



## Canadian Women's Heart Health Alliance

### Member Profile



**Cindy Kalenga, MD/PhD Student**

University of Calgary

Lead, IGH Sex and Gender Trainee Network, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

Western Regional Director, Canadian Federation of Medical Students

Calgary, AB

Alliance member since 2023

### Biography

Cindy Kalenga is an emerging leader in women's cardiovascular health. She is currently a MD/PhD candidate with Cumming School of Medicine (CSM) where she is exploring how estrogen hormones in the form of contraceptives and postmenopausal hormone therapy are associated with cardiovascular risk in women. Kalenga was honoured at the University of Calgary's 13th Annual Women's Resource Centre's Awards of Excellence award ceremony, which celebrate women's wisdom, resilience and compassion. She was the recipient of the 2020 Graduate Student Award.

Kalenga is widely recognized in the research community as she was recently awarded the Canadian Institute of Health Research's Women's Clinical Mentorship Grant, and the Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta's highly competitive PhD Scholarship in Women's Cardiovascular Health. Kalenga is a highly sought-after speaker at both national and international conferences.

Kalenga is highly committed to supporting women and vowed to optimize the participation of minorities into research to impact the health of all Canadians regardless of race, ethnicity, sex, or gender. As the lead of the Canadian Institute of Health Research's Sex and Gender Trainee Network at UCalgary, she is working to build awareness and capacity in sex- and gender-based considerations among trainees conducting health research in Canada alongside 18 other Canadian universities. She is also a member of CV&Me, an initiative of the Libin Cardiovascular Institute that focuses on sex and gender in research.