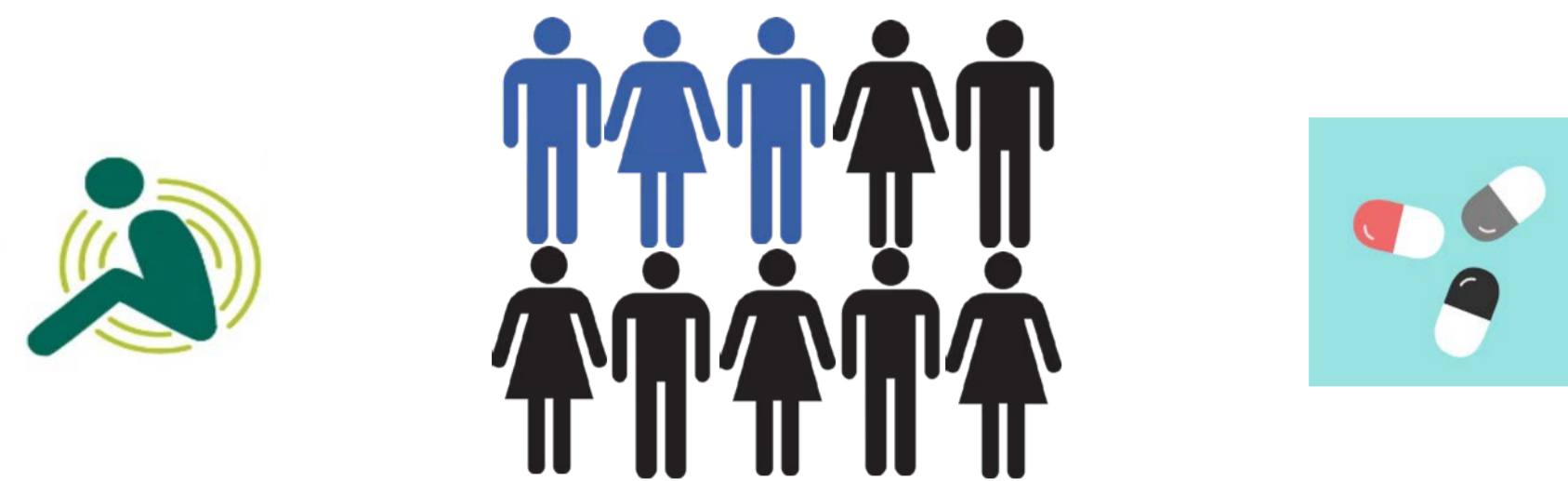




# Dialysis Symptom COnTrol Restless Legs Syndrome (DISCO-RLS) Trial

## 1. BACKGROUND

Restless legs syndrome (RLS) affects 30% of patients with kidney disease



- It is associated with difficulty sleeping and poor health related quality of life
- It is a top research priority for dialysis patients
- Typical medications used to treat RLS have unacceptable side effect profiles and adverse events at standard doses

Research question

**What is the best way to treat restless legs syndrome in hemodialysis patients?**

## 2. PROJECT GOAL

- To assess the safety and efficacy of low fixed dose medications (ropinirole and gabapentin) for the treatment of RLS in patients with end stage kidney disease requiring hemodialysis

## 3. PROJECT TEAM

### Role of patient partners:

- Study design  
acceptability and feasibility run-in period  
generalizability of eligibility criteria  
relevance and burden of outcomes
- Informed consent form development
- Patient information sheet development
- Flipchart to enhance the informed consent process (Study Within A Trial=SWAT)
- Knowledge translation

**Patient Partners:**  
Gwen Herrington  
Lucy Delgado  
Paul Duperron  
Roger Hillier

**Qualified Investigators:**  
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**Principal Investigators:**  
David Collister  
Michael Walsh

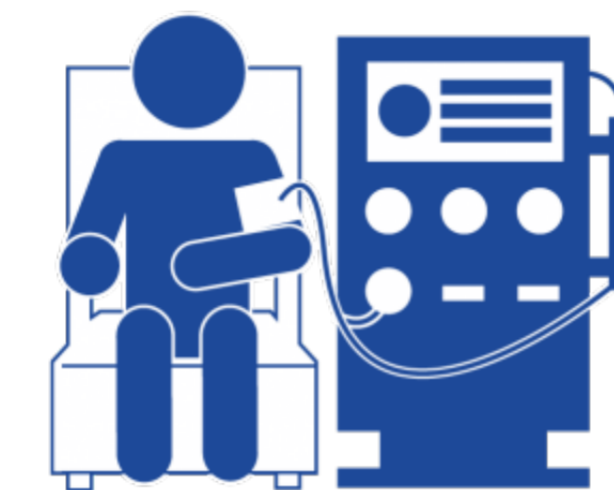
**Project Team:**  
Project Manager: Jessica Tyrwhitt  
Research Coordinator: Kayla Pohl  
Statistician: Shun Fu Lee

## 4. WHAT IS THE STUDY DESIGN?

### A) Eligibility Criteria

#### Inclusion

- Age greater than or equal to 18 years
- Has received at least 90 days of in-center HD at a frequency at least 3 times weekly
- RLS defined by 2012 Revised IRLSSG Diagnostic Criteria and of moderate severity defined by an IRLS<sub>≥15</sub> with symptoms more than 2 days per weeks
- Provides informed consent



#### Exclusion

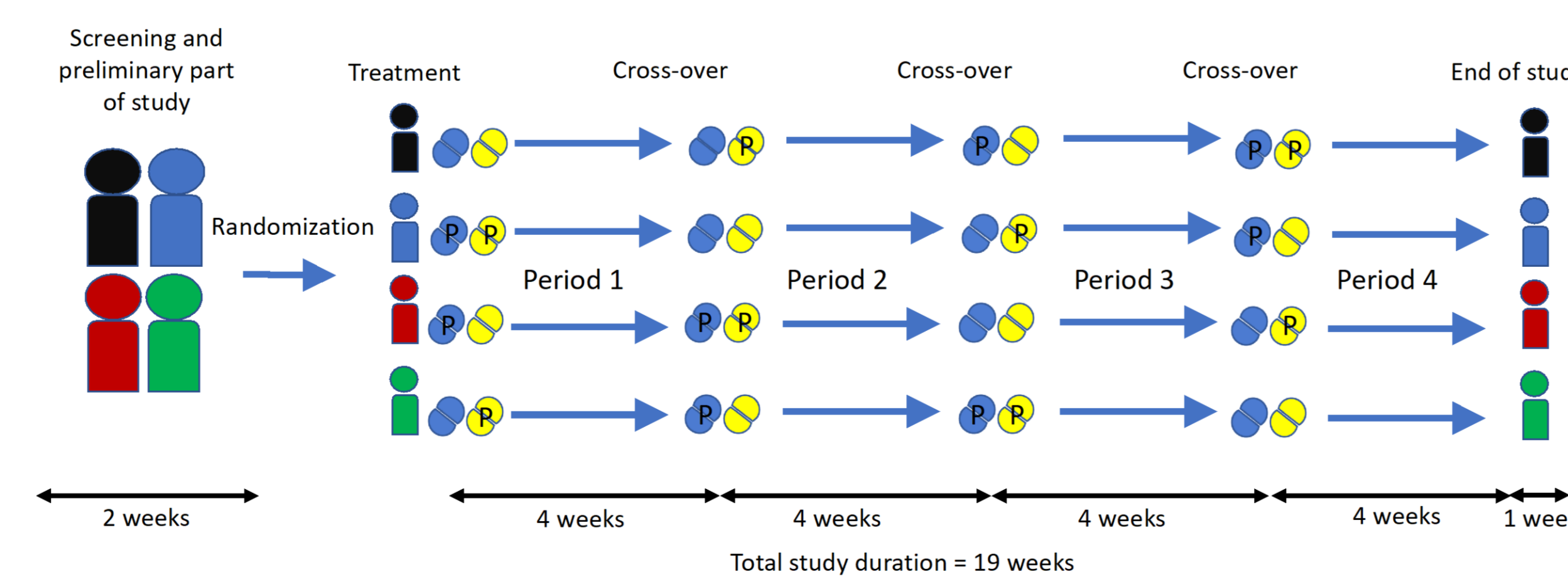
- Hemoglobin < 80g/L in the previous 4 weeks
- Ferritin < 50ng/ml in the previous 4 weeks
- Intolerance to study medications
- Change in medication to treat RLS in previous 4 weeks
- Current or planned pregnancy
- Planned kidney transplantation, travel or relocation in the next 6 months
- Unable to complete RLS symptom and HRQOL measurements due to language barrier or cognitive impairment



### C) 4 crossover periods

double blind  
4 weeks each  
gabapentin + ropinirole  
gabapentin + placebo  
ropinirole + placebo  
placebo + placebo

● = ropinirole  
● = gabapentin  
● = placebo  
● = placebo

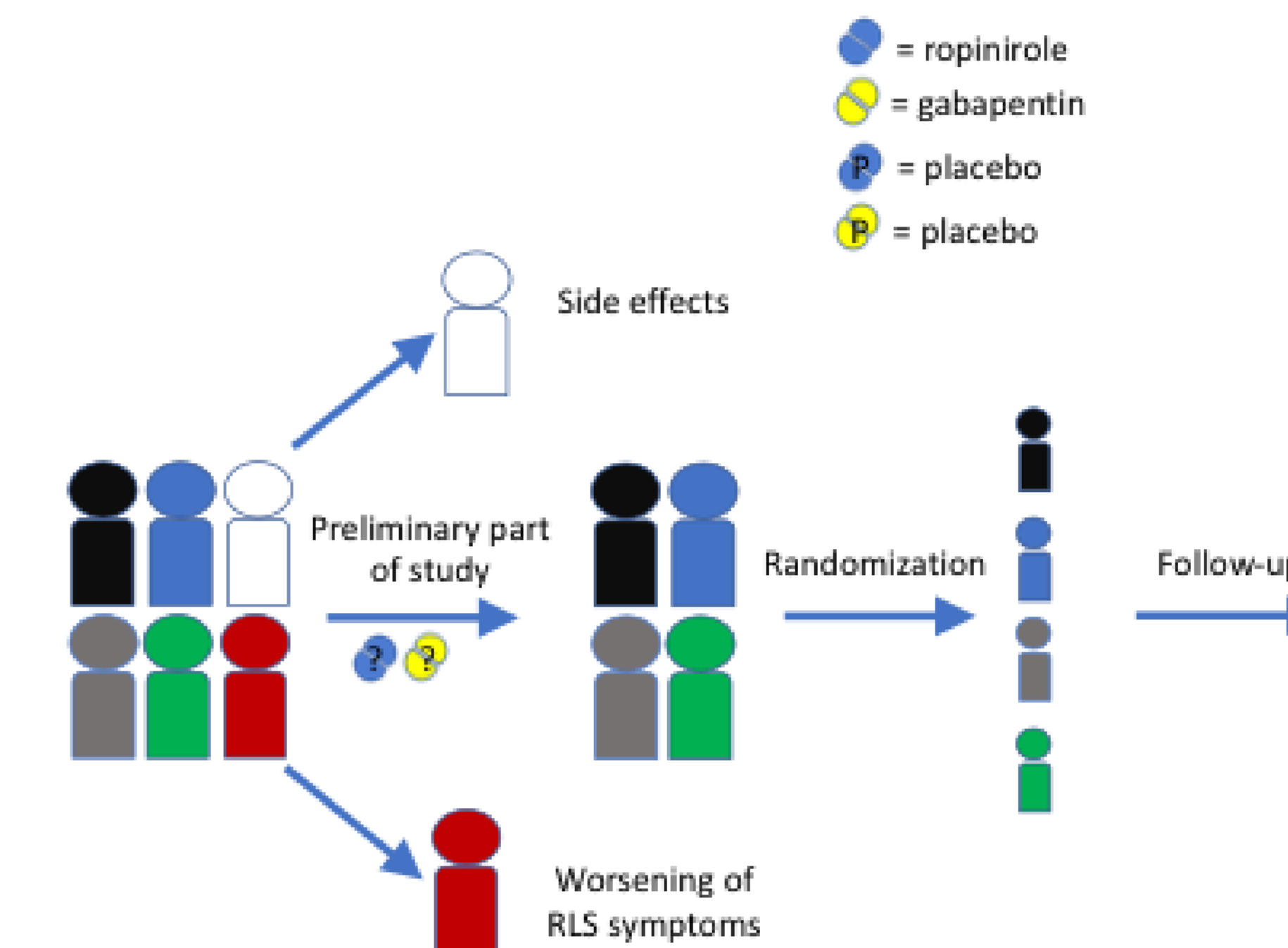


#### Outcomes:

- 1° = change in IRLS
- 2° = change in RLS-6, PGI, EQ-5D-5L, adverse events

### B) Run-in period

- single blind
- double placebo
- 2 weeks
- Identification + exclusion
  - non-adherence
  - placebo response
  - inability to tolerate placebo



### D) Sample size

N=80  
9 centers across Canada

[ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov)

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03806530>

## 5. ACHIEVEMENTS/LESSONS LEARNED

- CNTN is a valuable setting to refine a protocol and get feedback from multiple stakeholders
- Screening for RLS can be successfully performed using preexisting patient outcome reporting measures e.g. ESAS, IRLS
- A SWAT can easily be embedded within a trial
- Patient partners can effectively be utilized at every stage of a clinical trial to enhance its quality and feasibility



ORIGINAL ARTICLE  
Screening questions for the diagnosis of restless legs syndrome in hemodialysis

ckj OXFORD  
Clinical Kidney Journal, 2018, 1-5  
doi: 10.1093/ckj/djy129  
Original Article



## 6. PROJECT TIMELINE

Objective	2017				2018				2019				2020			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Preparatory Work</b>																
Patient engagement																
Protocol development																
ICF development																
Flip chart development																
Treatment sourcing																
Database development																
Case report form development																
Regulatory approval																
CTO ethics approval																
SJHH Site Initiation																
Site initiations																
<b>Trial Conduct</b>																
Participant recruitment																
Treatment and follow-up																
Data cleaning and quality assurance																
<b>Post Trial Work</b>																
Analyses																
Manuscript preparation																
Knowledge translation planning																
Knowledge translation activities																

## 7. COMMENTS

yes, write here!!!

@turbo\_dc  
@lastwalsh  
@PHRIresearch

Ask to see our publication, informed consent form, patient information sheet and flipchart for patient recruitment