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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXCITING RESEARCH FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

[January 18, 2016 – Phoenix, Arizona] – The Alport Syndrome Foundation (ASF), the Pedersen Family and the Kidney Foundation of Canada (KFOC) are pleased to announce the availability of funding for basic science and clinical research that will enhance the understanding and treatment of Alport Syndrome. This is the fourth year we have collaborated to jointly award funding for Alport Syndrome research.

The Research Funding Program anticipates awarding two \$100,000 research projects. Research proposals must be in accordance with the ASF, Pedersen Family, KFOC Alport Syndrome Research Funding Program and applications are due March 21, 2016. There are no geographical limitations of this funding.

Applications are available on the ASF website.

About the Alport Syndrome Foundation

ASF is the leading independent, all-volunteer nonprofit organization in the United States serving and giving a voice to the Alport Syndrome community. ASF's mission is to improve the lives of patients through education, empowerment, advocacy and research to realize the vision of making Alport Syndrome a treatable disease and finding a cure.

For more information, please visit www.alportsyndrome.org.

About the Pedersen Family

The Pedersen Family from Calgary, Alberta is the largest funder of Alport Syndrome research in Canada. Funding to date is \$1 million. Funding has been directly to researchers and through the KFOC in collaboration with the Alport Syndrome Foundation as well as to the patient registry program (ASTOR).

About the Kidney Foundation of Canada

Kidney health and improved lives for all people affected by kidney disease - for over 50 years, this vision has guided The Kidney Foundation of Canada to be a collaborative, inventive and focused leader in the development of programs, services, research opportunities and

awareness campaigns that have had a positive impact on the millions of Canadians living with, or at risk of developing, kidney disease.

For more information, please visit <http://www.kidney.ca/>.

Both ASF and KFOC participated in the International Alport Syndrome Research Workshops held in the UK in January 2014, in Philadelphia in November 2014 and in Germany in September 2015. These workshops brought together dozens of stakeholders in the international Alport Syndrome community, including patient organization representatives, clinicians, basic scientists, geneticists, other researchers, and representatives from the pharmaceutical and biotech industry to discuss new ideas for research strategies on Alport Syndrome.