

Understanding Chronic Kidney Disease: A CONVERSATION STARTER

A CONVERSATION STARTER FOR PATIENTS AND THEIR HEALTHCARE TEAM





STAGES OF CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE

	STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3A	STAGE 3B	STAGE 4	STAGE 5
	Normal Kidney Function	Mild Loss of Kidney Function	Mild to Moderate Loss of Kidney Function	Moderate to Severe Loss of Kidney Function	Severe Loss of Kidney Function	Kidney Failure
Kidney Damage	0-10% Damage	11–40% Damage	41–55% Damage	60-70% Damage	71–85% Damage	More than 85% Damage
Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR) Blood Test	90 or Higher	89 to 60	59 to 45	44 to 30	29 to 15	Less than 15
Albumin to Creatinine Ratio (ACR) Urine Test	Normal to Mildly Increased Amounts of Protein in Urine - ACR: < 30 mg/g Moderately Increased Amounts of Protein in Urine - ACR: 30–300 mg/g Severely Increased Amounts of Protein in Urine - ACR: > 300 mg/g					
ACR Range	Normal Range ————————————————————————————————————					
Self-Management Tip	Work with a Nephrologist and Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) to support your kidney health					
Symptoms	Your symptoms may or may not be related to chronic kidney disease. You won't know unless you receive results from the GFR and ACR tests.	Your symptom have may or may not be related to chronic kidney disease. You won't know unless you receive results from the GFR and ACR tests.	 STAGE 3A Changes in urination Blood in urine Protein in urine Swelling of hands, face, feet, ankles Fatigue Sleeping problems 	 STAGE 3B Changes in urination Blood in urine Protein in urine Swelling of hands, face, feet, ankles Fatigue Sleeping problems 	STAGE 4 SAME AS STAGES 3A AND 3B, PLUS • Unpleasant breath • Nausea/vomiting • Changes in appetite • Poor concentration • Nerve problems	STAGE 5 SAME AS STAGE 4, PLUS • Headaches • Changes in skin • Chronic Itching
Complications	STAGE 1 Complications may or may not be related to chronic kidney disease. You won't know unless you receive results from the GFR and ACR tests.	Complications may or may not be related to chronic kidney disease. You won't know unless you receive results from the GFR and ACR tests.	STAGES 3A, 3B, 4, 5 ANEMIA • Kidneys don't make enough blood cells to supply enough oxygen to the body. HIGH POTASSIUM (Hyperkalemia) • Kidneys can't keep the right amount of minerals, like potassium, in the body. • Kidneys can't remove wastes, like extra potassium, from the blood. HIGH PHOSPHORUS & BONE DISEASE (Hyperphosphatemia) • Kidneys can't keep the right amount of minerals in the body. • Kidneys can't keep the amount of calcium and phosphorus balanced; therefore, bones can get weak. HEART DISEASE • Damage to kidney blood vessels makes it hard for the kidneys to get enough blood and oxygen. • CKD makes it hard for the kidneys to release hormones that regulate blood pressure. • The heart must work harder to pump enough blood for the kidneys and body. FLUID ACCUMULATION • Kidneys can't keep the right amount of water in the body. Feet, ankles, hands and face may swell. • Too much fluid can lead to heart and breathing problems. More blood volume can increase blood pressure.			

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