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1741 We Can Diagnose AKI “Early”
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1743 Preeclampsia and Risk for Subsequent ESRD in Populations of European Ancestry
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1746 L-Carnitine for Anemia in Hemodialysis Patients: A Last Resort
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1749 Association of Postoperative Proteinuria with AKI after Cardiac Surgery among Patients at High Risk
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1761 The Association of Albumin/Creatinine Ratio with Postoperative AKI in Children Undergoing Cardiac Surgery
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1770 Relationship between Ambulatory BP and Clinical Outcomes in Patients with Hypertensive CKD

1777 CKD, Plasma Lipids, and Common Carotid Intima-Media Thickness: Results from the Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis

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1801 Physical Exercise, Fasting Glucose, and Renal Hyperfiltration in the General Population: The Renal Iohexol Clearance Survey in Tromsø 6 (RENIS-T6)
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1811 Dietary Acid Load and Metabolic Acidosis in Renal Transplant Recipients
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1819 Familial Factors in the Association between Preeclampsia and Later ESRD
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1827 Association of Smoking with Cardiovascular and Infection-Related Morbidity and Mortality in Chronic Hemodialysis
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1836 L-Carnitine Treatment in Incident Hemodialysis Patients: The Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blinded, Placebo-Controlled CARNIDIAL trial
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1843 Clinical Analysis of Perioperative Complement Activity during Ischemia/Reperfusion Injury following Renal Transplantation
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1852 Parietal Epithelial Cell Activation Marker in Early Recurrence of FSGS in the Transplant
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1859 Association of Pre–Kidney Transplant Markers of Mineral and Bone Disorder with Post-Transplant Outcomes
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Introduction: Public Policy Series—Data in Nephrology

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In Data We Trust: The Role and Utility of Dialysis Provider Databases in the Policy Process

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Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study (DOPPS): Its Strengths, Limitations, and Role in Informing Practices and Policies

Bruce M. Robinson, Brian Bieber, Ronald L. Pisoni, and Friedrich K. Port

ESRD Networks: Past, Present, and Challenges for the Future

Jay B. Wish and Klemens B. Meyer

Correction

On the Cover

What's the diagnosis? Urine microscopy in the upper left panel demonstrates a cast filled with decoy cells (BK virus infected renal tubular epithelial cells), while the upper right panel shows the lymphocytic reaction to BK virus with renal epithelial cells containing large nuclei indicative of viral infection. The lower left panel is an SV-40 stain of renal tissue showing BK virus infected nuclei. The BK viral particles are seen on electron microscopy in the lower right panel. BK virus-associated nephropathy describes kidney injury that develops in a renal allograft as a result of the polyoma virus BK virus. Infection with BK virus occurs primarily in patients treated with potent immunosuppressive agents. The renal manifestations closely resemble those of acute rejection including either acute kidney injury or a slowly progressive decline in kidney function. In general, the process occurs at a mean period of 10 to 13 months following transplantation. Urinalysis and microscopy most commonly reveal pyuria, hematuria, and/or cellular casts consisting of renal tubular epithelial (RTE) cells and inflammatory cells, findings consistent with interstitial nephritis. Decoy cells may be identified in the spun urine sediment or on urine cytology. The most characteristic abnormality is RTE cells with an enlarged nucleus with a single large basophilic intranuclear inclusion. These cellular changes are suggestive of polyoma virus infection. However, decoy cells are not entirely sensitive or specific for BK virus infection. RTE cell casts with features of polyoma virus infection were observed on urine microscopy in seven of eight patients with biopsy-confirmed BK virus-associated nephropathy. Renal biopsy is very helpful in diagnosing BK virus-associated nephropathy. Large, intranuclear inclusions within RTE cells are highly suggestive while a positive immunohistochemical stain against SV-40 T-antigen is highly specific for polyoma virus, of which BK is the most common. In situ hybridization to identify viral DNA or proteins within renal tissue is another specific test to diagnose BK virus-associated nephropathy. Electron microscopy of infected renal tubular cells may demonstrate the viral particles, as seen in this case. (Images and text provided by Jose Antonio Tesser Poloni, Irmandade da Santa Casa de Misericordia de Porto Alegre, Porto Alegre, Brazil, and Gilbert Moeckel and Mark A. Perazella, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut)