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NURSING SCIENCE

17/MHS02/037

DISEASES OF THE RENAL SYSTEM

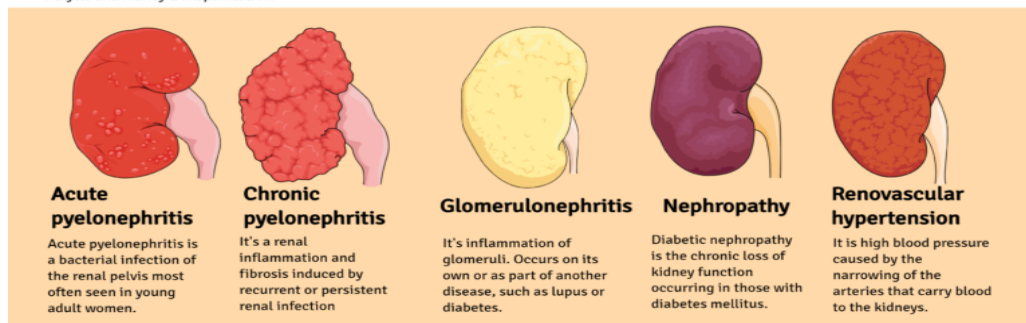
RENAL DISEASES

In most cases, Other health problems can cause kidney failure, by doing permanent damage to kidneys little by little, over time. Therefore, when the kidneys are damaged, they may not work as well as they should. If the damage continues to get worse, the patient can develop chronic kidney disease.

- Chronic kidney disease damages the nephrons slowly over several years. Moreover, kidney failure is the last (most severe) stage of chronic kidney disease. This is why kidney failure is also called end-stage renal disease.
- Most urinary system diseases attack the nephrons. This damage may leave kidneys unable to remove wastes. Causes can include genetic problems, injuries, or medicines. You have a higher risk of kidney disease if you have diabetes, high blood pressure, or a close family member with kidney diseases

Kidney diseases

Nephrology is field that deals with kidney function and disease related to renal malfunction including dialysis and kidney transplantation.



Symptoms

Back pain is a symptom of kidney injury. Call your doctor to get a diagnosis.



Keep healthy habits

Drinking enough water can prevent kidney injuries

Acute pyelonephritis is a bacterial infection causing inflammation of the kidneys and is one of the most common diseases of the kidney. Pyelonephritis occurs as a complication of an ascending urinary tract infection (UTI) which spreads from the bladder to the kidneys and their collecting systems.

SYMPTOMS

- Requires a medical diagnosis
- Fever, frequent urination and pain in the back, side or groin are symptoms.
- People may experience:
- Pain areas: in the flank, back, or pelvis
- Pain circumstances: can occur during urination
- Urinary: urinary tract infection, cloudy urine, foul smelling urine, frequent urge to urinate, frequent urination, or blood in urine
- Whole body: chills, fever, fatigue, loss of appetite, or malaise
- Gastrointestinal: nausea or vomiting
- Also common: fast heart rate

Chronic pyelonephritis is continuing pyogenic infection of the kidney that occurs almost exclusively in patients with major anatomic abnormalities. Symptoms may be absent or may include fever, malaise, and flank pain. Diagnosis is with urinalysis, culture, and imaging tests.

SYMPTOMS

- Symptoms usually appear within two days of infection. Common

symptoms include:

- A fever greater than 102°F (38.9°C)
- Pain in the abdomen, back, side, or groin
- Painful or burning urination
- Cloudy urine
- Pus or blood in the urine
- Urgent or frequent urination
- Fishy-smelling urine

Glomerulonephritis (GN) is inflammation of the glomeruli, which are structures in your kidneys that are made up of tiny blood vessels. These knots of vessels help filter your blood and remove excess fluids. If your glomeruli are damaged, your kidneys will stop working properly, and you can go into kidney failure.

SYMPTOMS

- Glomerulonephritis signs and symptoms include:
- Pink or cola-colored urine from red blood cells in your urine (hematuria)
- Foamy urine due to excess protein (proteinuria)
- High blood pressure (hypertension)
- Fluid retention (edema) with swelling evident in your face, hands, feet and abdomen.

Nephropathy is a disease of the kidneys caused by damage to the small blood vessels or to the units in the kidneys that clean the blood. People who have had diabetes for a long time may.

SYMPTOMS

- Worsening blood pressure control.
- Protein in the urine.
- Swelling of feet, ankles, hands or eyes.
- Increased need to urinate.
- Reduced need for insulin or diabetes medicine.
- Confusion or difficulty concentrating.
- Shortness of breath.
- Loss of appetite.

Renovascular hypertension is a condition in which high blood pressure is caused by the kidneys' hormonal response to narrowing of the arteries supplying the kidneys. When functioning properly this hormonal axis regulates blood pressure.

SYMPTOMS

- Symptoms of renovascular hypertension include:
- High blood pressure at a young age.
- High blood pressure that suddenly gets worse or is hard to control.
- Kidneys that are not working well (this can start suddenly)
- Narrowing of other arteries in the body, such as to the legs, the brain.

Causes of Diseases of the Kidney and Urinary System

Genetic Diseases.

Glomerulonephritis.

Infections, Stones, and Obstructive Uropathy. ...

Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy.

Acute Renal Failure.

Diabetes.

Hypertension.

Diseases of the urinary system

Different specialists treat urinary system ailments. Nephrologists treat kidney diseases, while urologists treat problems with the urinary tract, including the kidneys, adrenal glands, ureters, bladder and urethra, according to the American Urological Association (AUA).

Urologists also treat the male reproductive organs, while gynecologists often treat urinary diseases or disorders in females, including yeast infections.

Nephrologists and urologists often work with endocrinologists or oncologists, depending on the disease.