## Renal Terminology

### Renal-Root Words & Combining Forms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>calyx</td>
<td>cuplike division of the kidney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cortex</td>
<td>outer layer of kidney</td>
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<tr>
<td>glomerul/o</td>
<td>glomerula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>medulla</td>
<td>inner or central portion of the kidney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nephr/o</td>
<td>kidney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pyel/o</td>
<td>kidney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>py/o</td>
<td>pus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ur/o</td>
<td>urine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ren/o</td>
<td>kidney</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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
erthropoietin
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 guild 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 gomeruli 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
pyleogram
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
GFR  glomerular filtration rate
HDU
IVP  intravenous pyelogram
KUB
LSK
NPN
PDU
PSP
PT
RER
RPF
RTA
SUN
UA
UTI