

Mayo Clinic News Network

Mayo Clinic researcher motivated to find cure for kidney disease by his father's battle with the illness

Video	Audio
SULL0019	(nats of Chebib in lab opening fridge and tray sliding out)
785G1804 - (:16 - :17)	"Fouad Chebib."
	It's amazing how far some people will go...
785G1808 - 00:01:00	"I grew up in Lebanon."
Parallel park	... to accomplish their dreams ...
	"...then I studied in Beirut for my medical studies."
Parallel park	Doctor Fouad Chebib...
785G1804 - (:25 - :32)	"... I am a physician-scientist."
	...chased his dream across the world from Lebanon to Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, for one reason.
785G1804 - (:33 - :37)	"I have a very passionate interest in polycystic kidney disease."
785G1804 - 00:01:08	"So what happens is the patients who have this genetic defect or mutation 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 and kind of grow and grow. They have multiple, multiple cysts, and that damages the kidney, leading to kidney failure."
	It's a devastating diagnosis.
785G1804 - 00:02:05	"So far there has been no cure."
	But for the first time, there's hope for patients with polycystic kidney disease.
785G1804 - 00:03:19	00:03:17 "It blocks the thirst hormone, called vasopressin."

	It's a breakthrough drug.
785G1804 - 00:03:24	"The cyst doesn't grow as fast."
	And Fouad was one of the researchers on the Mayo Clinic team that helped develop it.
785G1808 - 00:01:35	"Someone called me when the FDA approved the medication. I was giving a talk at the time and then, right after that, I called my father."
	Behind every big dream there's always an inspiration.
SULL0033 - (41:27 – 41:30)	"He was on dialysis for several years."
	His father has polycystic kidney disease.
SULL0033 - (43:03 - 43:23)	"That impression of me seeing him sick inspired me to make sure that no one else would go through that."
	A dream was born - and then likely saved - along with his father who received a kidney transplant - something quite rare in Lebanon at that time.
SULL0033 - (42:07 - 42:18)	"Without that kidney transplant, probably I wouldn't be a physician, I wouldn't be in the United States. I would be doing something different. And, just to be blunt, he probably wouldn't be here without that."
	With his father's health restored, Fouad didn't have to worry about providing for his family.
	He was able to focus on his medical education and coming to the United States.
SULL0033 - (44:03 - 44:06)	"It was easier to get to Harvard than to Mayo Clinic, initially."
	But, eventually, he did make it here to Mayo Clinic.
	And today he heads to the Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport to pick his parents up.
	They're visiting from Lebanon.
SULL0003 - (:16:00 – 16:02)	"Kind of excited."

	It's the first time he will see them since the FDA approved the drug he helped develop.
SULL0004 -(17:27) First shot of John Paul.	It's also the first time they're meeting their grandson, John Paul.
SULL0007 - (19:27)	"Hi. (hugs mom – muffled Arabic). Welcome back. (kisses mom)"
SULL0007 -(19:42)	(hugs dad, kisses dad) "Welcome back." (dad bends down to kiss John Paul)
SULL0007 - (20:08)	"Habibi, I love you." (kisses baby) "Habibi!"
	Habibi means "my love."
SULL0007 - (25:04)	(dad crying and waving off camera) Those tears...it's the same in every language.
SULL0007 - (25:22)	(dad wiping away tears) (Fouad says something in Arabic) "Tears of joy and excitement."
SULL0007 -(25:44)	(dad looks at baby, then turns to hug Fouad, who kisses his cheek)
	Three generations who almost never met.
SULL0007 -(26:43)	(extended tight shot of John Paul's tiny hand holding Fouad's hand)
SULL0032 - (38:32 – 38:33) SULL0015	"It's a proud moment." (starts out tight of Fouad holding John Paul and dad kissing baby, then Fouad hands baby off to dad – zooms out to medium shot and John Paul and dad are staring into each other's eyes)
	A doctor inspired by his father
SULL0032 - (39:55)	"Without his inspiration; without seeing him go through very, very rough times." now inspired by his son.
SULL0032 - (39:38 - 39:54)	"By making sure we find cures for this genetic disease, it's very important to me."
	It's amazing how far some people will go. And perhaps just as amazing how worth it... it is.
SULL0032 – (43:47 – 43:52)	"It's a proud moment."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Ian Roth.