasibility, and potential impact on patients with chromophobe RCC.

Following scientific review, the selected proposal advanced to KCCure's patient-driven programmatic review process led by a panel of chromophobe RCC patients and caregivers, including Mike and Jodi Borck, Gigi Cohen, Meghan Griffith, Courtney Rohan, and Catherine Yutmeyer. The proposal ultimately selected for funding received exceptionally strong marks from both scientific reviewers and the patient panel for its scientific quality, translational potential, and alignment with the priorities of the chromophobe RCC patient community.

Chromophobe renal cell carcinoma (ChRCC) is a rare subtype of kidney cancer accounting for approximately five percent of RCC diagnoses. While outcomes are often favorable when the disease is localized, treatment options remain extremely limited once chromophobe RCC becomes metastatic. Despite significant advances in kidney cancer research over the past decade, patients with rare kidney cancer subtypes continue to face major gaps in research funding, clinical trial access, and therapeutic development.

"We are incredibly excited to support Dr. Braun's innovative research," said Meghan Griffith, Vice President of KCCure. "This year's grant cycle demonstrated just how rapidly interest in chromophobe RCC research is growing. Receiving ten highly competitive proposals from top institutions across the country is an extraordinary milestone for our patient community and reinforces the importance of continuing to invest in rare kidney cancer research."

"KCCure has given patients like me something rare and valuable: a voice," said Catherine Yutmeyer. "Being part of the grant selection process brought a sense of purpose and control that is hard to come by with this diagnosis. I'm grateful for the trust KCCure has placed in the patient community, and for the doctors whose passion and dedication gives our community real hope. It is incredibly encouraging to see the momentum building in chRCC research, and to see what becomes possible when patients and researchers work toward the same goal."

KCCure's Chromophobe RCC Research Grant Program was launched in 2021 and represents the first and only patient-driven funding mechanism dedicated specifically to chromophobe kidney cancer research. Since its inception, the program has helped accelerate scientific interest in chromophobe RCC while creating new opportunities for collaboration between patients, caregivers, clinicians, and researchers.

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