

## Mayo Clinic Minute

### Mayo-researched drug becomes first approved to treat polycystic kidney disease

Video	Audio
	Polycystic kidney disease is one of the leading causes of kidney failure.
00:01:08 <b>Fouad Chebib, M.D.</b> <b>Nephrology</b> <b>Mayo Clinic</b>	“The patients will start forming kidney cysts. Those are fluid-filled sacs in the kidney. So as they are growing, the kidney starts to fill with fluids ... They have multiple, multiple cysts, and that damages the kidney, leading to kidney failure.”
	It’s caused by a genetic mutation passed down from parents.
00:02:05	“So far, there has been no cure.”
	But for the first time, there is hope: a drug called tolvaptan that the FDA recently approved for treating PKD.
	“Yes, absolutely.”
	Dr. Fouad Chebib, who was on the Mayo Clinic team researching the drug, says it’s not a cure, but it can slow the disease’s progression.
00:03:17	“It blocks the thirst hormone. It's called ‘vasopressin.’ So, by blocking the thirst hormone and its effect on the kidney, we block the cyst from forming more – more fluids. So what happens is that the cyst doesn’t grow as fast.”
	And slowing the disease means patients won’t need dialysis or need a transplant until they are much older.
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Ian Roth.