

Glomerulonephritis Assessment

Glomerulonephritis refers to a kidney disorder characterized by inflammation of the glomeruli. It is most often caused by an immunological reaction. Destruction, inflammation, and sclerosis of the glomeruli of the kidneys occur, which can impair kidney functioning. The most common cause of this disease process is from group A beta-hemolytic streptococcal infection of the skin, tonsils, or pharynx. Glomerulonephritis can be either acute (rapid onset of symptoms) or chronic (slower onset which may lead to irreversible renal failure). Symptoms may include generalized edema, hypertension, oliguria, hematuria, and proteinuria with lab results indicating an increase in BUN and creatinine.



PLAY PICMONIC

Mechanism

Group A Beta-Hemolytic Streptococcal Infection

(A) Apple Beta-fish Stripper

Acute poststreptococcal glomerulonephritis (APSGN) occurs 5 to 21 days after an infection of the skin, tonsils, or pharynx by nephrotoxic strains of group A beta-hemolytic streptococci (GABHS). This type of acute glomerulonephritis is most common in children and young adults.

Signs and Symptoms

Hypertension

Hiker-BP

Due to an increase in extracellular fluid volume, the patient will present with hypertension.

Hematuria

Red-urinal

Hematuria with a smoky or rusty appearance is often present, which indicates bleeding in the upper urinary tract.

Proteinuria

Mr. Protein-in-Urine

The amount of proteinuria varies depending on the severity of the disease and can range from mild to severe.

Oliguria

Old-gopher

Due to a decrease in kidney function, the patient may manifest with oliguria or a low urine output.

Generalized Edema

General Edamame

Due to a decrease in glomerular filtration, fluid retention occurs. This results in generalized edema, beginning first in low-pressure tissues, such as around the eyes and later progressing to the whole body to include peripheral edema and ascites.

Increased BUN and CR

[Up-arrow BUN and CR-earn](#)

Blood tests often reflect an increase in blood urea nitrogen (BUN) and serum creatinine (CRE).

Flank Pain

[Flank Pain-bolt](#)

Patients may experience abdominal or flank pain due to the location of the kidneys.