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Patient Voice

519 An Evolving Continuum of Care for the Kidney Disease Patient Will Help the Transplant Center Patient Navigator

Richard A. Knight

See related editorial and article on pages 529 and 620.

Editorials

521 Community-Based CKD Screening in Black Americans

Keith C. Norris and Susanne B. Nicholas

See related article on page 551.

524 Clear the Fog around Parathyroid Hormone Assays: What Do iPTH Assays Really Measure?

Berthold Hocher and Shufei Zeng

See related article on page 569.

527 The Role of Bicarbonate in Cognition: Acidosis May Be Corrosive to the Brain

Stephen M. Sozio and Mara McAdams-DeMarco

See related article on page 596.

529 What Else Can We Do to Ensure Transplant Equity for High-Risk Patients?

Amy D. Waterman and Jennifer L. Beaumont

See related Patient Voice and article on pages 519 and 620.

Original Articles

Acute Kidney Injury and ICU Nephrology

531 Fibroblast Growth Factor 23 Associates with Death in Critically Ill Patients

David E. Leaf, Edward D. Siew, Michele F. Eisenga, Karandeep Singh, Finnian R. Mc Causland, Anand Srivastava, T. Alp Ikizler, Lorraine B. Ware, Adit A. Ginde, John A. Kellum, Paul M. Palevsky, Myles Wolf, and Sushrut S. Waikar

542 Attributable Risk and Time Course of Colistin-Associated Acute Kidney Injury

Todd A. Miano, Ebbing Lautenbach, F. Perry Wilson, Wensheng Guo, Yuliya Borovskiy, and Sean Hennessy

Chronic Kidney Disease

551 Black Americans' Perspectives of Barriers and Facilitators of Community Screening for Kidney Disease

Ebele M. Umeukeje, Marcus G. Wild, Saugar Maripuri, Teresa Davidson, Margaret Rutherford, Khaled Abdel-Kader, Julia Lewis, Consuelo H. Wilkins, and Kerri Cavanaugh

See related editorial on page 521.

560 Associations of Plasma Amino Acid and Acylcarnitine Profiles with Incident Reduced Glomerular Filtration Rate

Feijie Wang, Liang Sun, Qi Sun, Liming Liang, Xianfu Gao, Rongxia Li, An Pan, Huaixing Li, Yueyi Deng, Frank B. Hu, Jiarui Wu, Rong Zeng, and Xu Lin

569 Association of Nonoxidized Parathyroid Hormone with Cardiovascular and Kidney Disease Outcomes in Chronic Kidney Disease

Sarah Seiler-Mussler, Anne S. Limbach, Insa E. Emrich, John W. Pickering, Heinz J. Roth, Danilo Fliser, and Gunnar H. Heine

See related editorial on page 524.

Original Articles (Continued)

Chronic Kidney Disease (Continued)

577 Association of FGF-2 Concentrations with Atheroma Progression in Chronic Kidney Disease Patients

Milica Bozic, Angels Betriu, Marcelino Bermudez-Lopez, Alberto Ortiz, Elvira Fernandez, Jose M. Valdivielso, and on behalf of the NEFRONA investigators

Hypertension

585 Central Blood Pressure and Cardiovascular Outcomes in Chronic Kidney Disease

Mahboob Rahman, Jesse Yenchih Hsu, Niraj Desai, Chi-yuan Hsu, Amanda H. Anderson, Lawrence J. Appel, Jing Chen, Debbie L. Cohen, Paul E. Drawz, Jiang He, Pan Qiang, Ana C. Ricardo, Susan Steigerwalt, Matthew R. Weir, Jackson T. Wright Jr., Xiaoming Zhang, and Raymond R. Townsend, for the CRIC Study Investigators

596 Serum Bicarbonate Concentration and Cognitive Function in Hypertensive Adults

Mirela Dobre, Sarah A. Gaussoin, Jeffrey T. Bates, Michel B. Chonchol, Debbie L. Cohen, Thomas H. Hostetter, Kalani L. Raphael, Addison A. Taylor, Alan J. Lerner, Jackson T. Wright Jr., and Mahboob Rahman, for the SPRINT Research Group
See related editorial on page 527.

Maintenance Dialysis

604 β -Blocker Dialyzability in Maintenance Hemodialysis Patients: A Randomized Clinical Trial

Alvin Tieu, Thomas J. Velenosi, Andrew S. Kucey, Matthew A. Weir, and Bradley L. Urquhart

Nephrolithiasis

612 Metabolic and Hypertensive Complications of Pregnancy in Women with Nephrolithiasis

Jessica Sheehan Tangren, Camille E. Powe, Jeffrey Ecker, Kate Bramham, Elizabeth Ankers, S. Ananth Karumanchi, and Ravi Thadhani

Transplantation

620 Transplant Center Patient Navigator and Access to Transplantation among High-Risk Population: A Randomized, Controlled Trial

Mohua Basu, Lisa Petgrave-Nelson, Kayla D. Smith, Jennie P. Perryman, Kevin Clark, Stephen O. Pastan, Thomas C. Pearson, Christian P. Larsen, Sudeshna Paul, and Rachel E. Patzer
See related Patient Voice and editorial on pages 519 and 529.

628 Association of Serious Fall Injuries among United States End Stage Kidney Disease Patients with Access to Kidney Transplantation

Laura C. Plantinga, Raymond J. Lynch, Rachel E. Patzer, Stephen O. Pastan, and C. Barrett Bowling

Research Letter

638 Correlation of Urine Ammonium and Urine Osmolal Gap in Kidney Transplant Recipients

Kalani L. Raphael and Joachim H. Ix

Evidence-Based Nephrology

641 Treatment of Severe Hyponatremia

Richard H. Sterns

See related commentary on page 650.

Commentary

650 Commentary on Treatment of Severe Hyponatremia

Stephen Seliger and Bryan Kestenbaum

See related article on page 641.

Kidney Case Conference: How I Treat

652 Evaluation and Management of CKD in the Nonkidney Solid Organ Transplant Recipient

Karen M. Warburton and Alden M. Doyle

Feature

655 Systems Thinking and Leadership: How Nephrologists Can Transform Dialysis Safety to Prevent Infections

Leslie P. Wong

See related articles on pages 663, 666, 669 and 671.

Perspectives

663 Urgent: Stop Preventable Infections Now

Allan J. Collins and Alan S. Kliger

See related articles on pages 655, 666, 669 and 671.

666 Addressing the Problem of Multidrug-Resistant Organisms in Dialysis

Erika M.C. D'Agata

See related articles on pages 655, 663, 669 and 671.

669 What We Learned from Ebola: Preparing Dialysis Units for the Next Outbreak

John M. Boyce and Jeffrey L. Hymes

See related articles on pages 655, 663, 666 and 671.

671 100% Use of Infection Control Procedures in Hemodialysis Facilities: Call to Action

Anitha Vijayan and John M. Boyce

See related articles on pages 655, 663, 666 and 669.

On the Cover

What's the diagnosis?

We report a case of a 66-year-old man with history of recurrent sinusitis, asthma, hepatitis C and hepatitis B who presented with gait instability, progressive lower extremity edema and dyspnea. He was found to have AKI with serum creatinine of 2.0 mg/dL (baseline 0.8 mg/dL) and WBCs count of 10.2 with peripheral eosinophilia 23%. Urinalysis was positive for proteinuria (2+) and mild hematuria without dysmorphic RBCs or RBCs casts. Urine protein/creatinine ratio was 1.8 g. Kidney ultrasound was unremarkable. Hepatitis B and HIV viral loads were undetectable. Complement levels were normal. RF and serum cryoglobulin were negative. Patient had positive p-ANCA (1:640) and MPO antibodies (1:103). Other serologies were negative. CT of the chest showed multiple lung nodules. Kidney biopsy demonstrated evidence of eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis (EGPA) along with arteritis, crescents and necrotizing GN. Patient received cyclophosphamide and prednisone. The patient's serum creatinine returned to baseline and protein/creatinine ratio improved to 0.6 g.

Figures 1 and 2 demonstrate diffuse interstitial inflammation with eosinophils, identifiable by their characteristic H&E staining pattern. Specifically the eosin, an acidic dye which is negatively charged, stains the basic cytoplasm of these cells a granular pink color. Focal necrotizing arteritis with eosinophils are also seen in figure 1. Figure 3 shows glomerulonephritis with focal crescents using silver stain. EGPA is necrotizing vasculitis that affect small and medium vessels. Clinical manifestations can include asthma, sinusitis, lung infiltrates/nodules, neuropathy, and glomerulonephritis. Diagnosis is confirmed by biopsy. Treatment is a combination of prednisone and cyclophosphamide or rituximab.

(Images and text provided by Mohamad Hanouneh, MD, Diana S. Najjar, MD, and Duwuru Geetha, MBBS, MD, Johns Hopkins University, Department of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland)