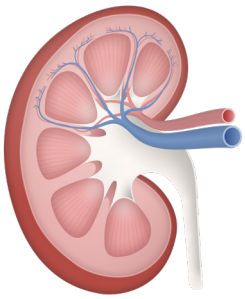
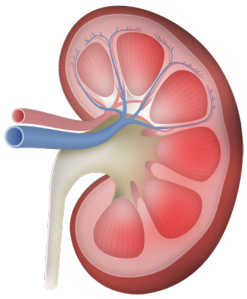
ACUTE KIDNEY INJURY

Acute Kidney Injury (AKI): Characteristics

- Sudden trauma to the body can cause a build-up of waste products in the blood and fluid imbalances in the body, leading to AKI.
- AKI is usually reversible.
- Without prompt treatment, AKI can lead to chronic kidney disease (CKD) or renal failure.
- AKI is a sudden instance of kidney failure or kidney damage.



Healty kidney appearance



Injured kidney appearance

Signs and Symptoms

- Peripheral edema (swelling all over the body)
- Fatigue or tiredness
- Confusion
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea
- Chest pain or pressure

Risk Factors

- Injury
- Burns
- Dehydration
- Hemorrhage (blood loss)
- Sepsis
- Surgery
- Pregnancy

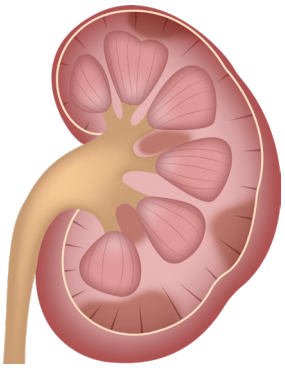
Assessment

- Monitoring for changes in vital signs, intake and output, mood, edema, and blood loss
- Observing the patient's mental state
- Obtaining labs regarding kidney function, e.g. creatinine, glomerular filtration rate (GFR) and overall health, e.g. a complete blood count (CBC)

Acute Kidney Injury Criteria

Rise in serum creatinine

- > 0.3 mg/dL increase
  or
- > 50% increase



Reduction in urine output

- < 0.5 mL/kg/h for more than 6 hours

NURSING NOTE:

The expected range for creatinine is 0.5–1.1 mg/dL.

Nursing Interventions for Clients with AKI Include

- Restore fluid balance
- Prevent infection
- Improve nutritional intake

NOTES