

Short Cases – Renal Disease

Introduction

Problems relating to the kidneys and renal tract are common in primary care.¹ Renal biochemistry and urine microscopy are among the most common investigations requested in primary care, and dealing with these results forms a significant part of the daily workload for primary health care teams.

In recent years, some of the terminology around renal problems has changed. There have been changes in the evidence base for management of some renal conditions, along with increasing public and professional awareness of nephrotoxic side effects of certain medicines. The role of primary care is to manage common renal presentations and investigations, and decide who to monitor, investigate further, or refer onwards to secondary care.

This module has five cases and your group may want to select which cases it wants to study together. Cases 1 and 2 will cover acute kidney injury, and the other cases will deal with renal colic, glomerulonephritis, and nephrotic syndrome. Please note that like some of our other modules, the relevant information section will follow the cases, and the case commentaries are at the end.

This module does not include the management of renal conditions in children, patients with diabetes or women who are pregnant. Published modules already cover chronic kidney disease (CKD) and discuss proteinuria (though the latter will be covered in more depth in this module). There are PBSGL modules on hypertension and type two diabetes mellitus which cover associated renal complications.