

Investigation Of kidney and Urinary tract

Dept. pathological physiology

By Pavel Maruna



Functional tests

Glomerular filtration

Tubular resorption

Concentration test

Acidification test

Blood gases

Imaging methods

Native X-ray

scintigraphy

angiography

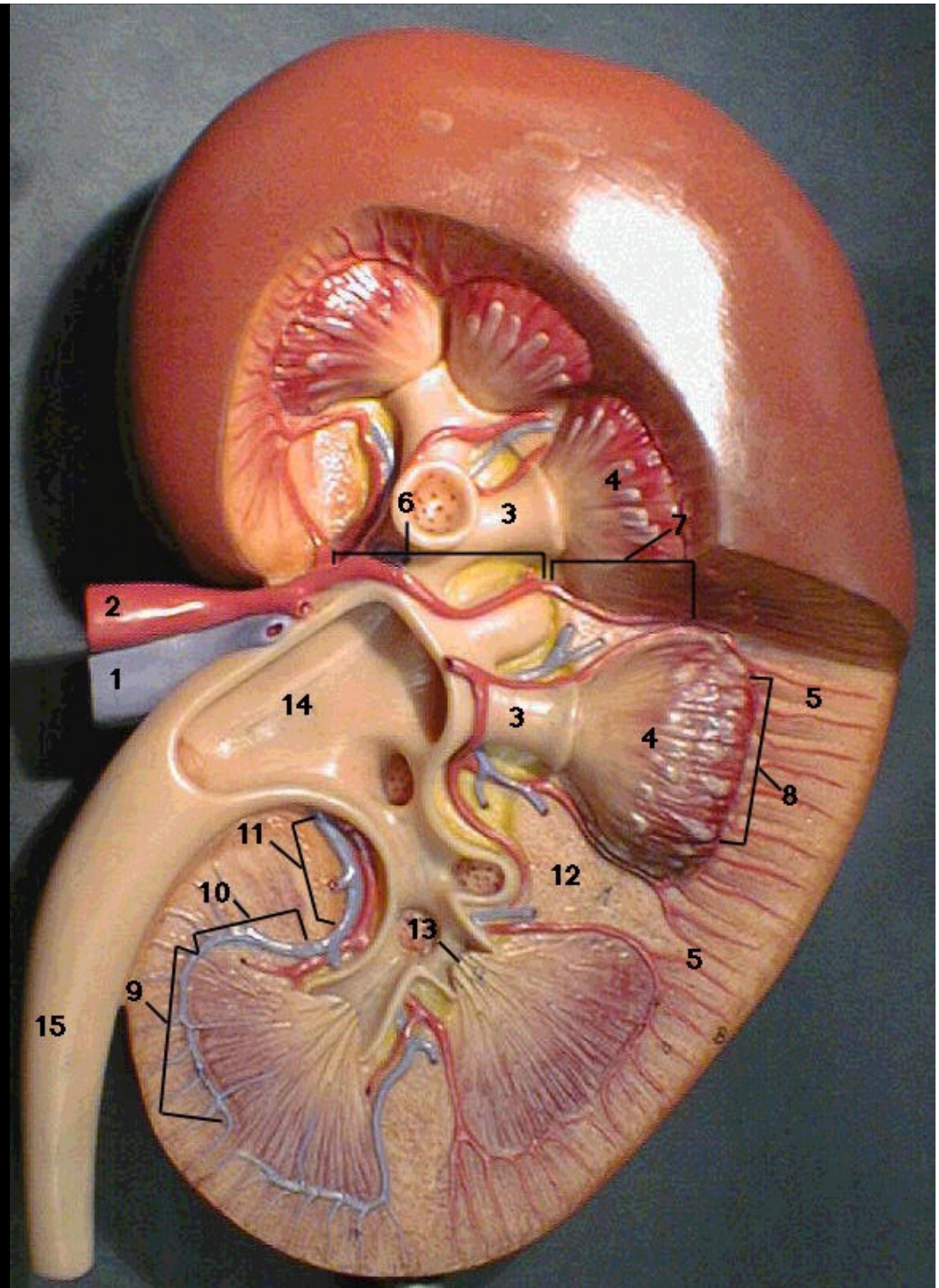
Ultra-sonography

MRI

Endoscopy/

laparoscopy

Laboratory tests



Definitions

Renal insufficiency

Kidneys are able to maintain homeostasis of the inner milieu under normal conditions, but unable to do so in a stress conditions (infection, surgery, overload by water and electrolytes).

Renal failure

Kidneys are unable to maintain homeostasis of the inner milieu even under basic conditions.

Uremia

Syndrome of higher level of nitrogen metabolites in inner milieu, which can develop as a consequence of (mostly chronic) renal failure.

Chronic renal failure/ uremic syndrome

1. Retention of

- water
- electrolytes
- small molecules
- medium size molecules (500 - 3000 D)

2. Losses of

- water, electrolytes
- amino acids, proteins, vitamins (soluble in water)

3. Lower production of

- Erythropoietin
- 1,25-OH-D3 (vitamin D)

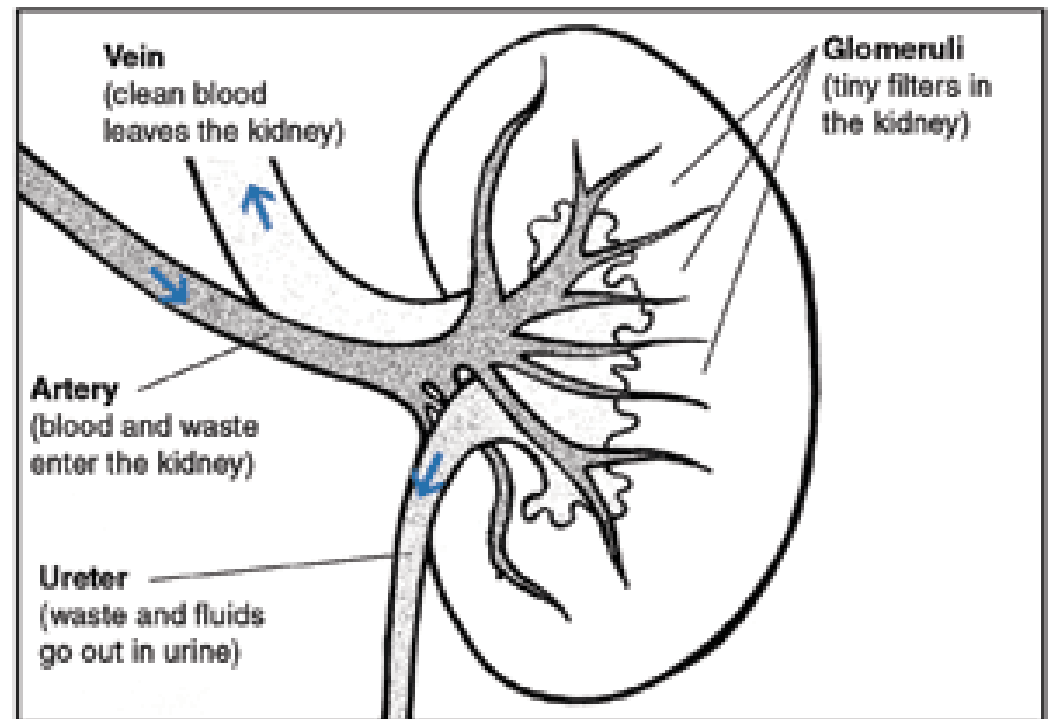
4. Trade off hypothesis

= picture develops due to compensatory mechanisms

Acute renal failure

According to site/ causes

1. Pre-renal
2. Renal (parenchymatous)
3. Post-renal (obstructive)



Acute renal failure

Causes

1. Prerenal



Changes in haemodynamics
Circulation shock,
(Losses of blood,
water and electrolytes)

DEHYDRATION.....



Acute renal failure

Causes

2. Renal (parenchymatous) – mostly defects of tubules

- TIN (tubulo-interstitial nephritis)
- Glomerulo-nephritis (streptococcus, SLE, Goodpast. sy)
- Nefrotoxic drugs (CCl₄, etylenglykol, propylenglykol, Hg, Au, Bi,
- nefrotox. substances (SFA, gentamycin, cefaloridin), amanita phal.
- hemolysis (incompatible TRF)
- crush syndrom
- burns (dehydration, sepsis, toxemia)
- toxo-infectious insult (sepsis)
- childbirth, abortion, surgery
- acute pancreatitis
- Vascular disorders (occlusion a. renalis, thrombosis of kidney veins, hypertension)

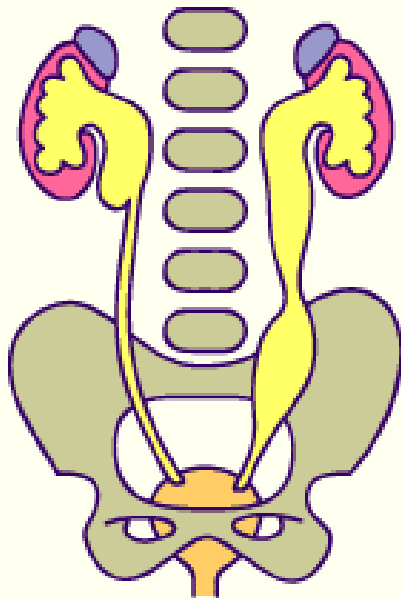
Acute renal failure

Causes

3. Post-renal →

Obstruction of urinary tract

urolithiasis, blood clots
tumours
prostatic hypertrophy
retro-peritoneal fibrosis
surgical fixation of ureters
atonia of urinary bladder



Acute renal failure

Parameter Pre-renal f. Renal f.

Natriuria	< 20	> 40 mM
U-osmolarity	> 500	< 350 mosm / kg
conc. index creatinin	> 40	< 20 (U-cr / P – cr)
conc. index of urea	> 8	< 3 (U-urea / P-urea)
excretion fraction of Na	< 1	> 2

Holds only in a condition before cure (by diuretics and/or infusion).

Acute renal failure

Stages

1. Initial ... Dominated by its cause/ primary disease
2. Anuric / oliguric phase
3. Diuretic ... Polyuric phase (up to 5-6 l / 24 h)
4. Convalescence ... Sanatio ad integrum can take 1 year

Oliguria < 500 ml / 24 h

Anuria < 100 ml / 24 h

Chronic renal insufficiency

Final stage of various kidney ailments

44 %	glomerulonephritis, glomerulopathy
25 %	TIN (tubulo-interstitial nephritis)
10 %	kidney polycystosis

Staging

- I. Fully compensated (cr. < 300)**
- II. Compensated retention (cr. = 300-700)**
- III. De-compensated retention (cr. > 700) ... Haemo-dialisys**
- IV. Uremia**

Uremia

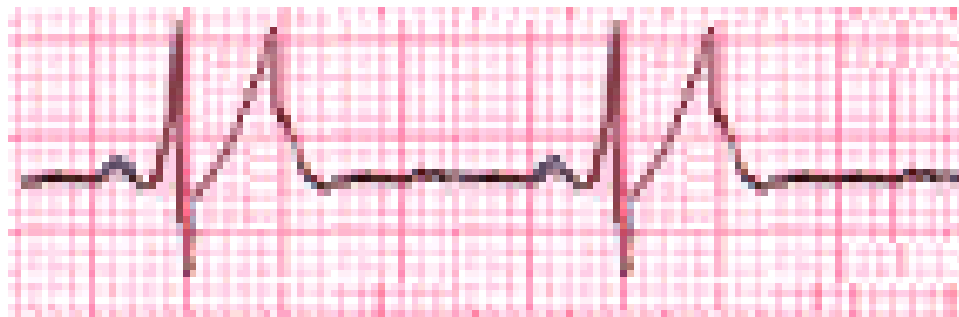
Water and electrolyte dysbalance

- losses / retention of water
- ↓ Na (dilution, distribution, depletion)
- ↑ K (retention)

oedemas ± dehydration

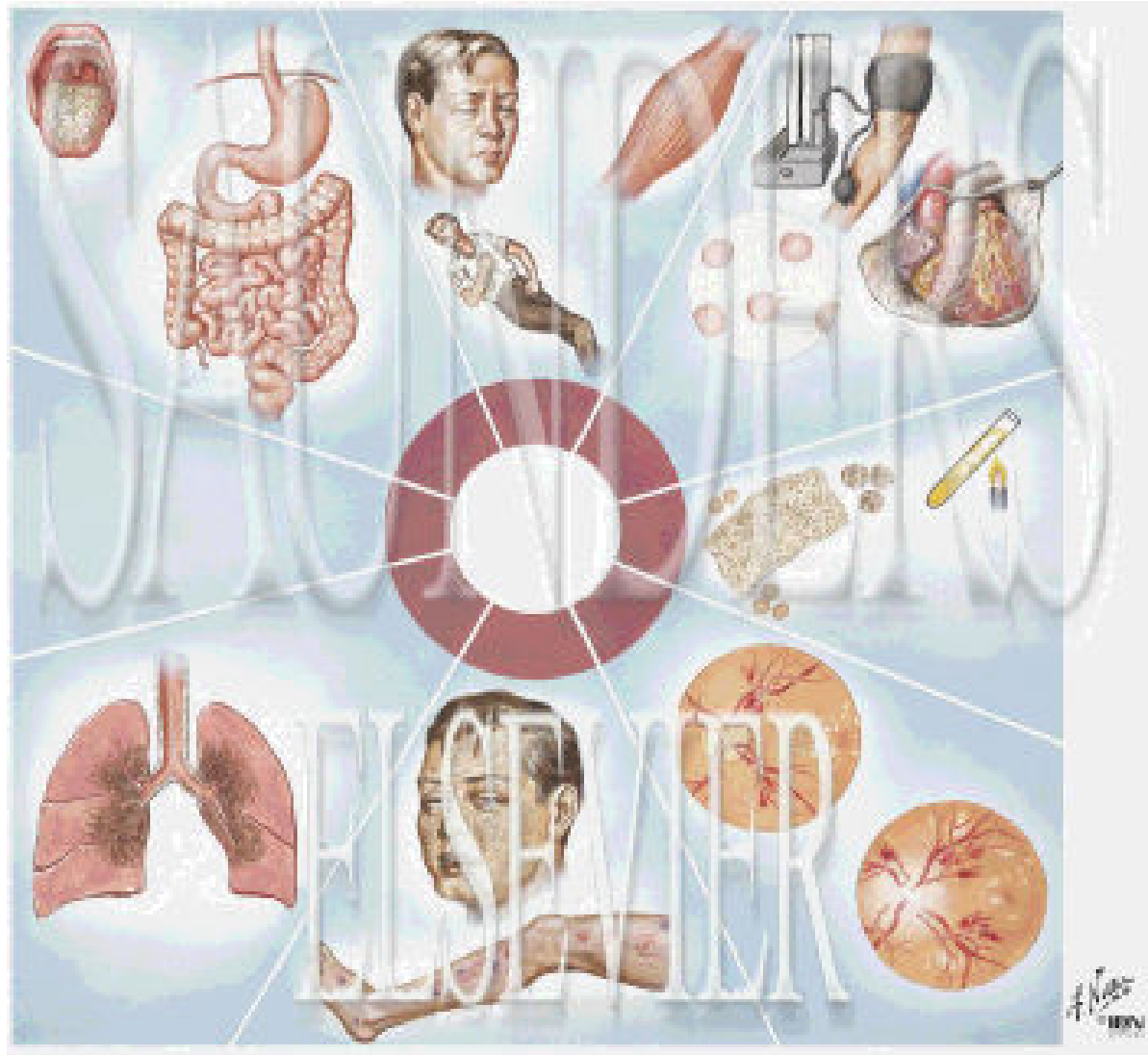


weakness, tiredness
dyspepsia (anorexia, morning
nausea, vomiting, diarrhea)
arrythmia, perikarditis



Uremia

Bleeding
Secondary gout
Poly-neuropathy



Uremia

Renal (reno-parenchymatous) hypertension

Factors:

- presoric (kidney hypoperfusion → renin)
- depresor (kallikrein/kinins, PG E)
- excretion of Na, H₂O



X

Renovascular hypertension

Renal presoric mechanisms (renin) only

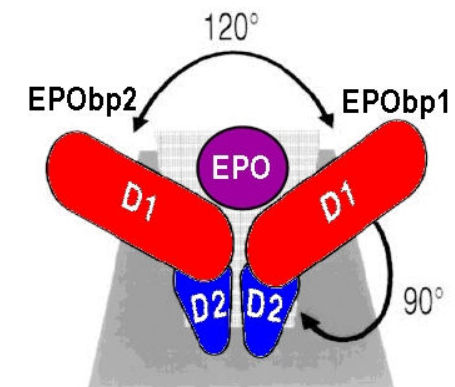
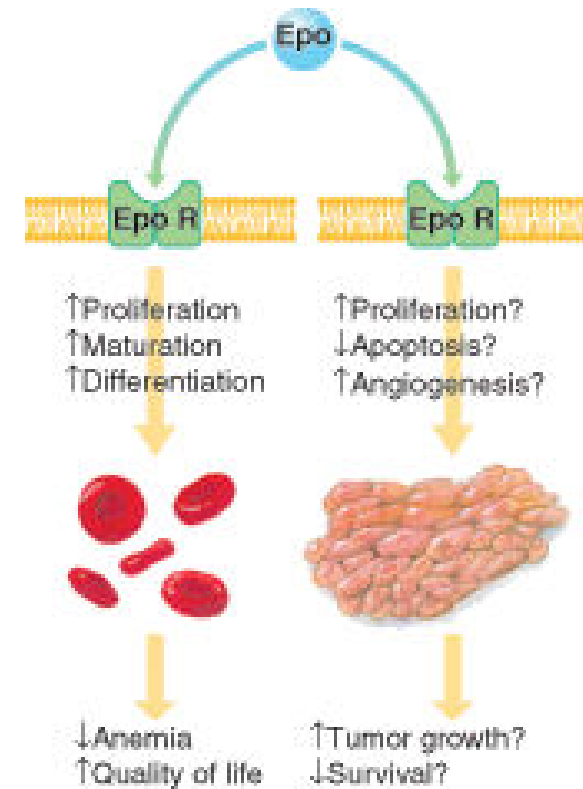
Hypo-perfusion in renal artery stenosis

Uremia

Anemia

Factors:

- Epo
- vitamin losses, protein losses (proteinuria)
- blood losses (hematuria)
- low iron (inflammation, ↓ Trf)
- toxic suppression of bone marrow
- inflammatory inhibition of erythropoiesis

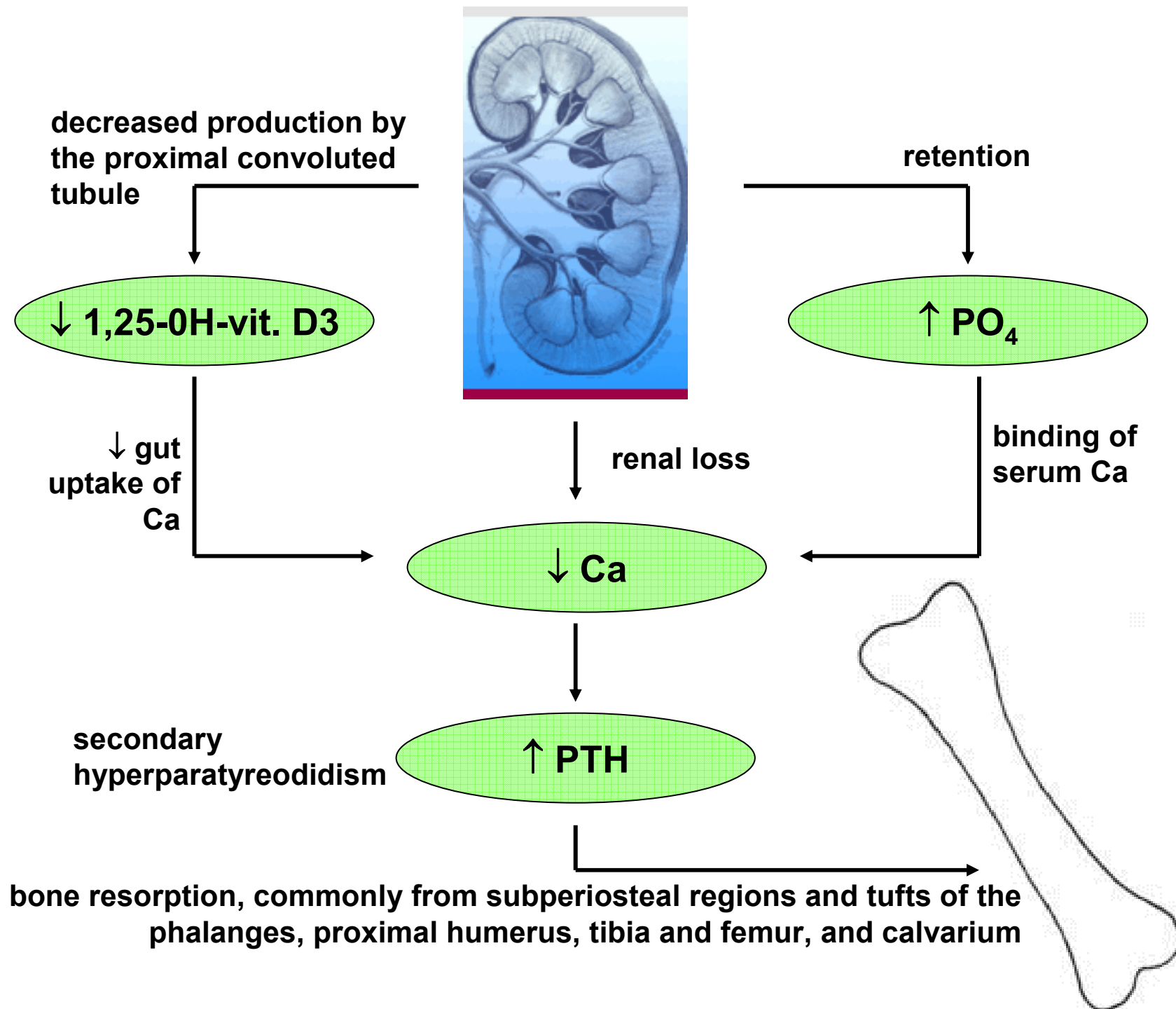


Uremia

Renal osteodystrophy

Factors:

- $\uparrow \text{PO}_4$
- \downarrow 1,25-OH-vit. D3 ... Lower production
- \downarrow Ca ... losses, \downarrow intestinal resorption
- secondary, \uparrow PTH ... bone resorption



Uremia

Renal osteodystrophy



“Salt and pepper” skull



Higher para-thyroid activity
causing characteristic
subperiosteal resorption

Uremia

Renal osteodystrophy



Bone changes are partially reversible
snapshots of the same finger before and 6 months
after therapy of secondary hyper-parathyreosis

Uremia

Secondary infections

Bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia

Hepatitis

Sepsis

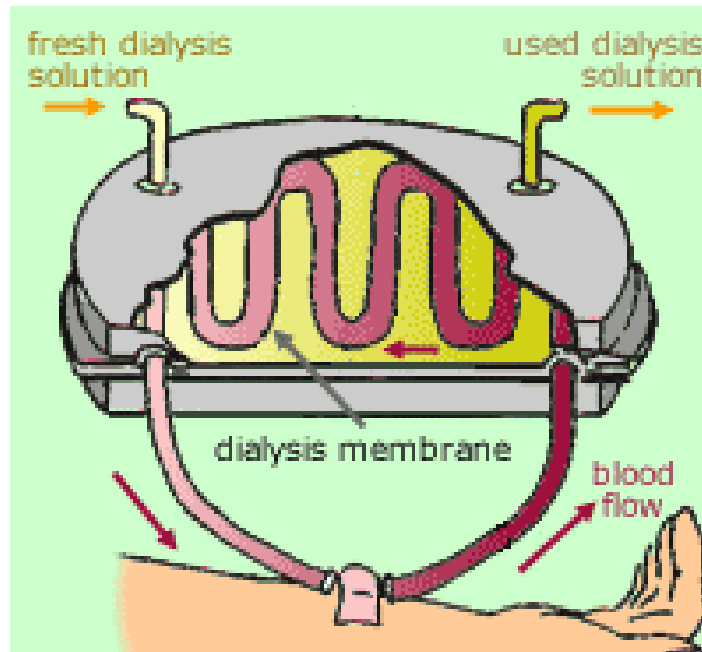
**Cheyne - Stokes
breathing pattern**



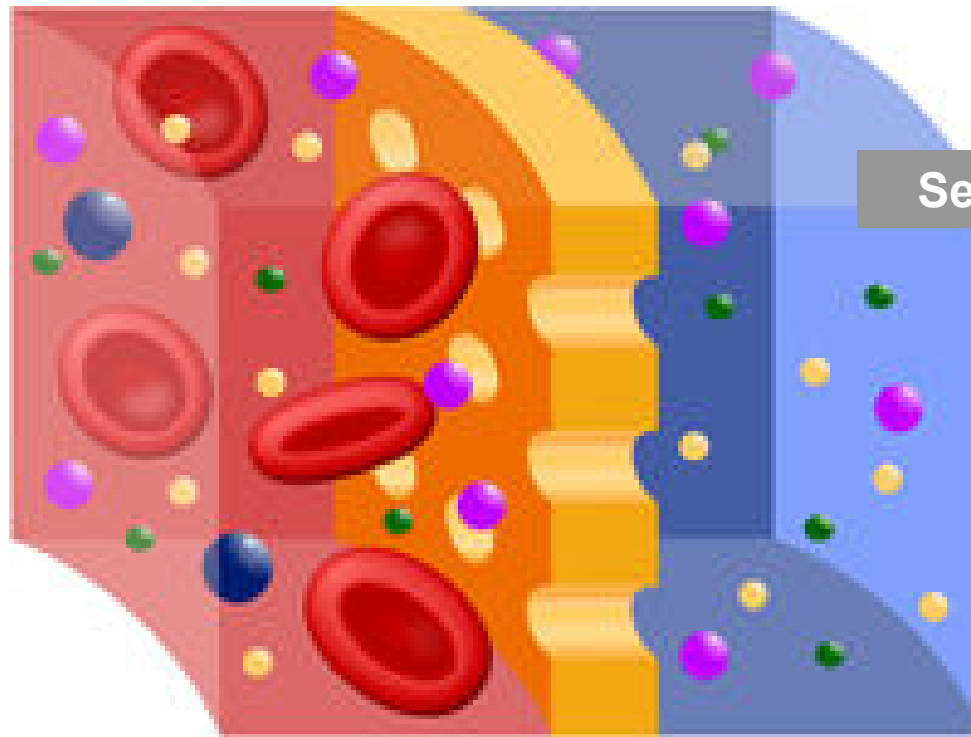
Acute dialysis

Principle

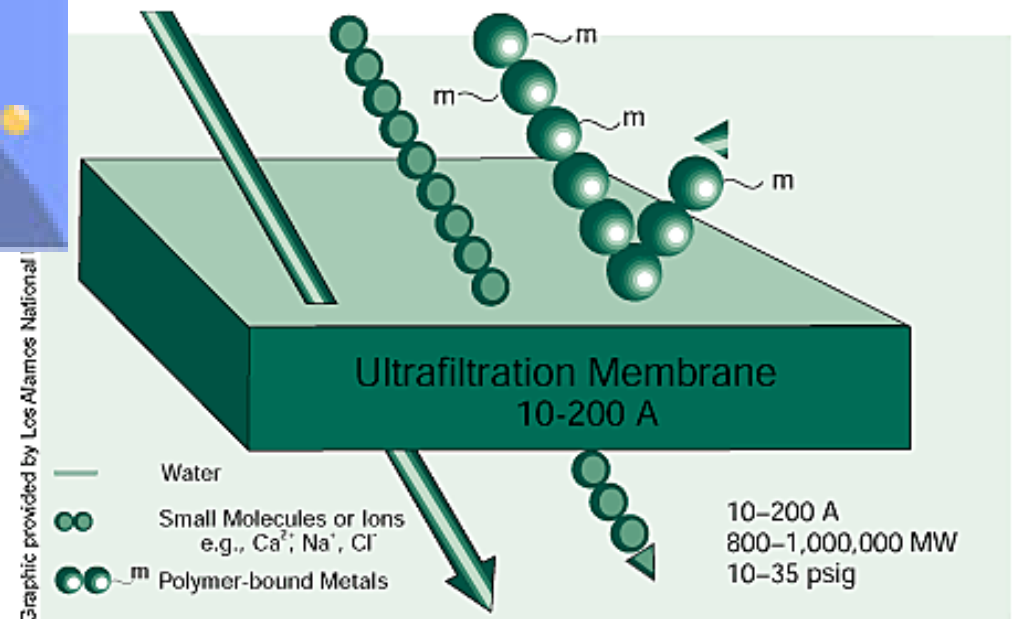
The dialysis membrane allows to exchange of low molecular substances to dialysis solution in accordance of its concentration (x molecules bound on plasma proteins)



Acute dialysis



Semipermeable dialysis membrane

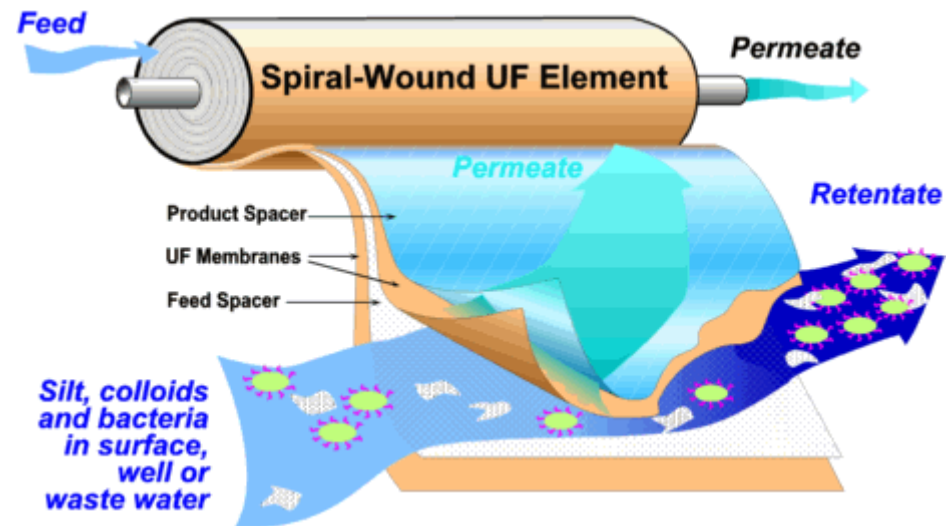


Graphic provided by Los Alamos National

Acute dialysis

The possible combination
with **ultrafiltration**

(in hyperhydratation,
pulmonary edema)



Ultrafiltration

The membrane process that uses moderate hydraulic pressure to transfer water and low molecular weight species through a membrane while retaining colloids and large organic molecules

Acute dialysis

Indications

1. Renal failure

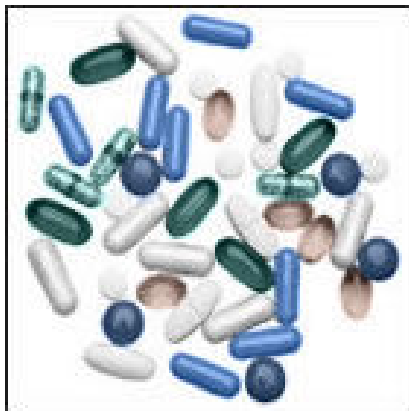
- uremia
- anuria / oliguria > 3 days
- creatinine > 700 $\mu\text{mol} / \text{l}$
- urea > 30 mmol / l
- \uparrow urea > 10 $\text{mmol} / \text{l} / \text{day}$
- $\text{K} > 6,5 \text{ mmol} / \text{l}$
- acidosis
- hyperhydration (conservatively immedicable)

Acute dialysis

Indications

1. Renal failure
2. Intoxication ... drugs non-bound on proteins

psychiatric drugs
fridex (coolant fluid)



Acute dialysis

Indications

1. Renal failure
2. Intoxication
3. ↑ Ca
4. ↑ urikemia ... e.g. after cytostatic therapy of leukemia
5. Hypotermia
6. Alkalosis ... rarely (not in CZ)

Acute dialysis

Contraindications:

Only terminal stage of malignancy

Not age or diagnosis

All patients with creatinine > 300 nmol / L have to be followed in predialysis centers

Peritoneal dialysis

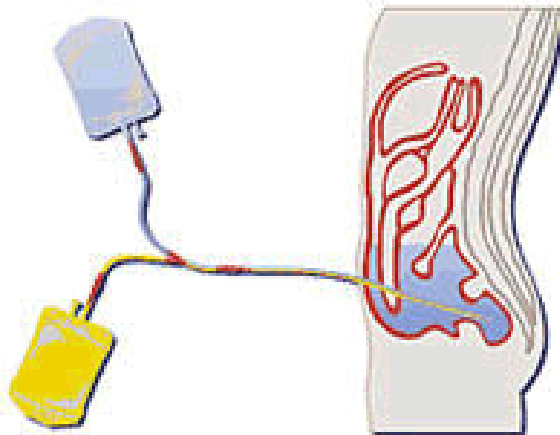
Principle

Peritoneum is used as a dialysis membrane.

The abdominal cavity is filled by a dialyze liquid.

The liquid (artificial ascites) is get out after some interval.

CAPD = Continual ambulatory peritoneal dialysis



Dialysis

Complications

Sy of insufficient dialysis

Sy of excessive dialysis ... a loss of AA, vitamins, enzymes, hormones, hypotension due to hypovolemia

Sy of disequilibrium ... a brain edema due a quick dialysis

Sy of hard water ... Ca in dialyse fluid → hypertension, vomiting, fatigue, headache

Infectious complication ... hepatitis B

Urine biochemistry

U-Na ... 100 - 200 mmol / 24 h

U-K ... 30 - 80 mmol / 24 h

U-Na : U-K < 1 ... Na/K exchange in distal tubuli (aldosterone)

Pathology: primary kidney dis.
 renin / angiotensin / aldosterone

Urine biochemistry

Excretion fraction (EF)

= The fraction of its glomerular filtration flux, which passes to and is excreted in the urine

$$EF = J_{\text{excr}} / J_{\text{filtr}}$$

$J_{\text{excr}} = (C_u \times V_u^\circ)$ and $J_{\text{filtr}} = (GFR \times C_{\text{filtr}})$. It follows that:

$$EF = (C_u \times V_u^\circ) / (GFR \times C_{\text{filtr}})$$

C_{filtr} = the concentration of the substance in the ultrafiltrate.

Inulin **EF = 1**.

Substances with an **EF > 1** are subject to **net secretion**.

Substances with an **EF < 1** are subject to **net reabsorption**.

Urine biochemistry

Proteinuria

Physiol.	< 150 mg / 24 h
Pathol.	> 500 mg / 24 h
Haevy	> 3500 mg / 24 h
Nephrotic sy	> 5000 mg / 24 h

Methods of quantifying proteinuria:

- urine dipstick test
- sulfosalicylic acid tests

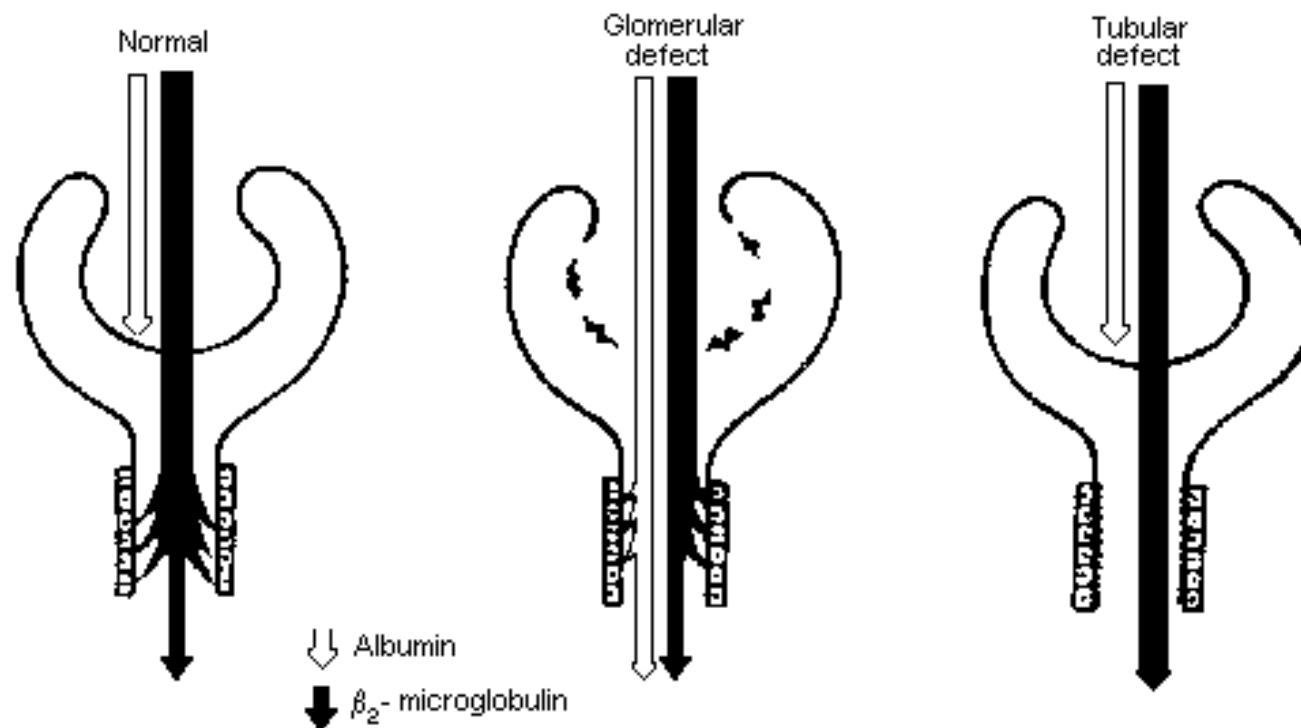
Protein urinary excretion of > 2 g per 24 h is usually a result of **glomerular disease**.

Young men with proteinuria < 2 g per 24 h and who have a normal creatinine clearance should be tested for **orthostatic proteinuria**

Urine biochemistry

Proteinuria

Glomerular x Tubular



Urine biochemistry

Proteinuria

Glomerular	Increased glomerular capillary permeability to protein Primary or secondary glomerulopathy
Tubular	Decreased tubular reabsorption of proteins in glomerular filtrate Tubular or interstitial disease
Overflow	Increased production of low- molecular-weight proteins Monoclonal gammopathy, leukemia

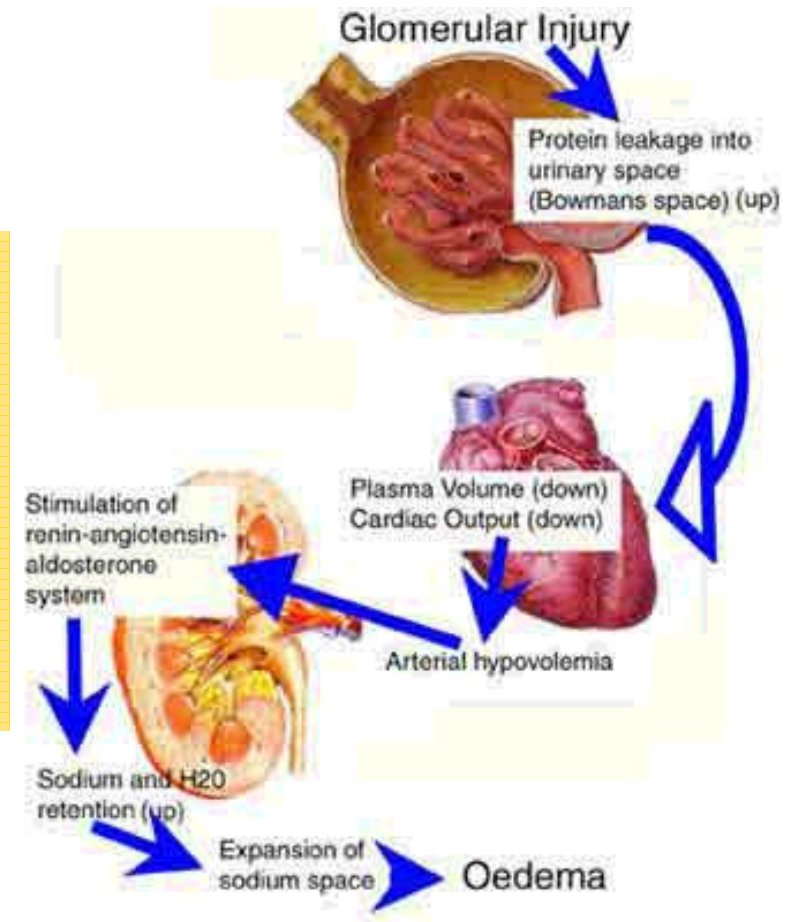
Urine biochemistry

Proteinuria

Nephrotic syndrome

Diagnostic criteria:

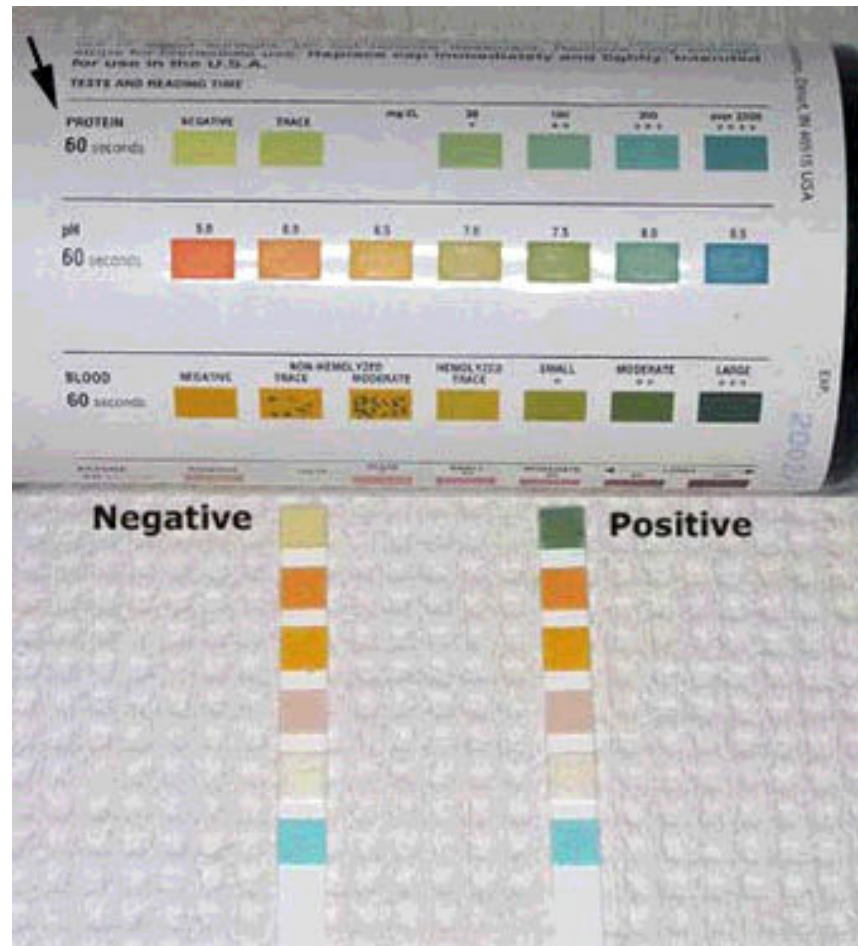
- heavy proteinuria (>3500 g / 24 h)
- hypoalbuminemia
- edema
- hyperlipidemia
- lipiduria



Urine biochemistry

Dipstick strip tests

pH
Glucose
Protein
Blood
Bilirubin
Urobilinogen
Ketones
Nitrite
Leukocytes



Urine sediment

Addis: RBC < 2 mil. WBC < 4 mil. casts < 100 000 / 24 h
Hamburger: RBC < 2000 WBC < 4000 casts < 60 - 70 / min.

Phase-contrast RBC microscopy

... to determine an origin of RBC

RBC from glomeruli ... deformation

RBC from urinary tract ... intact, smooth cells

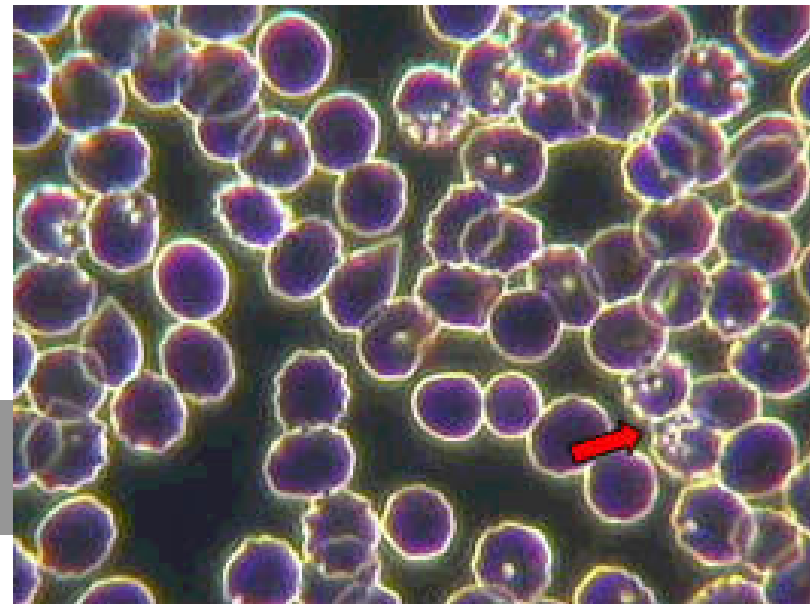
Urine sediment

Phase-contrast RBC microscopy



Intact RBC
(extraglomerular origin)

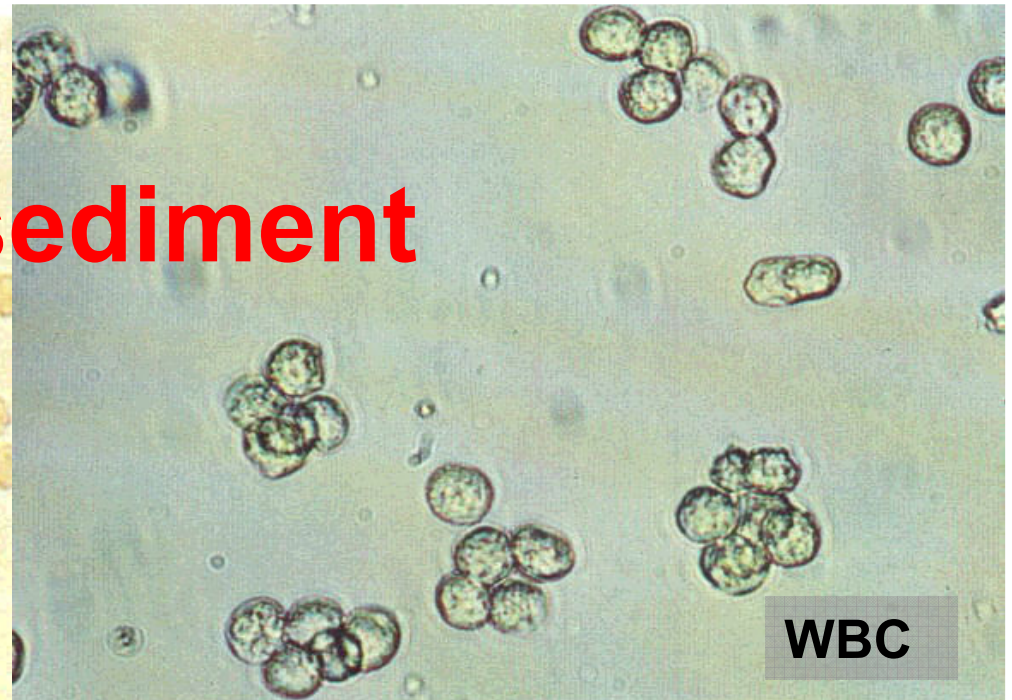
Marginal deformation
(RBC from glomeruli)



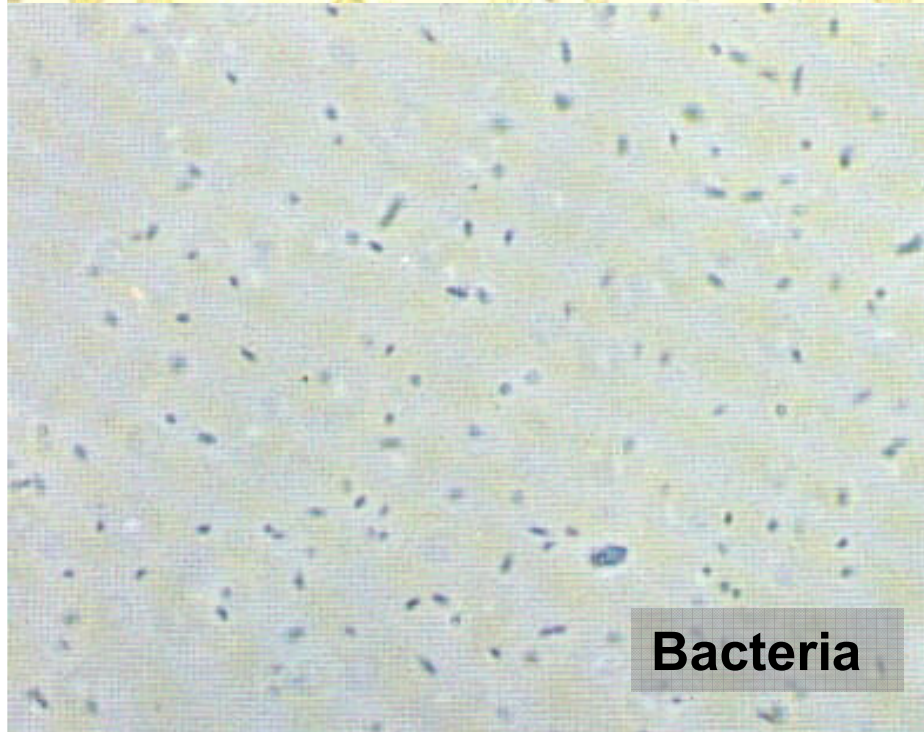
Urine sediment



RBC



WBC



Bacteria



Squamous cells

Urine sediment



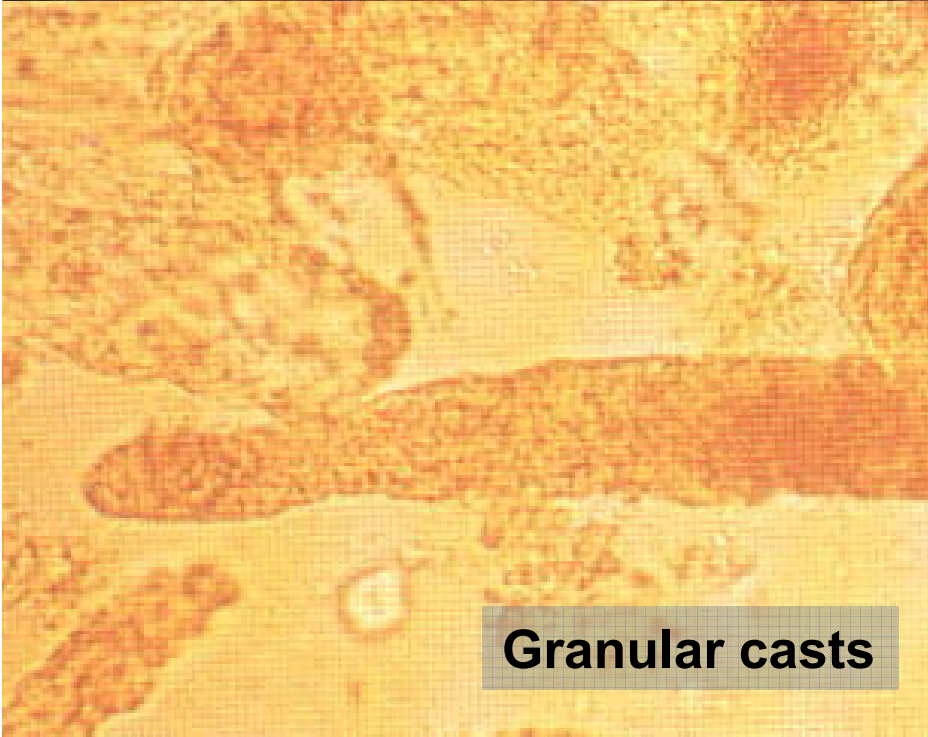
RBC casts

A microscopic view of urine sediment showing a large, dark, elongated cast composed of numerous red blood cells (RBCs) packed together. The background is a light brown, granular matrix.




WBC casts

A microscopic view of urine sediment showing a long, thin, elongated cast composed of numerous white blood cells (WBCs) packed together. The background is a light blue, granular matrix.



Granular casts

A microscopic view of urine sediment showing several elongated, granular casts with a yellowish-orange hue. The background is a light yellow, granular matrix.



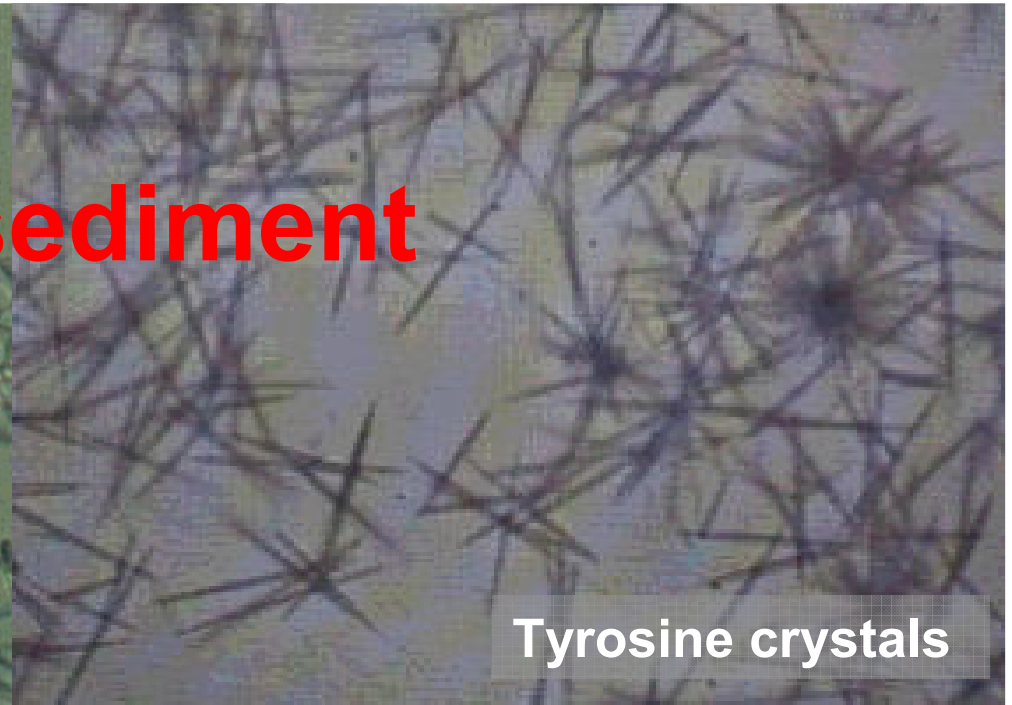
Waxy casts

A microscopic view of urine sediment showing several elongated, waxy casts with a light blue, granular matrix. The casts have a distinct, waxy appearance.

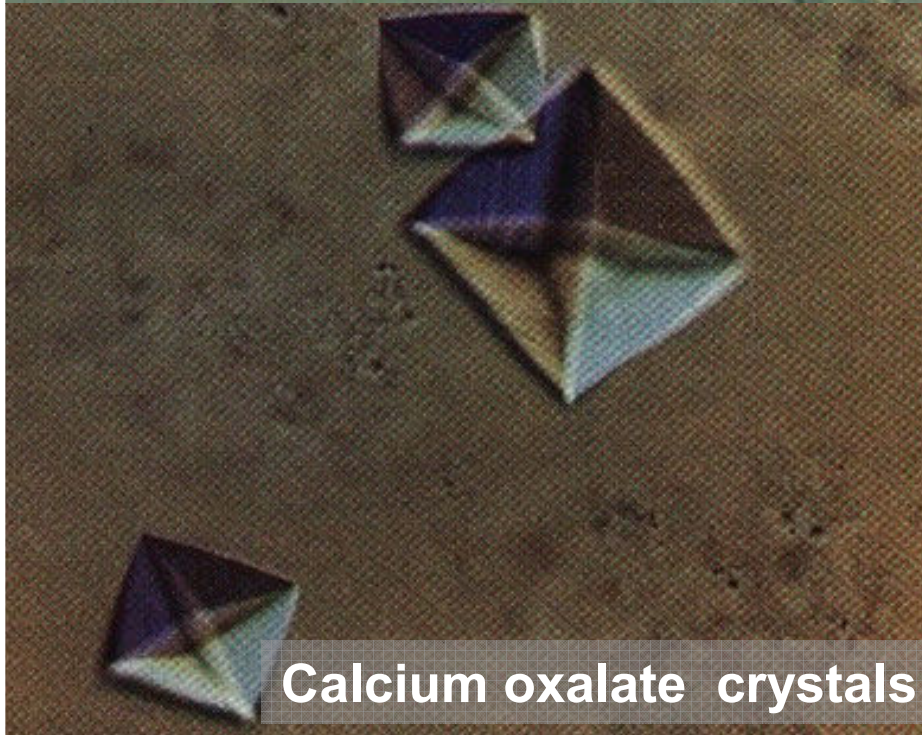
Urine sediment



Cystine crystals



Tyrosine crystals



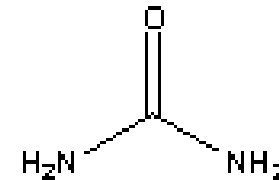
Calcium oxalate crystals



"Coffin lid" struvite crystals

Serum biochemistry

Urea



= A breakdown product of proteocatabolism

Serum urea depends upon both protein turnover and kidney function

Normal values: < 7,5 mmol / l

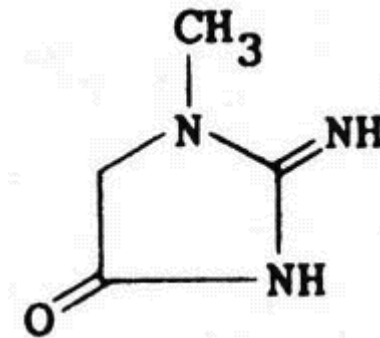
↑ ...

↓ glomerular filtration rate (orient. parameter)
dehydration

↑ proteocatabolism

Serum biochemistry

Creatinine



= A breakdown product of creatine, which is an important part of muscle

Orientation parameter of GF

Normal values:

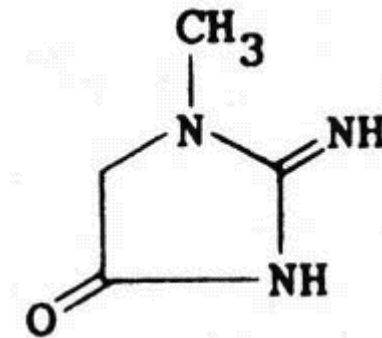
- male < 124 $\mu\text{mol} / \text{l}$
- female < 115 $\mu\text{mol} / \text{l}$ (because of less muscle mass)

Serum biochemistry

Creatinine

Creatinine x urea:

- **Stabile 24-h concentration**
- **Independent on protein income**
- **Independent on physical activity**



Pathology:

↑ ... ↓ **glomerular filtration rate**
muscular dystrophy, rhabdomyolysis

↓ ... **muscular dystrophy (late stage), myasthenia gravis**

Functional tests

Creatinine clearance

= GFR; Glomerular filtration rate

$$\begin{aligned}\text{GFR} &= (C_u \times V_u^\circ) / C_p \text{ [(mg/ml) \times (ml/min) / (mg/ml) = ml/min].} \\ &= (\text{U-creatinine} \times \text{U-volume}) / \text{P-creatinine} \\ &= \text{cca } 2 \text{ ml / s (120 ml / min.)}\end{aligned}$$

Normal values:

- male: 97 - 137 ml / min.
- female: 88 - 128 ml / min.

Functional tests

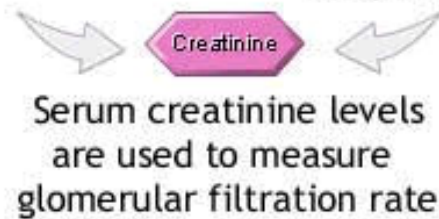
Creatinine clearance



Blood sample taken



24-hour urine sample collected



Test compares the level of creatinine in urine with the creatinine level in the blood, usually based on measurements of

- 24-h urine sample and
- blood sample drawn at the end of the 24-h period

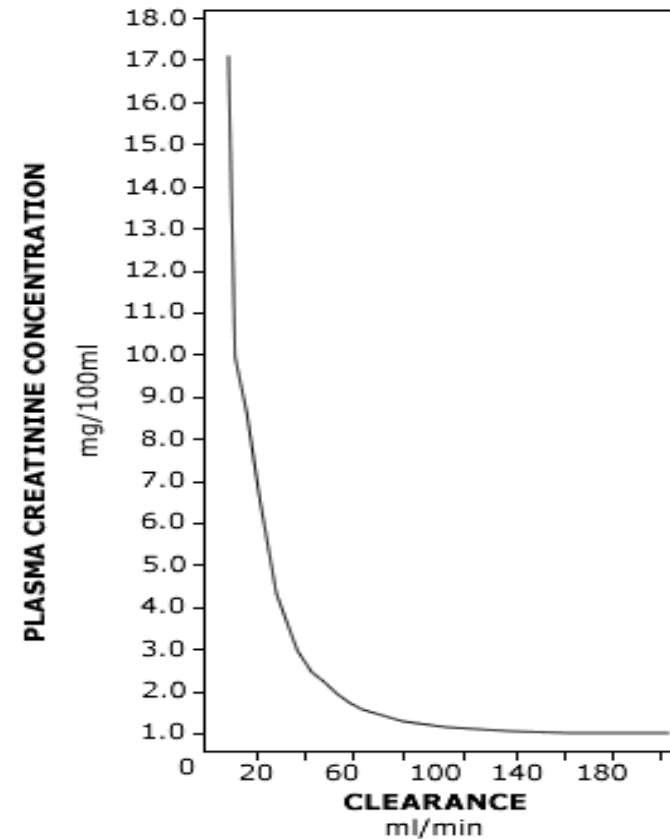
Functional tests

Creatinine clearance

Pathology:

↓ ... nephron damage
acute hemodynamic changes

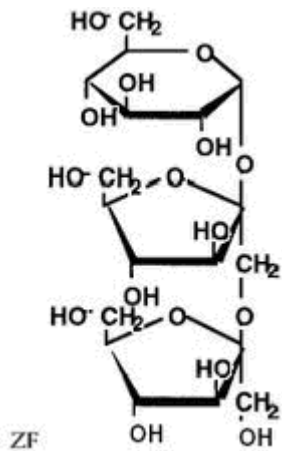
↑ ... ↓ oncotic pressure
↑ glomerular membrane permeability
(incip. DM nephropathy)



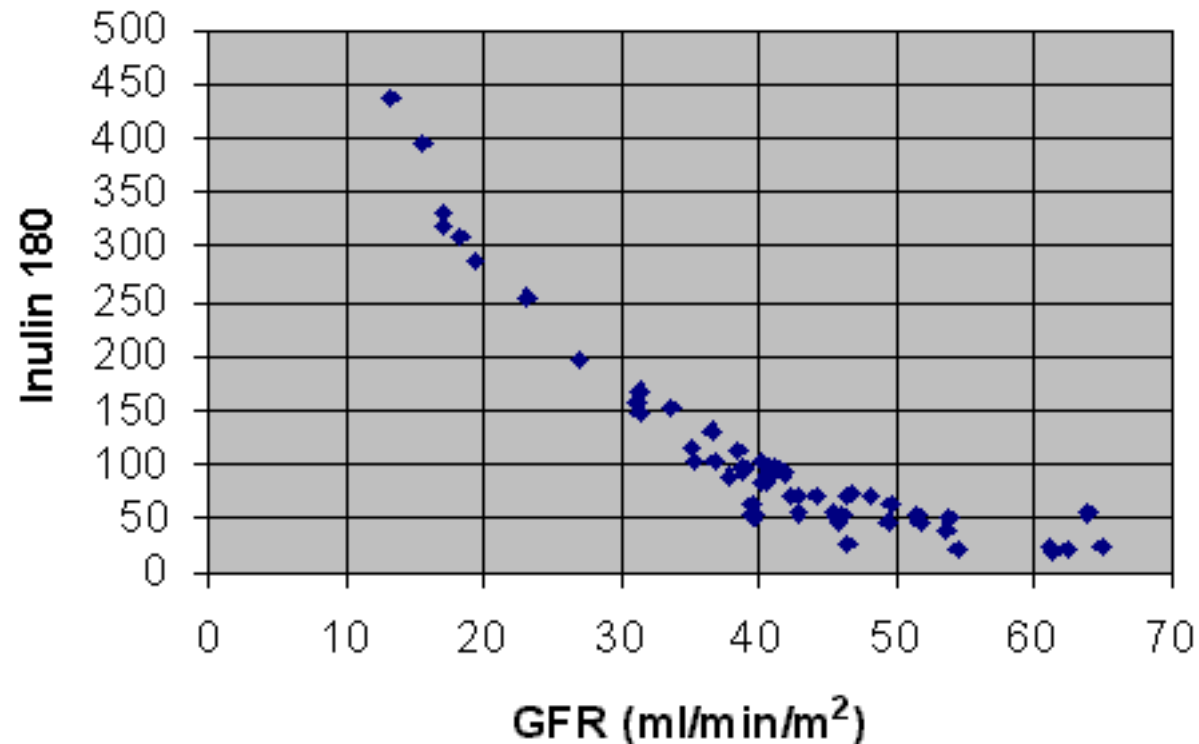
Functional tests

Inulin clearance

= The flux of inulin filtered through the glomerular barrier per min
= $\text{GFR} \times C_p / 0.94$



Fructan molecule
of the inulin



Clearance And Renal Failure

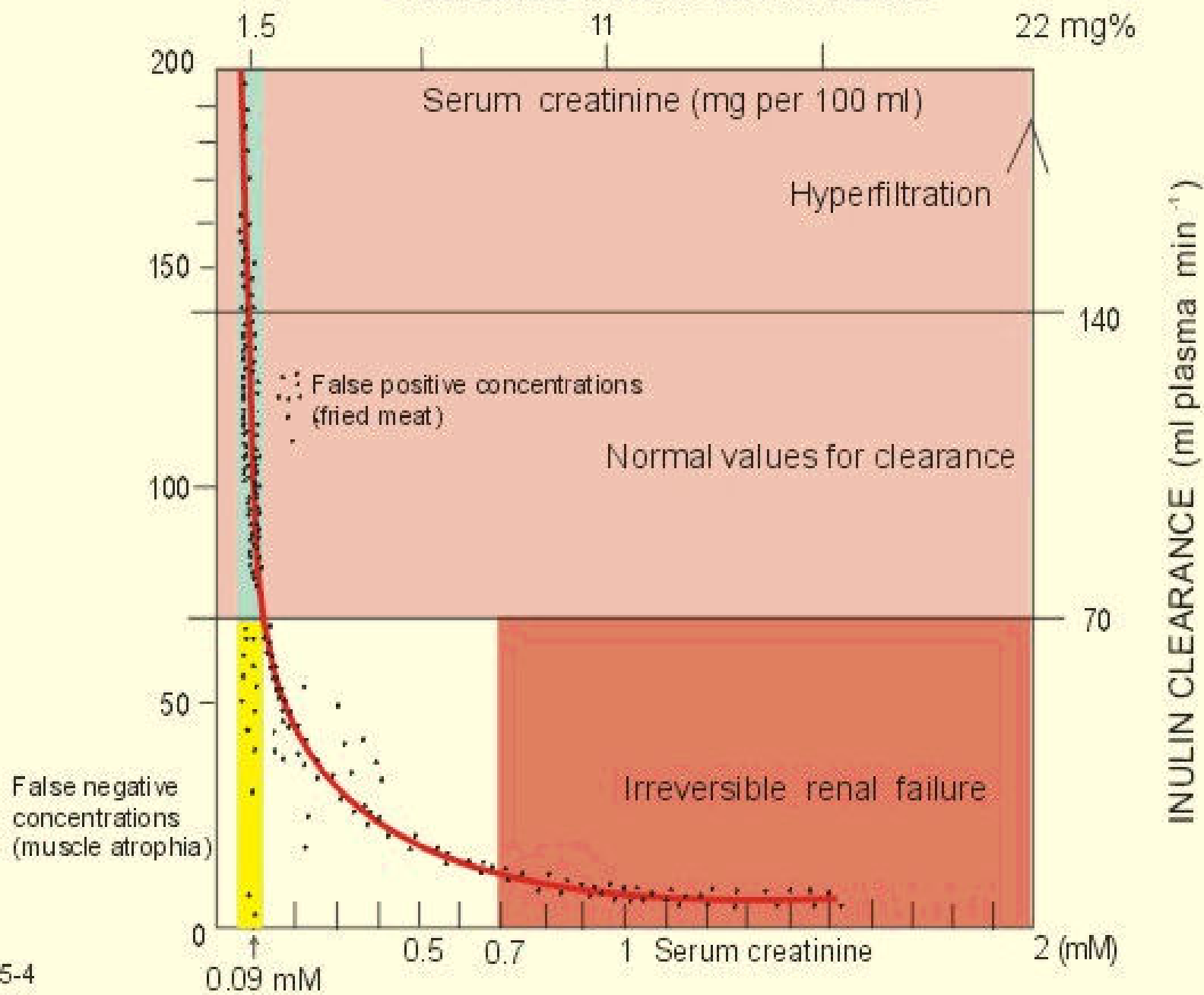


Fig. 25-4

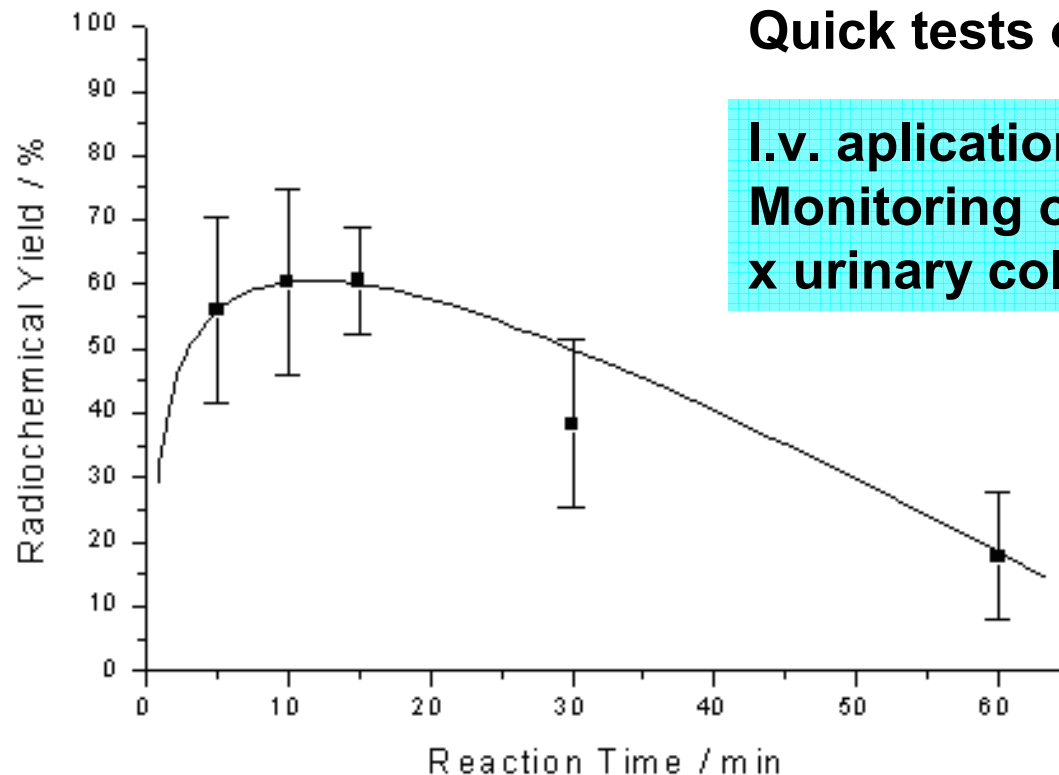
Functional tests

^{51}Cr - EDTA clearance

$^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ - DTPA clearance

Quick tests on glomerular filtration rate

I.v. application of isotope,
Monitoring of decreased plasma activity,
x urinary collection.



Functional tests

Concentration test

Stimulatory test on ADH production / kidney function

Test measures the ability of the kidneys to conserve or excrete water appropriately.

Changes - **diabetes insipidus = inability of the kidneys to conserve water, which leads to frequent urination and pronounced thirst.**

- **central (hypothalamic) = a lack of ADH**
- **peripheral (nephrogenic) = a defect of the kidneys**

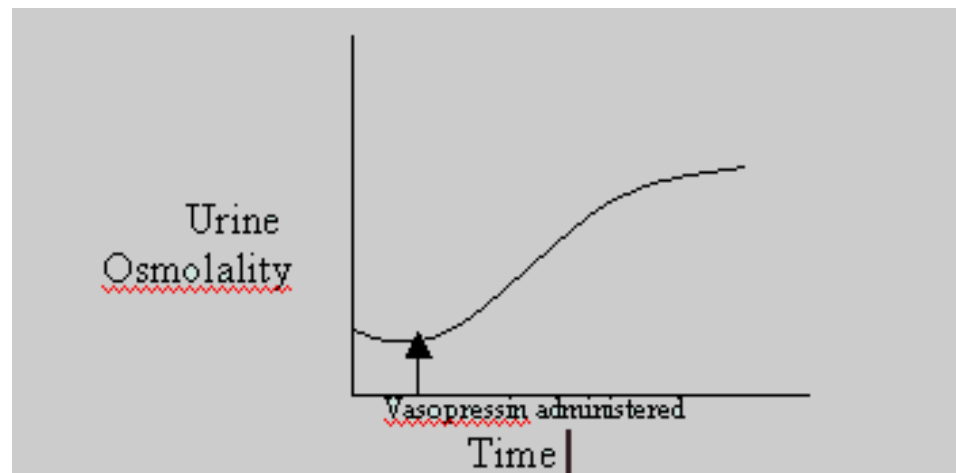
Functional tests

Concentration test

Test variants:

The specific gravity of urine is measured

- before and after **water loading** (urine should become dilute),
- **water deprivation** (urine should become concentrated),
- **water deprivation and administration of ADH**



Functional tests

Acidification test

Urine pH = 5-6

Changes:

- infection
- congenital / acquired abnormalities ... RTA

NH₄Cl overload (0,1 g/kg p.o.) ... urine collection á 1 h intervals

normally: ↓ U-pH < 5,4

Cl: metabolic acidosis, liver failure, GI dis.

↑ U-pH + metabolic acidosis = susp. renal acidification dis.

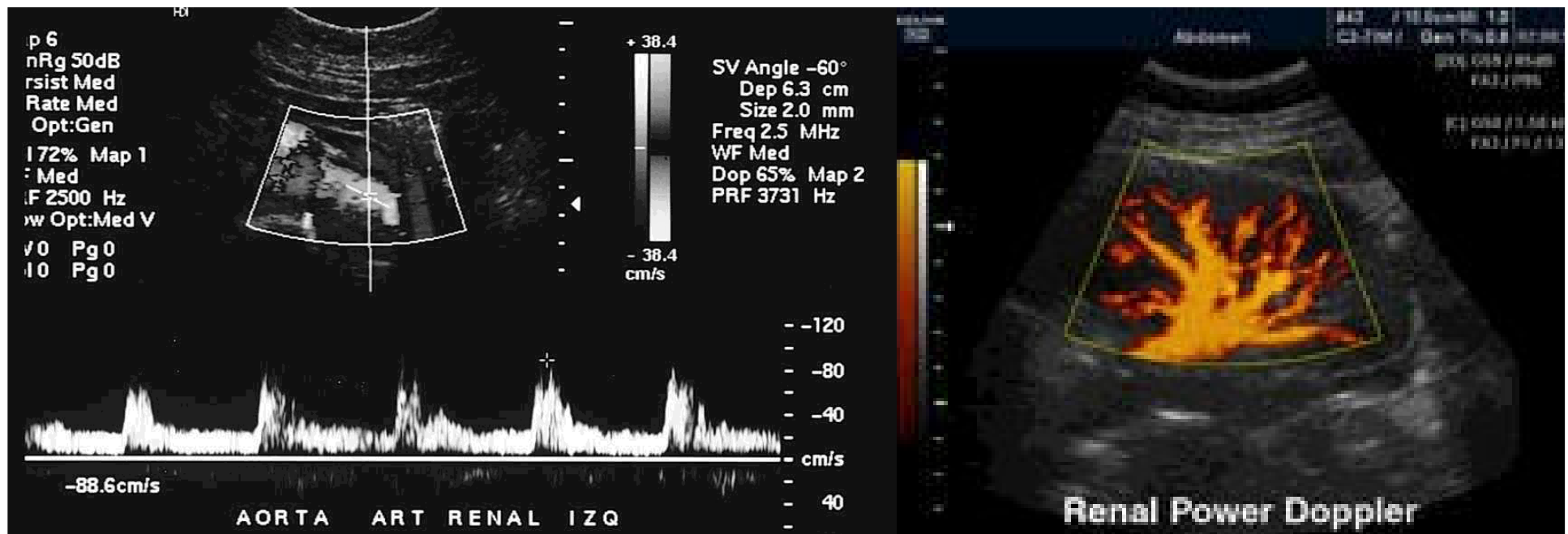
Imaging procedures

1. Ultrasonography

Basic graphic examination

2D USG: Size, shape, localization, symmetry, tumors, lymphonodi...)

Doppler / Color Doppler: aa. renalis (stenosis)



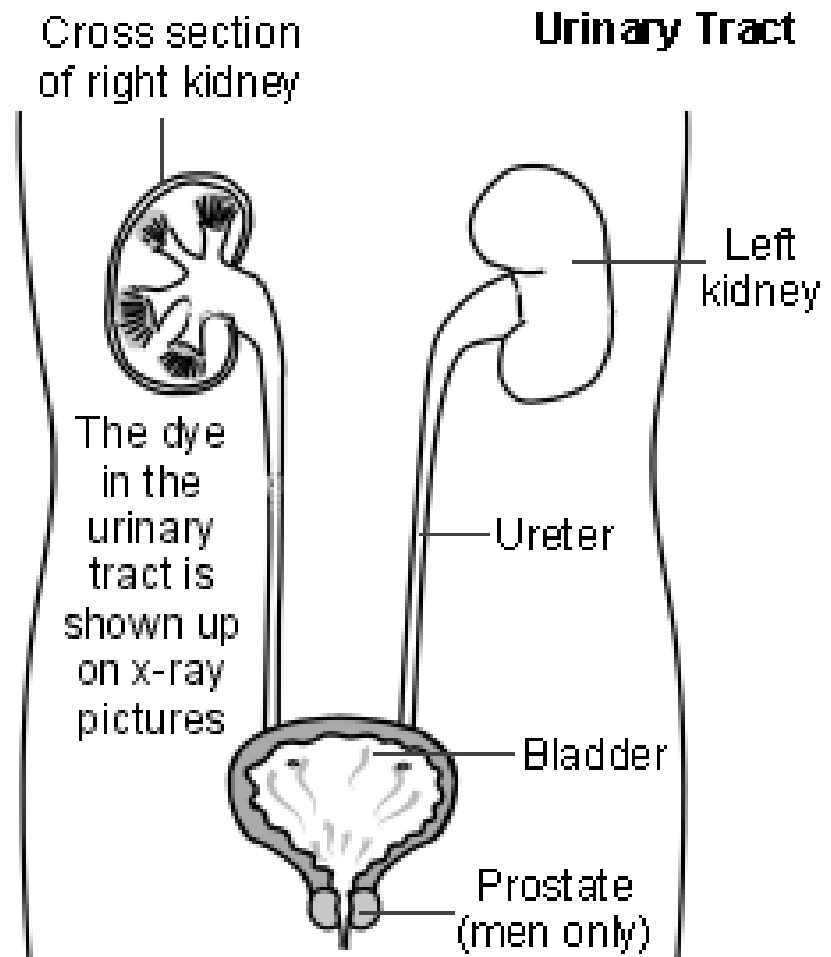
Imaging procedures

2. X-ray examination

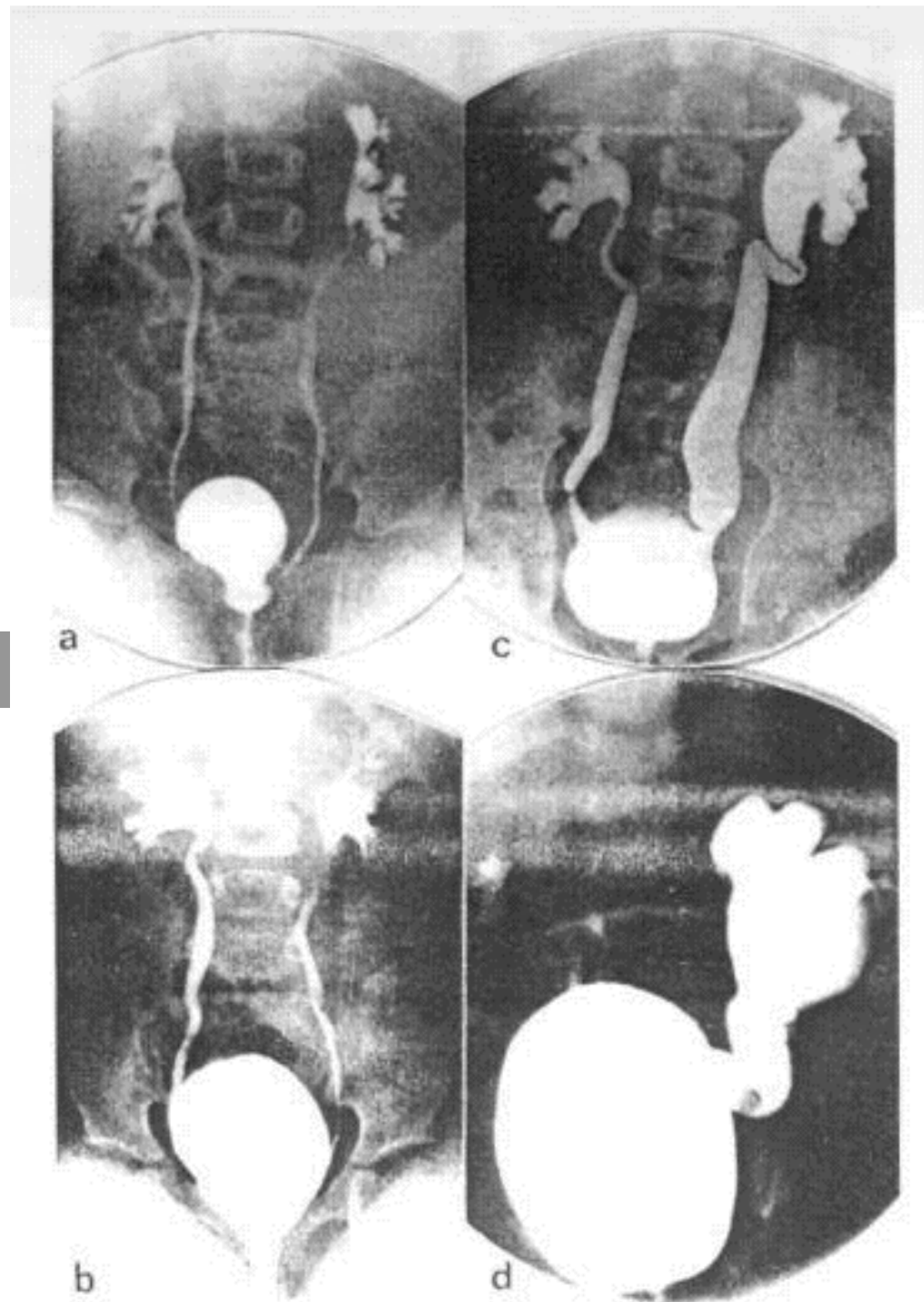
I.v. urography (IVU)
(Ascendant) pyelography
/ cystourethorography

Indications

- Kidney stones
- Infections
- Hematuria
- Obstruction



Cystourethorography



Imaging procedures

3. Computed tomography (CT)

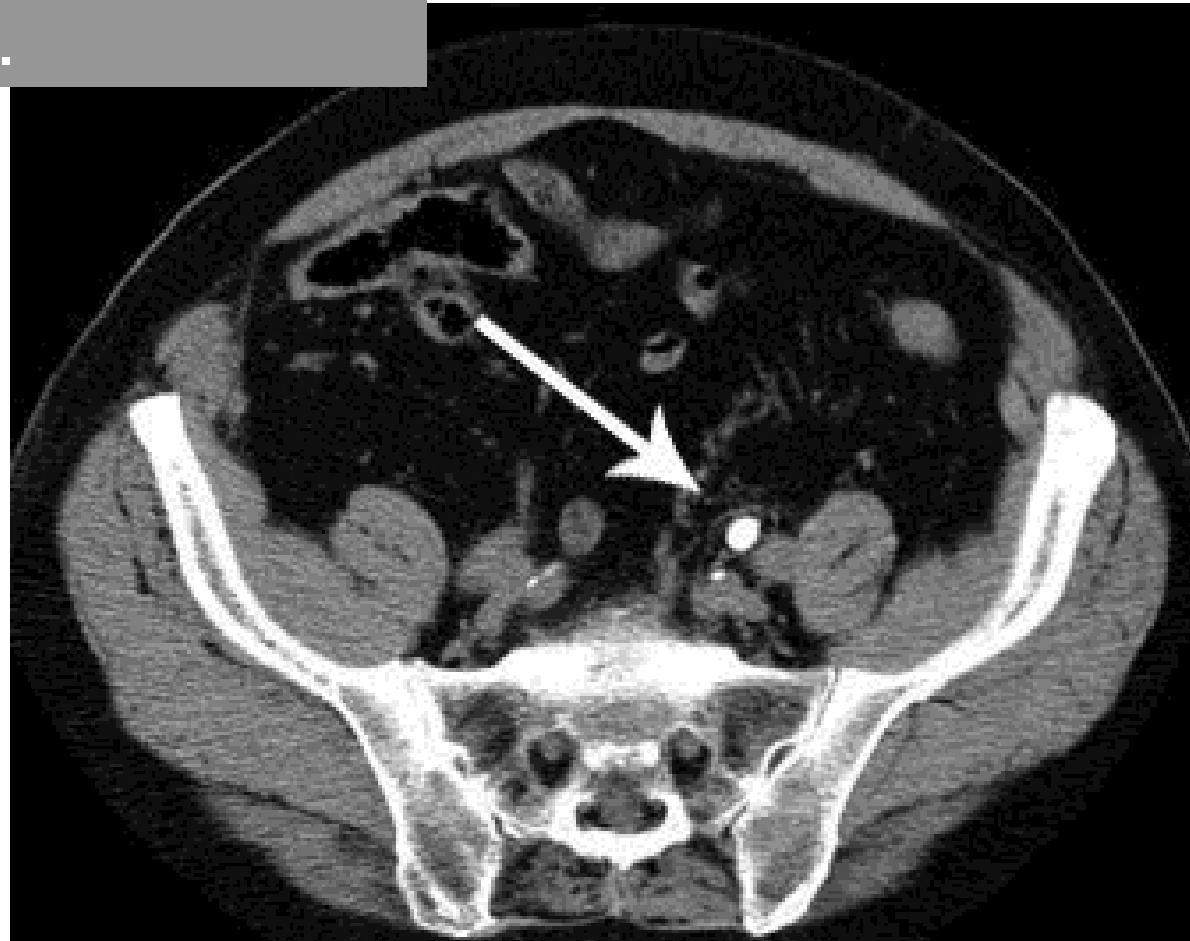
4. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (MRI)

MRI: The same effectiveness as CT in cancer staging

CT renal protocols:

- 1. Stone protocol** ... Non-contrast CT imaging from kidney to bladder
- 2. Hematuria Protocol** (CT Urography) ... non-contrast followed by contrast CT imaging from kidney to bladder
- 3. Renal Mass Protocol** ... non-contrast followed by contrast CT imaging of kidneys only.

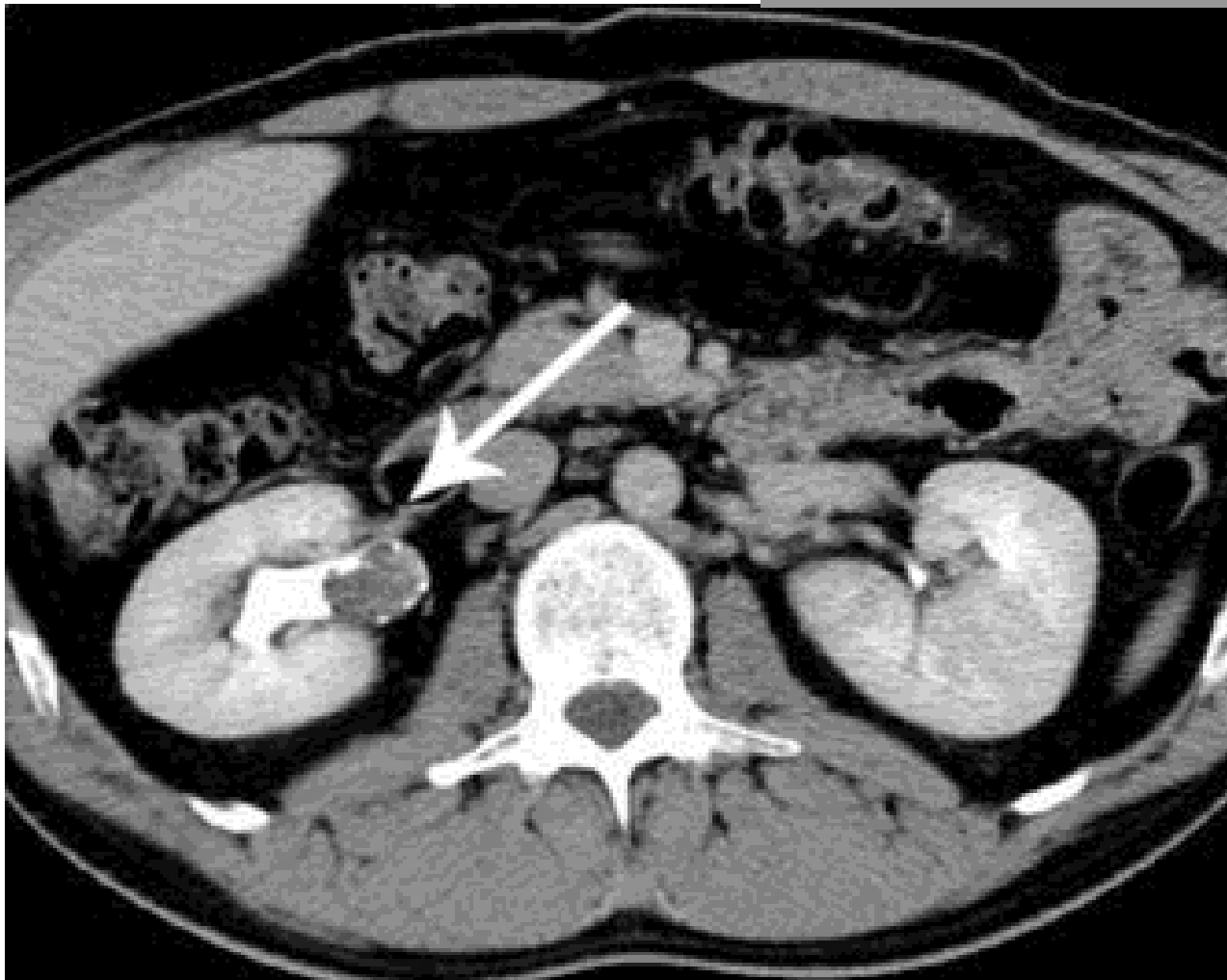
Non-contrast CT examination:
(Stone protocol)
Left ureteral stone.



CT examination:

(Renal Mass Protocol)

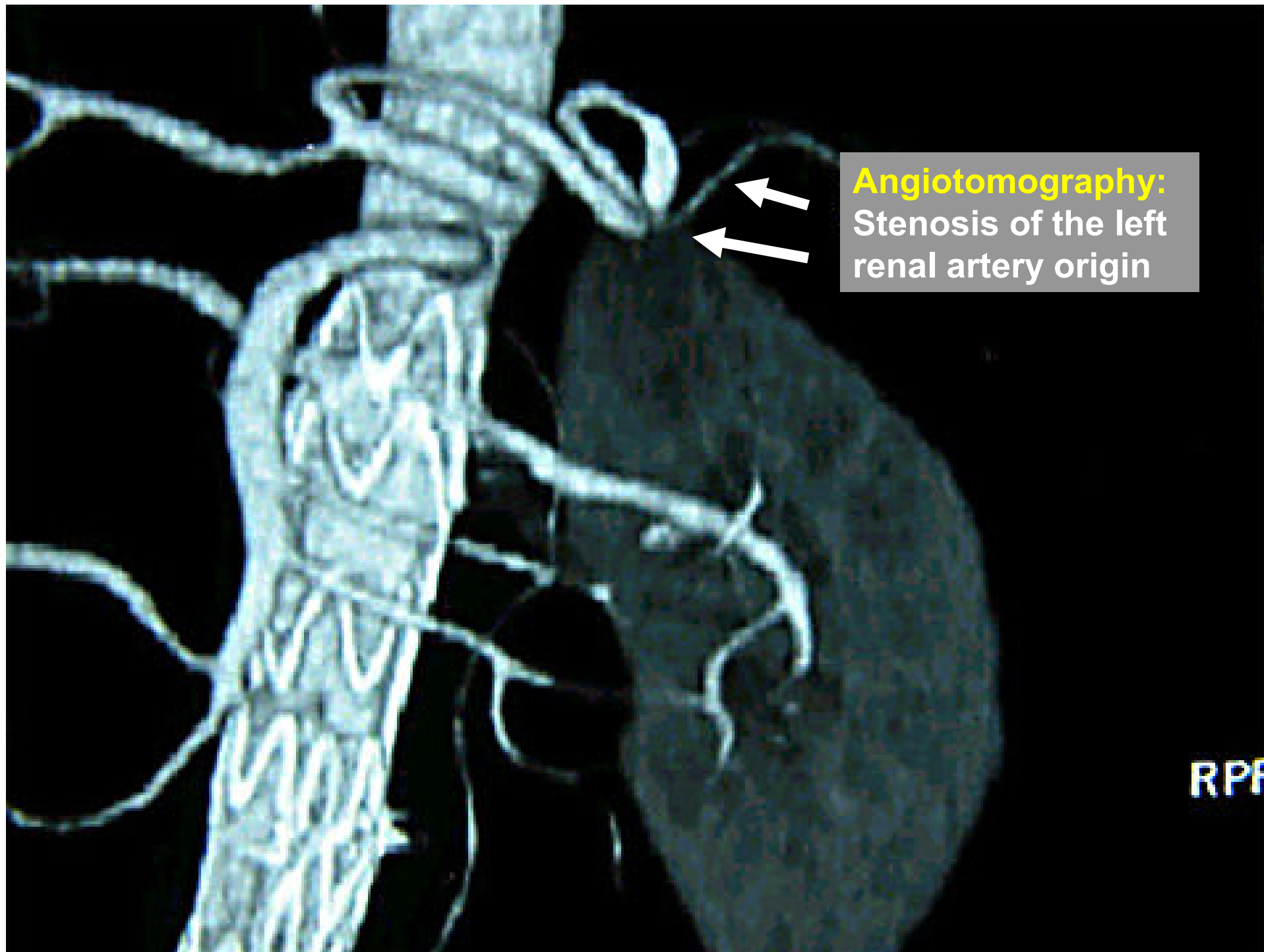
A filling defect in the right renal pelvis = a large urothelial tumor



CT i.v. urography:

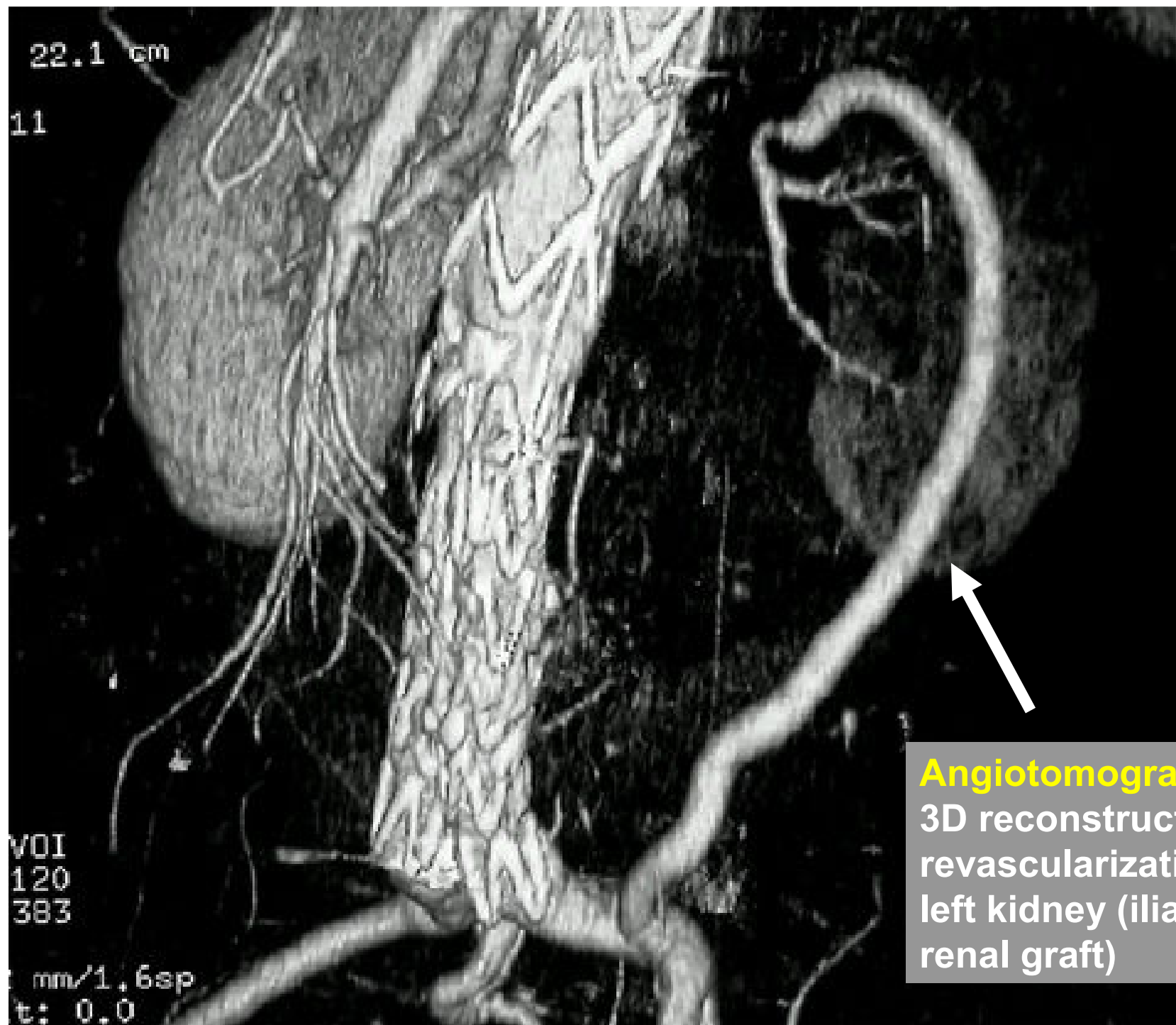
The reduction in the left kidney size and
a. renalis without contrast imaging





Angiotomography:
Stenosis of the left
renal artery origin

RPF



Angiotomography:
3D reconstruction with
revascularization of the
left kidney (iliac and
renal graft)

Imaging procedures

5. Scintigraphy (isotope nephrography)

^{99m}Tc - DTPA (diethylenetriaminopentaacetate)

Indications

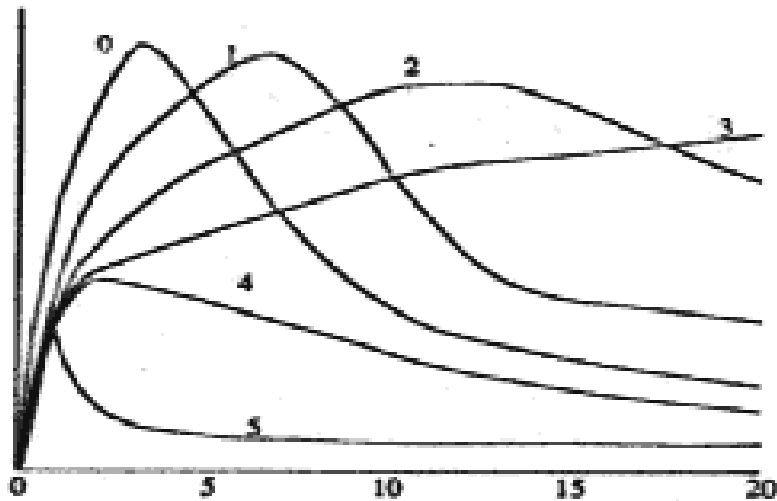
- TIN (pyelonephritis)
- Determine relative (differential) renal function in the left and right kidneys
- Acute renal failure
- Multicystic dysplastic kidneys
- Trauma
- Renal ectopia
- Infarction
- Hypertension
- Horseshoe kidney

Information relating to renal vascularity, renal function and excretion.

Imaging procedures

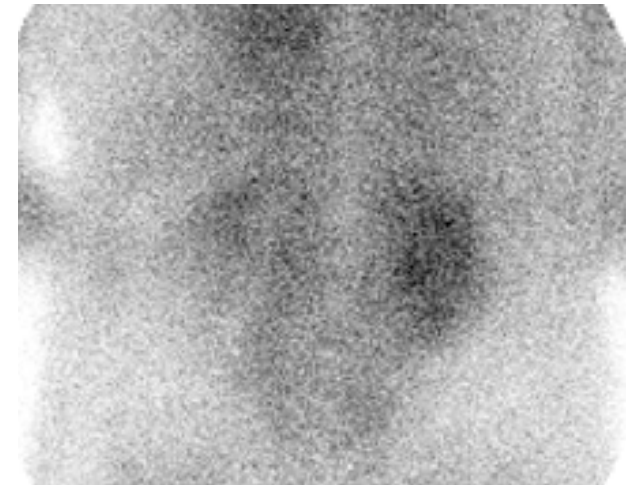
5. Scintigraphy (isotope nephrography)

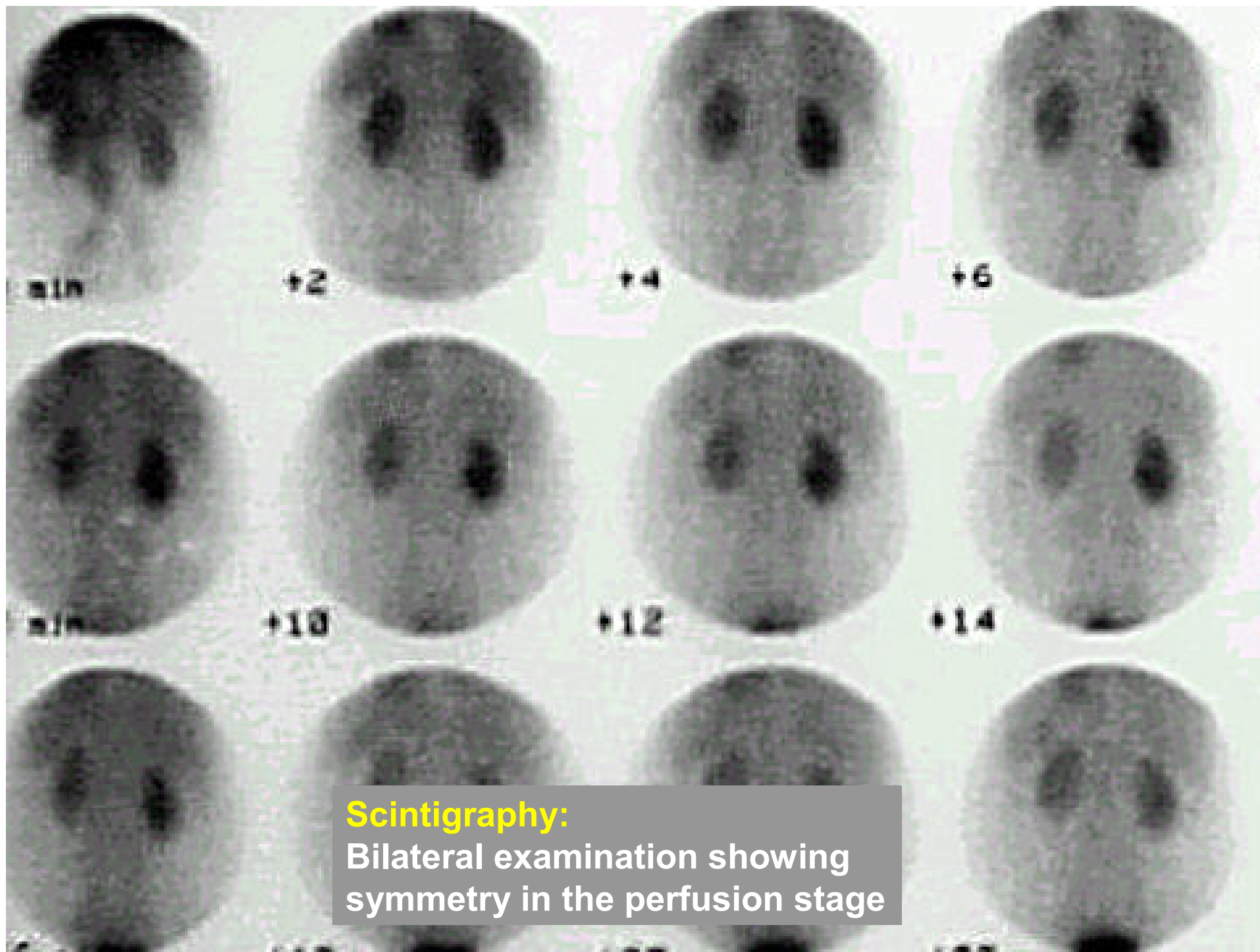
^{99m}Tc - DTPA (diethylenetriaminopentaacetate)



0 ... normal curve of activity
5 ... renal failure without accumulation

assymetric ^{99m}Tc DTPA
accumulation in acute
renal failure





Scintigraphy:

Bilateral examination showing symmetry in the perfusion stage

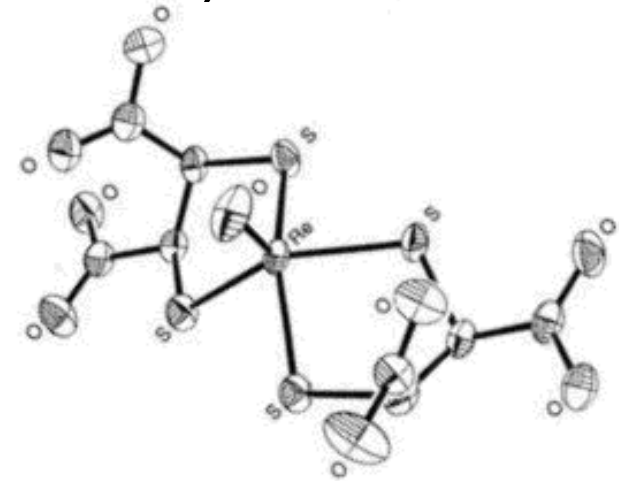
Imaging procedures

5. Scintigraphy (isotope nephrography)

^{99m}Tc - DMSA (*meso*-2,3-dimercaptosuccinic acid)

Indications

- Recent TIN (pyelonephritis)
- Assess relative function of each kidney
- Check for renal scarring
- Evaluation of congenital abnormalities



Uptake in functional renal parenchyma

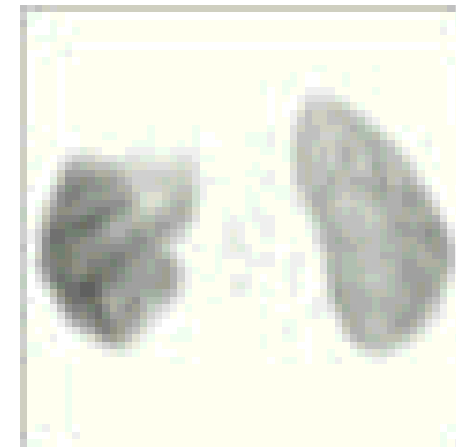
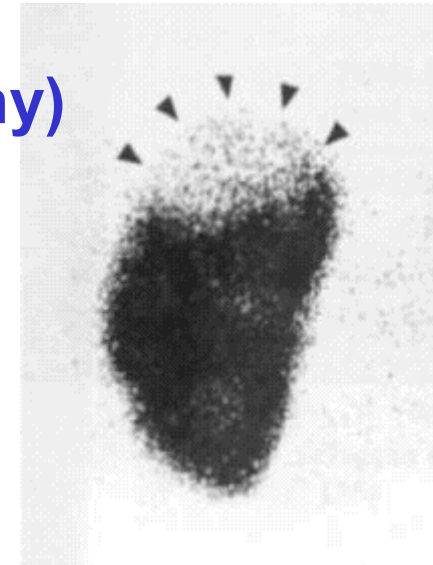
Imaging procedures

5. Scintigraphy (isotope nephrography)

^{99m}Tc - DMSA

DMSA application:

1. i.v. application of ^{99m}Tc - DMSA
2. Imaging after 3 - 4 h aprox. 30-60 min.
This delay allows the kidneys to absorb the DMSA.

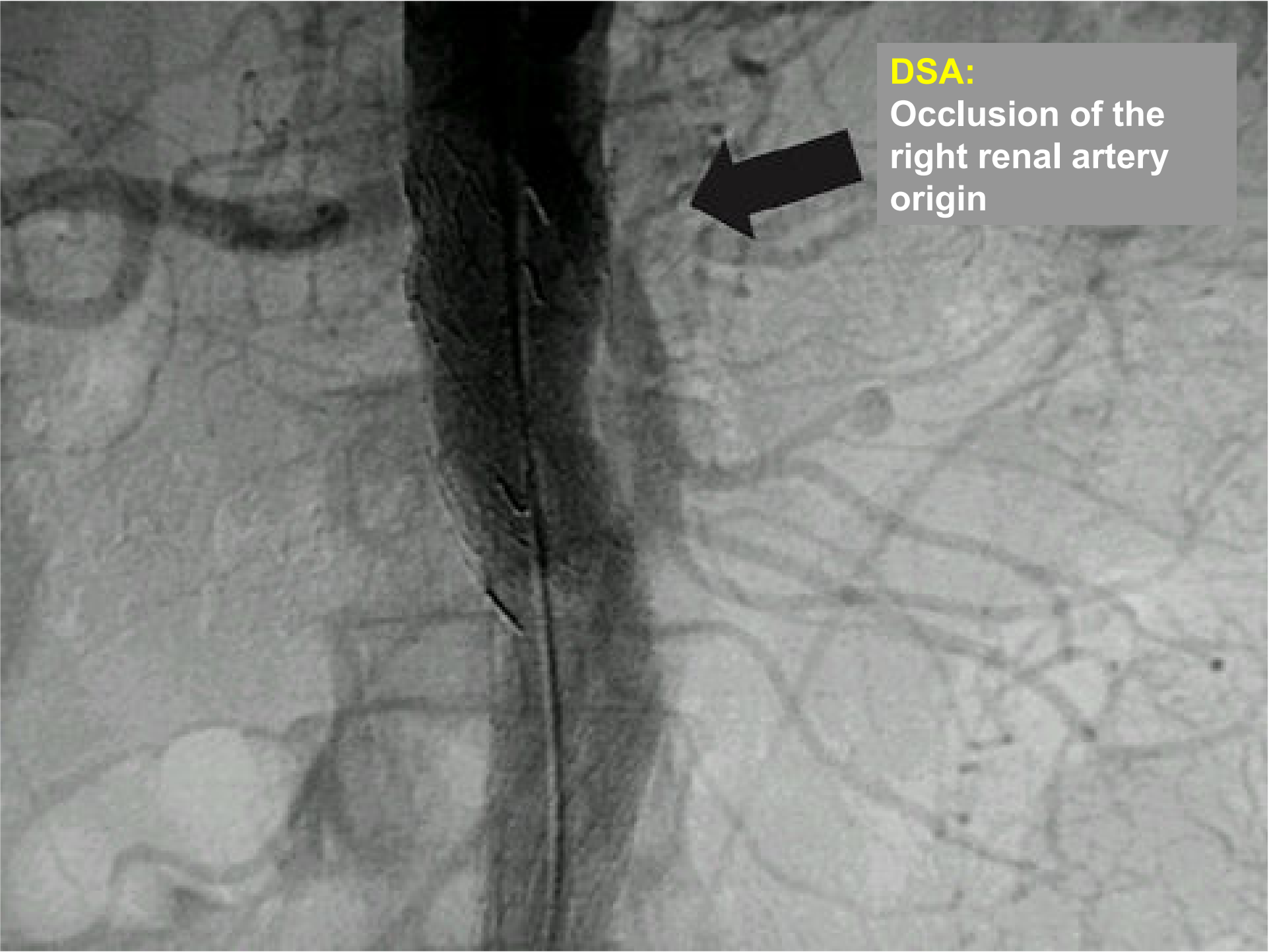


Imaging procedures

6. Angiography / DSA (Digital subtraction angiography)

Injection of radiopaque material into abdominal aorta / aa. renalis.

**Dg.: stenosis / occlusion of a. renalis
susp. renovascular hypertension
tumor vascularisation**



DSA:
Occlusion of the
right renal artery
origin

This is a grayscale Digital Subtraction Angiography (DSA) image. A large, dark, vertical structure, likely the aorta, runs down the center. To the right of the aorta, a network of smaller arteries is visible. A black arrow points to a specific location where a branch of the aorta (the right renal artery) appears to be blocked or occluded at its origin. The surrounding area shows a complex pattern of branching vessels.

Microbiology

Bacteriology examination

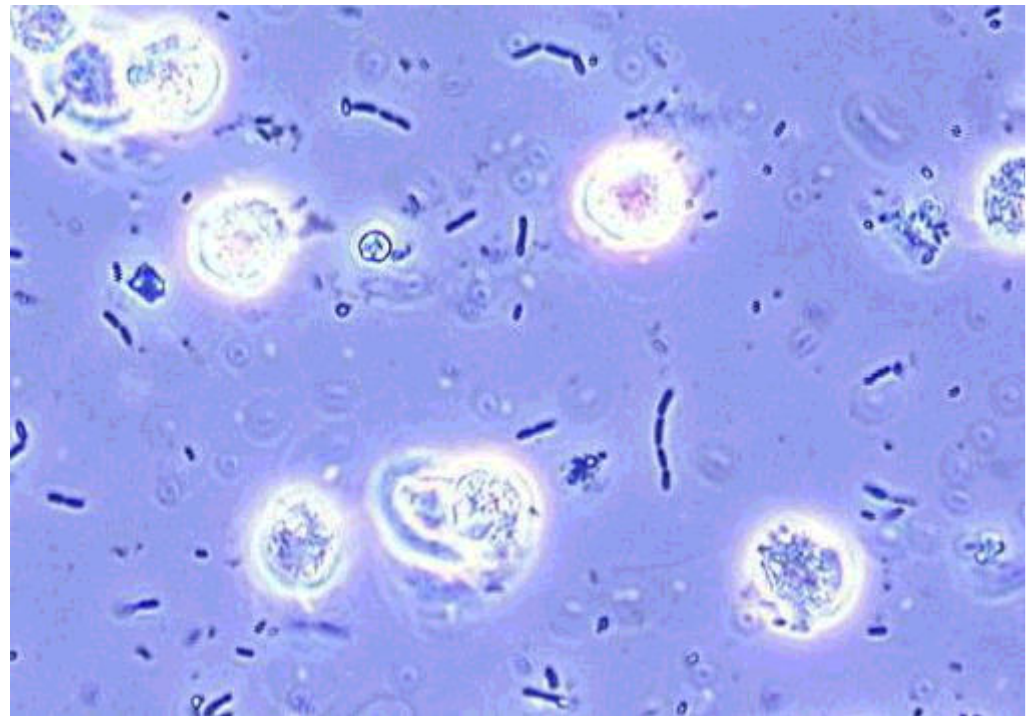
Urine culture (aerobic, anaerobic)

Microscopy

Molecular tests (PCR)

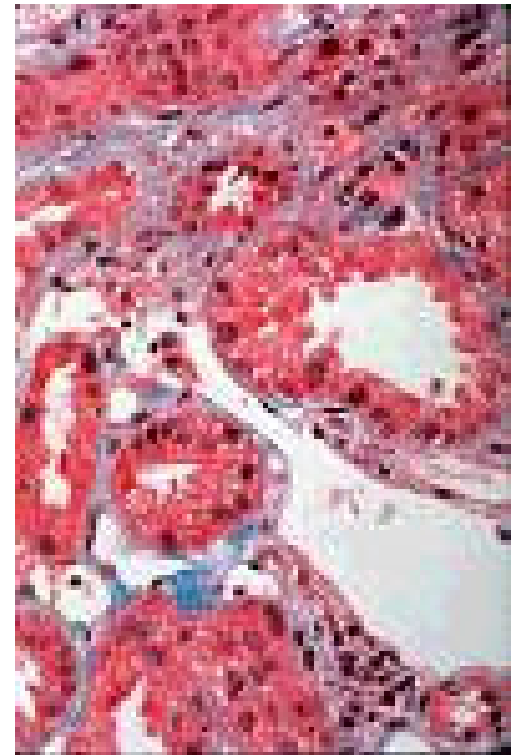


Elements in urinary sediment



Biopsy

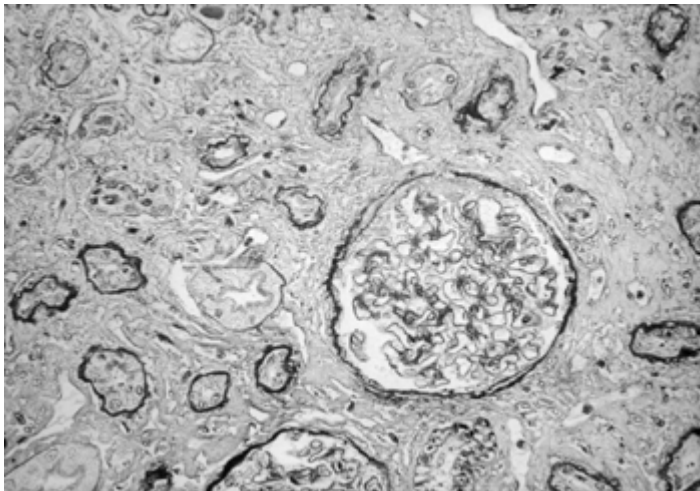
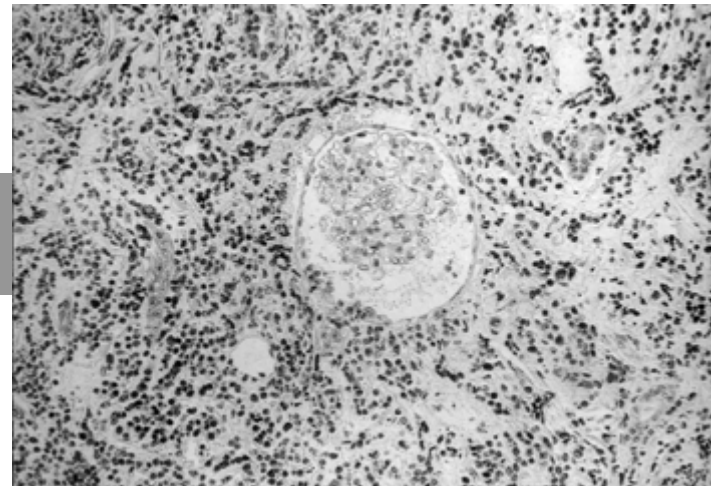
Percutaneous renal biopsy



Biopsy

Percutaneous renal biopsy

Massive infiltration of parenchymal mononuclear cells

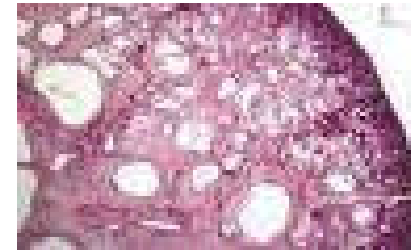


Diffuse interstitial fibrosis and tubular atrophy

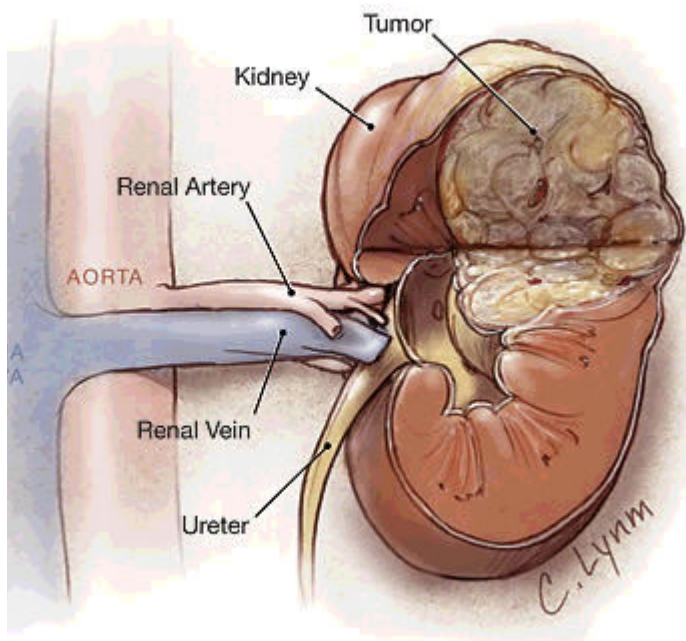
Genetics

Polycystic kidney disease

- AR, AD



Hereditary risk factors of kidney cancer



- Hippel-Lindau (VHL) syndrome
- Tuberous sclerosis
- Birt-Hogg-Dube syndrome
- Hereditary non-VHL clear cell renal cell cancer
- Hereditary papillary renal cell cancer