



**Dr Karolis Ažukaitis** is a vice-dean for research and innovation at the Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University, a senior research fellow at the Clinic of Paediatrics, and a senior paediatric nephrologist at Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos. In 2021, he defended his doctoral thesis 'Arterial Stiffness in Children with Chronic Kidney Disease: Prevalence, Risk Factors, and Functional Consequences' and was appointed vice-dean in 2022.

Dr Ažukaitis's research interests encompass early cardiovascular injury in children and methods of its assessment, research on chronic kidney disease progression and consequences in childhood, haemolytic uremic syndrome, and patient involvement in research and healthcare process. He has published 42 publications in the journals indexed in Clarivate Analytics Web of Science (11 as main author), and his current H-index is 15. He has given 18 invited lectures at national and international conferences (abstracts and oral presentations excluded).

Dr Karolis Ažukaitis did fellowships at Heidelberg University (Germany), the Center for Kidney Research (Sydney, Australia), the Giannina Gaslini Institute (Genova, Italy), and the University of Sao Paulo clinics (Sao Paulo, Brasil). He is an active member of the ESCAPE paediatric kidney disease research consortium, a long-standing coordinator of the multicenter 4C (Cardiovascular Comorbidity in Children with Chronic Kidney Disease) study, a member of the coordinating committee of SONG (Standardized Outcomes in Nephrology) initiative, a substitute of the Lithuanian representative at HyperChildNET (European paediatric hypertension network, COST action CA19115), and a member of the Cochrane Collaboration. In 2019, he was awarded Vilnius University Rector's research award. He regularly gives lectures and seminars on research methodology and junior researcher career to junior researchers.