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DESCRIPTION

*Kidney International* (KI) is the official journal of the International Society of Nephrology. Under the editorial leadership of Dr. Pierre Ronco (Paris, France), KI is one of the most cited journals in nephrology and widely regarded as the world’s premier journal on the development and consequences of kidney disease.

*Kidney International* (KI) offers features with premier benefits for both readers and authors. Here you will find some of the most cited original articles in nephrology, sharply focused reviews, latest imaging techniques, controversial discussions and much more.

*Kidney International* devotes itself to renal research. It aims to inform the renal researcher and the practicing nephrologist on all aspects of renal research. These include:

- The latest clinical studies on emerging developments in renal medicine
- The highest level of original research studies in clinical and basic renal research
- In each issue some of these articles will be highlighted by commentaries that aim to put these studies in the appropriate context. These will form a research tool for clinical and basic investigators
- Nephrology Digest comments and puts in perspective several areas of new developments in basic and clinical research in nephrology at large, as reported in the recent literature and at scientific meetings
- Editorials that highlight important issues in international nephrology
- Nephrology sans Frontieres are occasional short articles that discuss matters of local interest to nephrologists around the world, but which we feel need to be known by nephrologists world-wide
- In-depth reviews about major issues in renal research
- Controversial discussions on renal therapeutics or diagnosis written by two opposing authorities
- Nephrology Images which are presentations of interesting images in renal pathology, radiology chosen for their illustrative nature or simply for their esthetic qualities
- Issues of importance to the international renal community including the politics of funding; of organ transplantation, of adequacy of dialysis, of world-wide affordability of end stage renal care and many other topical issues
- Journal Club are synopses that bring you the latest research highlights from across a wide spectrum of journals in fields relevant to renal research

Your subscription to *Kidney International* also includes the companion journal, *Kidney International Supplements*.

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

ABOUT THE JOURNAL

Use of inclusive language
Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Articles should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader, should contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of race, sex, culture or any other characteristic, and should use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, for instance by using 'he or she', 'his/her' instead of 'he' or 'his', and by making use of job titles that are free of stereotyping (e.g. 'chairperson' instead of 'chairman' and 'flight attendant' instead of 'stewardess').

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Scope
Kidney International devotes itself to renal research. It aims to inform the renal researcher and the practicing nephrologist on all aspects of renal research. These include the latest clinical studies on emerging developments in renal medicine and the highest level of original research studies in clinical and basic renal research. In each issue some of these articles will be highlighted by commentaries that aim to put these studies in the appropriate context. These will form a research tool for clinical and basic investigators. Nephrology Digest comments and puts in perspective several areas of new developments in basic and clinical research in nephrology at large, as reported in the recent literature and at scientific meetings. Editorials highlight important issues in international nephrology. Nephrology sans Frontières are occasional short articles that discuss matters of local interest to nephrologists around the world, but which we feel need to be known by nephrologists worldwide. In-depth reviews are about major issues in renal research and controversial discussions on renal therapeutics or diagnosis written by two opposing authorities. Nephrology Images are presentations of interesting images in renal pathology; radiology chosen for their illustrative nature or simply for their esthetic qualities; issues of importance to the international renal community, including the politics of funding, of organ transplantation, of adequacy of dialysis, of worldwide affordability of end-stage renal care, and many other topical issues. Journal Club is a synopses that brings you the latest research highlights from across a wide spectrum of journals in fields relevant to renal research.
**Reporting Guidelines**

*KI* requires authors to completely, accurately, and transparently report their findings. Authors submitting articles to *KI* should refer to the Enhancing the QUAlity and Transparency Of health Research (EQUATOR) Network website (http://www.equator-network.org/), which provides a central repository of reporting guidelines and other resources to assist authors.

Authors of the following study types are required to upload a copy of the corresponding checklist with their manuscript: CONSORT checklist and flow diagram for Randomized clinical trials STROBE checklist for Observational Studies (see modified STROBE Statement) PRISMA checklist and flow diagram for Systematic reviews and meta-analyses—interventional studies MOOSE checklist and flow diagram for Systematic reviews and meta-analyses—observational studies STARD checklist and flow diagram for Diagnostic accuracy studies COREQ for Qualitative research TRIPOD for Development and updating of predictive models CHEERS for Economic evaluation STARI statement and checklist for Implementation studies STREGA Checklist for studies that investigate Associations between genetic factors and clinical measurements or disease outcomes. These checklists help improve the quality and consistency of data reporting and assist reviewers in assessing the manuscript. Missing items or deviations should be explained by the authors.

*KI* encourages the use of PENELOPE for help with identification of the appropriate checklist for data reporting. This tool can be found at http://www.peneloperesearch.com/equatorwizard.

**Peer Review**

This journal operates a single blind review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for *Kidney International*. Papers deemed suitable are then sent to at least two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. For more information on the types of peer review, please visit our peer-review site (http://www.elsevier.com/reviewers(peer-review).

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**PREPARATION OF MANUSCRIPTS**

The *American Medical Association Manual of Style* (10th edition) should be used as a style guideline.

Manuscripts that do not adhere to the following instructions will be returned to the corresponding author for technical revision before undergoing peer review.

**Types of articles**

**Review**

Word limit: Reviews should be between 3,000 and 5,000 words, and on average 4,000 words, including abstract but excluding references, tables, and figures. Abstract: 250 words maximum. References: no maximum. Figures/tables: 1–3 images or figures required. Disclosure statement required. Reviews are comprehensive analyses of specific topics in nephrology that are solicited by the Editors. Proposals for reviews should be submitted to the editorial office by email: pmorris@wustl.edu. Authors should only send an outline of the proposed paper for initial consideration. Unsolicited reviews submitted directly to Manuscript Central will not be considered. All invited review articles will undergo peer review prior to decision, and there is no absolute guarantee of acceptance.

**Original Article**

Subcategories: Basic Research, Clinical Investigation. Word limit: 4,000 words (22,400 characters) maximum including spaces and abstract but excluding references, tables, and figures. Abstract: 250 words (1,500 characters) maximum including spaces. Results: Include headings about what is being tested in each individual experiment. References: no limit. Figures/tables: no limit. However, additional figures and tables may be considered as supplements for web-only publication. Disclosure statement required. Full-length reports of current research in either basic or clinical science. Systematic Reviews: submit as an Original Article. Include PRISMA checklist and PRISMA flow diagram with submission.
**Brief Report**

The purpose of the *Brief Report* format is to publish concise but complete reports that present high-quality findings of exceptional interest, novelty, and broad significance for the readers of Kidney International.

A manuscript considered as a potential *Brief Report* by the Editors will be sent to referees with a request of rapid review. If the manuscript is deemed interesting but not of sufficiently transformative potential, authors may be asked to resubmit their revision as a regular article.

*Brief Reports* differ from regular articles in that they should be arranged in the following order: Title page, Abstract and keywords, Introduction, Results, Discussion (no headings necessary), Short Methods, Acknowledgments, References, Tables (each including a title and legend), and Figure legends. The abstract should be brief (3 sentences, no more than 100 words). The main text should be limited to 1,500 words (including the abstract but not the acknowledgments, references, tables, and figure legends). *Brief Reports* normally have no more than 2 display items (Figure and/or Table) and 20 references. The study design, detailed methods, and/or supporting data should be included in an Online Supplementary Material (combined into a single file).

**Clinical Trials**

Word limit: 4,000 words (22,400 characters) maximum including spaces and abstract but excluding references, tables, and figures. Abstract: 250 words (1,500 characters) maximum including spaces.

Results: Include headings about what is being tested in each individual experiment.

References: no limit.

Figures/tables: no limit. However, additional figures and tables may be considered as supplements for web-only publication. Disclosure statement required.

Full-length reports of current research in either basic or clinical science.

Please read the Special Notice Regarding Clinical Trials below.

**Special notice regarding clinical trials**

As defined by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), a clinical trial is any research project that prospectively assigns human subjects to intervention and comparison groups to study the cause-and-effect relationship between a medical intervention and a health outcome. A medical intervention is any intervention used to modify a health outcome and includes but is not limited to drugs, surgical procedures, devices, behavioral treatments, and process-of-care changes. A trial must have at least one prospectively assigned concurrent control or comparison group in order to trigger the requirement for registration. Nonrandomized trials are not exempt from the registration requirement if they meet the above criteria.

All clinical trials must be registered in a public registry prior to submission. The journal follows the trials registration policy of the ICMJE (http://www.icmje.org) and considers only trials that have been appropriately registered before submission, regardless of when the trial closed to enrollment. Acceptable registries must meet the following ICMJE requirements: be publicly available, searchable, and open to all prospective registrants; have a validation mechanism for registration data; and be managed by a not-for-profit organization.

Examples of registries that meet these criteria include: the registry sponsored by the United States National Library of Medicine (http://www.clinicaltrials.gov), the International Standard Randomized Controlled Trial Number Registry (http://www.controlled-trials.com), the Cochrane Renal Group Registry (http://www.cochrane-renal.org), and the European Clinical Trials Database (https://eudract.ema.europa.eu).

The trial registry number for eligible papers will be collected during the submission process.

Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) must adhere to the CONSORT statement (CONsolidated Standards Of Reporting Trials), and submissions must be accompanied by a completed CONSORT checklist (uploaded as a related manuscript file). Further information can be found at http://www.consort-statement.org.

**Commentary (by invitation only)**

Word limit: 1,500 words (8,400 characters) maximum including spaces and abstract but excluding references. Title: 115 characters maximum including spaces. Abstract: 75 words (420 characters) maximum. References: 9 maximum including the article discussed. Figures/tables: 1 figure required (will be redrawn). Commentaries discuss a paper published in a specific issue and should set the problems addressed by the paper in the wider context of the field. Disclosure statement required.
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Word limit: 250 words (1,500 characters) maximum including spaces. Abstract: no abstract required for this manuscript type. References: 4 maximum. Figures/tables: up to 1. Letters to the Editor will be considered for publication, subject to editing. Letters must contain information critical to a certain area or must be confirmatory of data recently published in *Kidney International*. A Letter must reference the original source, and a Response to a Letter must reference the Letter in the first few paragraphs, as well as the original source. Letters can use an arbitrary title, but a Response must cite the title of the Letter: e.g., Response to [title of Letter]. All Letters must contain a title page including title, all authors' names and affiliations, and corresponding author contact information.

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Word Limit: 1,600 words (8,960 characters) maximum including spaces. Abstract: no abstract required for this manuscript type. Keywords: 3–6. References: 5 maximum. Proposals for Editorials may be submitted; authors should only send an outline of the proposed paper for initial consideration.

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Word limit: title: 70 characters including spaces; text: 300 words (1,700 characters) including spaces. Figures: The equivalent of 2 single-panel figures maximum. Additional figures may be included as supplementary images that will appear online but not in print. References: none. Abstract: no abstract required for this manuscript type. Illustrative images that are unique or highly illustrative of specific occurrences in nephrology such as renal pathology, radiology, specific-skin lesions, etc. They should be accompanied by a brief 1-paragraph description of relevant clinical information. Article must fit onto 1 page. You will be asked to cut text or part of your figure in the proof if the article is longer than 1 page.

Make Your Diagnosis
Word limit: title: 70 characters; The Case (page 1): 245 words (1,400 characters); The Diagnosis (page 2): 405 words (2,300 characters). Word limits include spaces but exclude references, tables, and figures. Abstract: no abstract required for this manuscript type. References: 3 maximum. Figures/tables: 1 single-panel figure maximum per page. This column provides readers with an opportunity to make clinical diagnoses based on an image accompanied by the history and physical exam, all of which will be on the first page. The second page will include the answers, a brief discussion, and any other relevant follow-up images and laboratory data.

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Proceedings of meetings are solicited by the Editors, and the Meeting Report will undergo peer review. Word limit: to be determined in consultation with Editors. Abstract: 150 words maximum including spaces, excluding references and figures. References: no maximum. Figures/tables: at least 1 image or figure. Disclosure statement required.

Nephrologists sans Frontières (by invitation only)
Word limit: 1,500 words. Abstract: no abstract required for this manuscript type. Keywords: 3–6. References: no more than 9. Figures/tables: 1.

Policy Forum
Word limit: 1,500 words. Abstract: none. Keywords: 3–6. References: no more than 9. COI: A short disclosure statement is required.

Nephrology Digest (by invitation only)
Word limit: 600–900 words excluding references. Title: 100 characters maximum including spaces. References: 9 maximum including the article or presentation discussed. Figures/tables: 1 figure or table (figures may be redrawn). Nephrology Digests discuss a recent development in the field published or presented outside of *Kidney International* and should frame the issue in the wider context of the field. Nephrology Digest may also provide a forum for commentary on broader issues of relevance to research or clinical care in nephrology. Authors will not be charged for color images. Disclosure statement required.
Format of Manuscripts
Manuscripts must be typed in English and double-spaced. All text including legends, footnotes, tables, and references are to be on one side of the page only. All manuscript pages must be numbered.

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To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the ‘spell-check’ and ‘grammar-check’ functions of your word processor.

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This should include (a) the complete manuscript title; (b) all authors' full names (listed as first name, middle initial, last name), highest academic degrees, and affiliations; (c) the name and address for correspondence, fax number, telephone number, and e-mail address; and (d) the sources of support that require acknowledgment. A running headline of no more than 50 characters (including spaces) should be supplied.

Abstract
The abstract should be no longer than 1,500 characters including spaces, stating the main problem, methods, results, and conclusions. There should be no subheadings in the abstract. It must be factual and comprehensive. The use of abbreviations and acronyms should be limited and general statements (e.g., “the significance of the results is discussed”) should be avoided. The editors reserve the right to edit the title and abstract to conform to journal style.

The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results, and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, references should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, nonstandard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

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Text
The manuscript should be organized under the following nine headings: Title page Abstract Introduction Results Discussion Methods Disclosure References Acknowledgements

Abbreviations
Abbreviations should be defined at first mention in the text and in each table and figure. For a list of standard abbreviations, please consult the Council of Biology Editors Style Guide (available from the Council of Science Editors, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814) or other standard sources. Write out the full term for each abbreviation at its first use unless it is a standard unit of measure. Refrain from overuse of abbreviations.
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Data References
Please cite underlying or relevant datasets in your text and include said references in your Reference List. Data references should include the following: author name, title, repository, version, persistent identifier, year. Add the word "dataset" in brackets (i.e., [dataset]) immediately before the reference so that it can be properly identified. This identifier will not appear in your published article.

List
Number the references in the list in the order in which they appear in the text.

Examples
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Reference to a supplement article:

Reference to a book:

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

Reference to a dataset:

*Journal abbreviations source*
Journal names should be abbreviated according to the *List of Title Word Abbreviations*.

*Acknowledgements*
Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

*ORIGINALITY*

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