Mayo Clinic Minute:

Innovative research to fight kidney disease

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<td>When chronic kidney disease advances, there are often three options: dialysis, kidney transplantation or conservative management.</td>
<td>New research being done in regenerative medicine at Mayo Clinic using adult stem cells may help slow down the disease progression for one of the most common causes of kidney failure: diabetic kidney disease.</td>
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LaTonya Hickson, M.D.
Nephrology
Mayo Clinic

“They’re called mesenchymal stromal cells – and those cells have the capacity to go into our body, tell our bodies to wake up, and start doing the healing process.”

Dr. LaTonya Hickson, is a Mayo Clinic nephrologist and researcher. She says the hope is to slow down the rate of kidney disease failure.

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“If someone was rapidly losing their kidney function, we don’t think that we’re going to be able to completely halt it, but maybe if we could just slow that speed limit, slow the speed or the rate of their kidney failure, that could offer them plenty of time without needing dialysis and more time to be healthy.”

Dr. Hickson says more research is being done each day to advance treatment and make life better for those with kidney disease.

For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Jason Howland.