

Renal Terminology

Renal-Root Words & Combining Forms

calyx	cuplike division of the kidney
cortex	outer layer of kidney
glomerul/o	glomerula
medulla	inner or central portion of the kidney
nephr/o	kidney
pyel/o	kidney
py/o	pus
ur/o	urine
ren/o	kidney

Renal-Anatomical Terms

afferent arteriole	carries blood to the glomerulus
Bowman's capsule	collects the glomerular filtrate
collecting tubule	
distal convoluted tubule	
efferent arteriole	carries blood from the glomerulus
glomerular capsule	
glomerulus	network of thin-walled capillaries closely surrounded by a pear-shaped epithelial membrane called the Bowman's capsule
kidneys	
Loop of Henle	

nephron (renal tube)	basic functioning unit of the normal kidney; comprised of the glomerulus and the tubule
proximal convoluted tubule	uncontrolled reabsorption and secretion of selected substances occur here
renal cortex	outer part of the kidney
renal medulla	middle part of the kidney
renal papillae	
renal pelvis	inner part of the kidney

Renal-Physiological Terms

aldosterone	
angiotensin	
antidiuretic hormone	
bicarbonate	
carbonic acid	
diuretic	
erythropoietin	
glomerular filtration rate (gfr)	filtration ability of the glomerulus; used as an index of kidney function
renin	

Renal-Symptomatic Terms

acetonuria	excretion in the urine of large amounts of acetone, an indication of incomplete oxidation of large amounts of lipids; commonly occurs in diabetic acidosis
acidemia	increase in the H-ion concentration of the blood or a fall below normal pH
albuminuria	presence of protein in urine

anuria	absence of urine formation
azotemia	a build up of nitrogenous waste products such as urea in the blood and body fluid
dysuria	difficulty or pain in urination
hematuria	presence of blood or RBCs in the urine
hyperkalemia	greater than normal concentration of potassium ions in the circulating blood
micturition	
nocturia	
oliguria	urine output less than 400 mL, which is the minimum load that can carry away daily metabolic waste products
proteinuria	the presence of too much protein in the urine
pyuria	
renal insufficiency (renal shut-down, lower nephron nephrosis)	
renal osteodystrophy	

Renal-Diagnostic Terms

acidosis	
arteriolar nephrosclerosis	
glomerulonephritis	nephritis marked by inflammation of the capillaries of the renal glomeruli and membrane tissue that serves as a filter
glomerulonephritides	
hypertrophy of kidney	
nephritic syndrome	condition of inflammation of the glomerulus, resulting in hematuria, proteinuria, and oliguria
nephrotic syndrome	clinical condition consisting of losses of protein in the urine exceeding 3.5 g/day, hyperlipidemia, and low albumin levels

nephrolithiasis (renal calculi)

nephromegaly

nephrosclerosis

pyelonephritis

inflammation of both the parenchyma of a kidney and the lining of its renal pelvis, especially due to bacterial infection

uremia

(uremic syndrome) a general term used to encompass a cluster of symptoms resulting from disordered biochemical processes as chronic kidney disease progresses; early symptoms include fatigue, delayed thinking, and pruritis

Renal-Operative Terms

nephrectomy

nephrolithotomy

nephrostomy

nephrotomy

pyelolithotomy

pyleoplasty

pyletomy

renal biopsy

renal transplantation

Renal-Special Procedures

arterio-venous shunt

dialysis

renal replacement procedure that removes excessive and toxic byproducts of metabolism from the blood

hemodialysis

a type of renal replacement therapy whereby wastes or uremic toxins are filtered from the blood by a semipermeable membrane and removed by dialysis fluid

peritoneal dialysis

type of renal replacement therapy during which the peritoneal cavity serves as the reservoir for the dialysate and the peritoneum acts as the semipermeable membrane across which excess body fluid and solutes are removed

Renal-Special Diagnostic Procedures

intravenous pyelography

radiographic imaging of the kidneys, ureter, and bladder using x-ray and contrast dye that is injected intravenously

nephrogram

nephrosonography

pyelogram

ultrasonic laminograms of kidney

urogram

urography

Renal Abbreviations

ACF

acute renal failure

ADH

anti-diuretic hormone

A/G

Alb

albumin

BUN

blood uria nitrogen

CAPD

continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis

cath

chr

CRF

ERPF

ESRD

end stage renal disease

fld

GBM

GFR glomerular filtration rate

HDU

IVP intravenous pyelogram

KUB

LSK

NPN

PDU

PSP

PT

RER

RPF

RTA

SUN

UA

UTI