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IN BRIEF

KIDNEY STONES

Increased risk of CHD in women with past kidney stones

Women with a history of kidney stones are at increased risk of developing coronary heart disease (CHD), say researchers. Ferraro *et al.* examined the association in three large cohorts—the HPFS ($n=45,758$ men), the NHS I ($n=90,235$ women) and the NHS II ($n=106,122$ women). After up to 18 years of follow-up, women with a history of kidney stones had an increased risk of CHD (multivariable-adjusted hazard ratios of 1.18 and 1.48 in NHS I and NHS II, respectively). No significant association was found in men.

Original article Ferraro, P. M. *et al.* History of kidney stones and the risk of coronary heart disease. *JAMA* 310, 408–415 (2013)

HEART FAILURE

Investigating eplerenone use in high-risk patients

The aldosterone antagonist eplerenone is underused in patients with chronic heart failure and reduced ejection fraction, possibly owing to concerns of hyperkalaemia and worsening renal function in high-risk patients. However, Eschalier *et al.* found that use of eplerenone was effective in reducing hospitalization for heart failure and cardiovascular mortality in high-risk patients, and that the risks of potassium levels exceeding 6.0 mmol/l and of hospitalization for hyperkalaemia were not increased (although the risk of potassium >5.5 mmol/l was increased).

Original article Eschalier, R. *et al.* Safety and efficacy of eplerenone in patients at high-risk for hyperkalemia and/or worsening renal function: analyses of EMPHASIS-HF study subgroups. *J. Am. Coll. Cardiol.* doi: 10.1016/j.jacc.2013.04.086

ACUTE KIDNEY INJURY

Is androgen deprivation therapy associated with AKI?

Lapi *et al.* report that use of androgen deprivation therapy (ADT) is associated with an increased risk of acute kidney injury (AKI) among patients with newly diagnosed nonmetastatic prostate cancer. In their nested case–control study that linked information from UK medical databases for 10,250 men newly diagnosed with nonmetastatic prostate cancer, these researchers found that over a mean follow-up of 4.1 years, patients currently using any ADT were at increased risk of AKI compared with those who had never used ADT (odds ratio 2.48).

Original article Lapi, F. *et al.* Androgen deprivation therapy and risk of acute kidney injury in patients with prostate cancer. *JAMA* 310, 289–296 (2013)

TRANSPLANTATION

Transmission of rabies through kidney transplantation

A new paper reports that a kidney transplant recipient with no reported exposure to potentially rabid animals died from rabies 18 months after receiving a deceased-donor kidney transplant. In retrospect, the donor had shown symptoms consistent with rabies, and rabies virus antigen was found in archived autopsy brain tissue from the donor. Organ transplantation was confirmed as the route of transmission as the rabies viruses affecting both donor and recipient were consistent with the raccoon rabies virus variant and $>99.9\%$ identical across the entire *N* gene.

Original article Vora, N. M. *et al.* Raccoon rabies virus variant transmission through solid organ transplantation. *JAMA* 310, 398–407 (2013)