



## DISEASES OF THE TUBULES AND INTERSTITIUM

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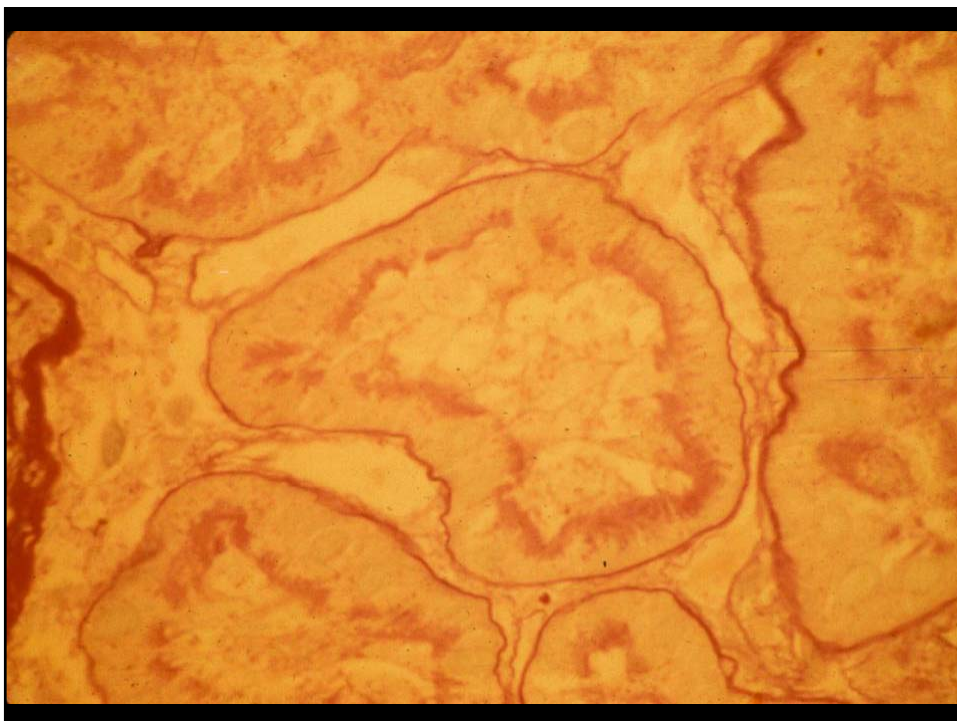
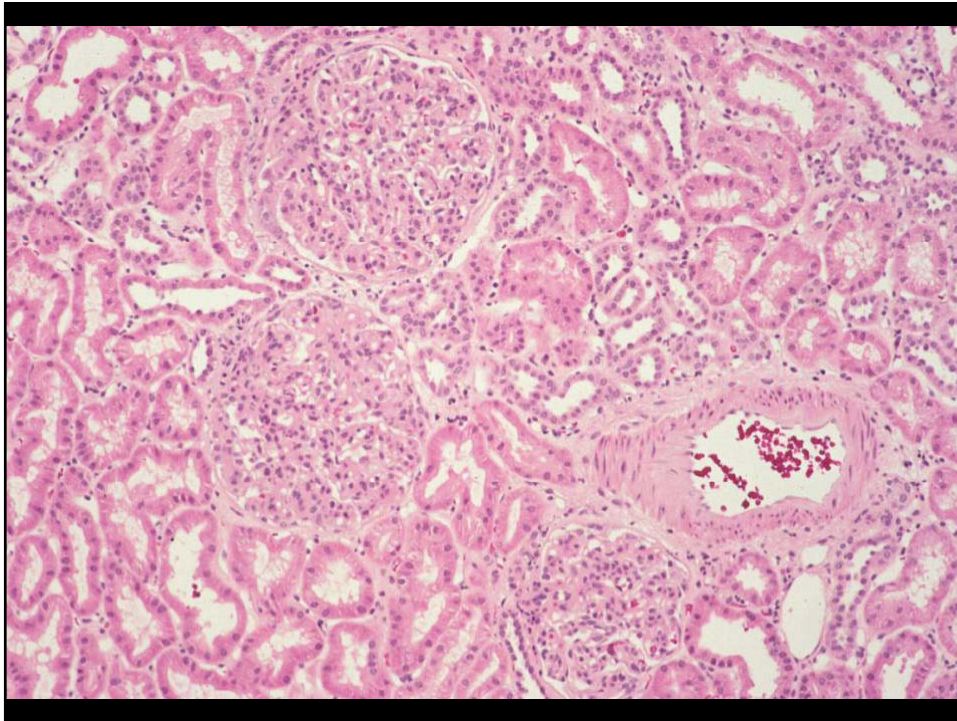
Glen Markowitz, M.D.  
Gerald Appel, M.D.

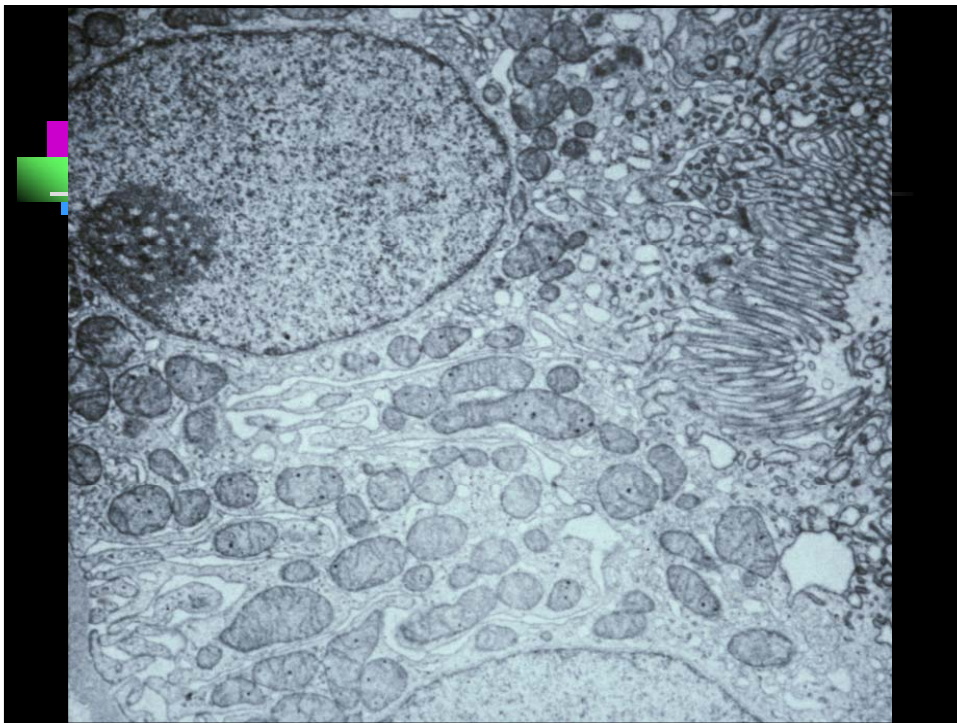


### Mechanisms of Tubulointerstitial Disease

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- 2 general categories:
  - Ischemic/toxic (non-inflammatory)
    - Acute tubular necrosis
  - Inflammatory
    - Tubulointerstitial nephritis
      - Infection, allergic/drug-induced, systemic disease (i.e. Sarcoid, Sjogren's), etc







## Case 1

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A 58 year old W M with a history of ETOH abuse , but normal renal function on ER visit 2 months ago, is admitted to the hospital in a stuporous condition having been found by his friend in his room to be unarousable. The friend states that they had been drinking 3 days ago and when he now called for his drinking buddy there was an empty bottle of Jack Daniels next to him.



## Case 1

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PE: BP 100/60 mm Hg, P 110, R12, Temp 101, Cor -, Chest rales at R base, Abd-, Ext swelling and tender R and L legs below the knee.

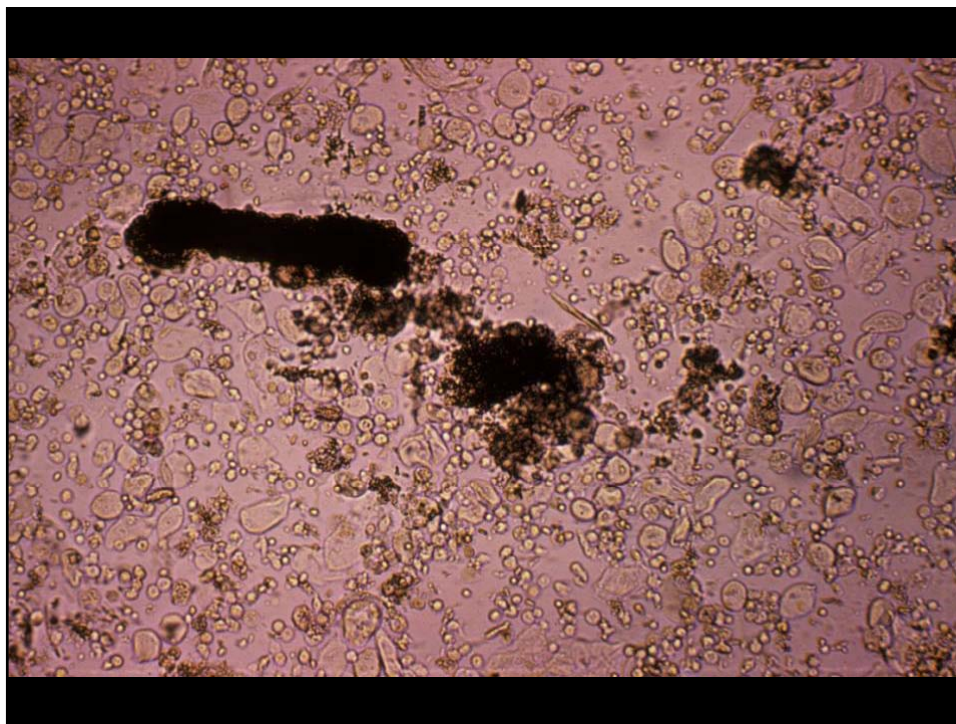
Lab: BUN 48 mg/dl, Creatinine 6.2 mg dl, CBC – wbc 15, 000, with increased polys, Cxray RLL infiltrate.

U/A tr prot, 4+ heme, no rbc or wbc.

Pt is hydrated with 1 L Saline and BP 135/82.

Given 150 mg Gentamicin and 1g Ampicillin.

Over the next 2 days pt makes little urine and creatinine rises to 8.4 mg/dl.

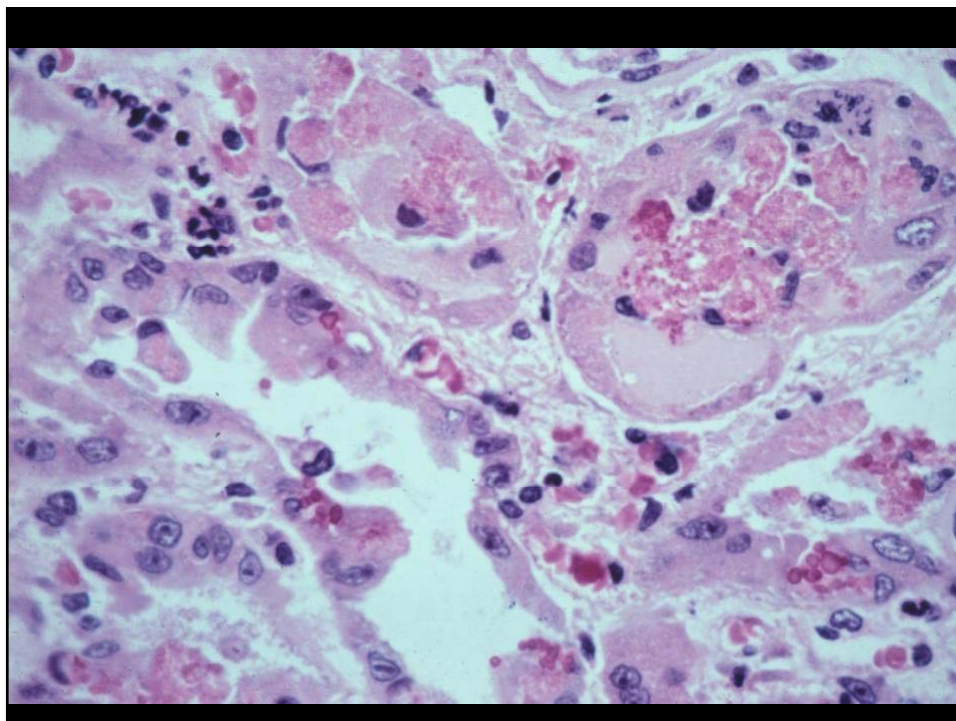


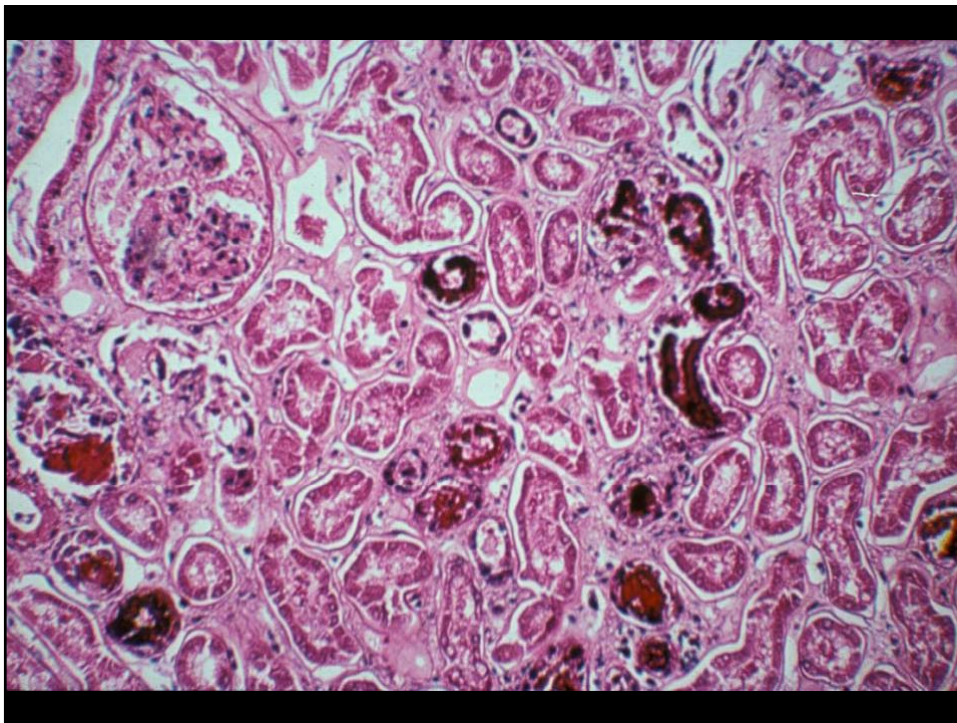
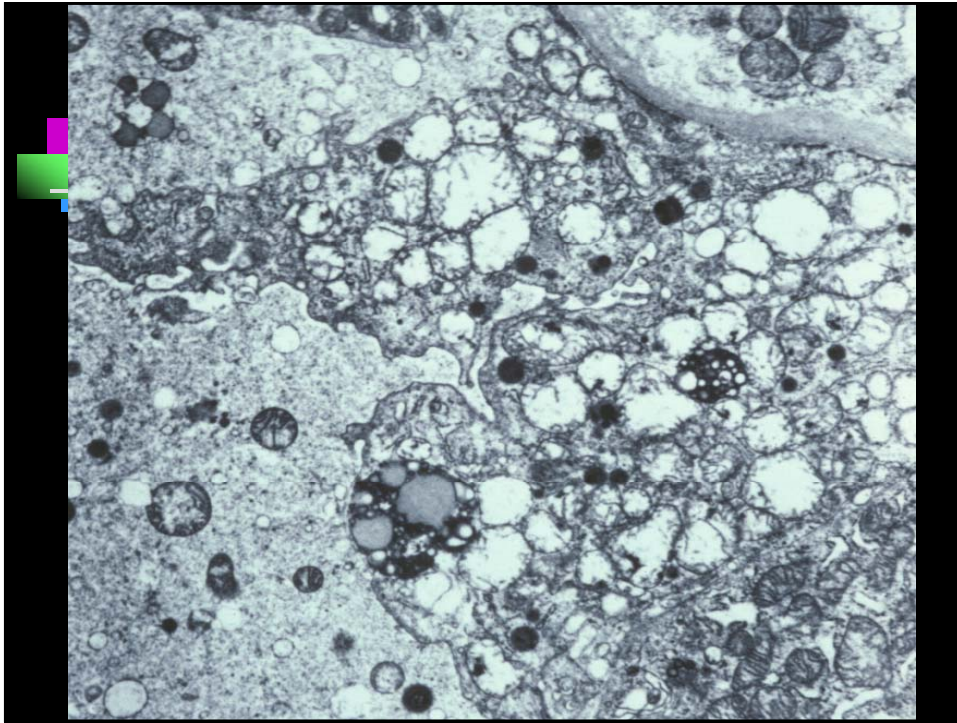
## Case 1

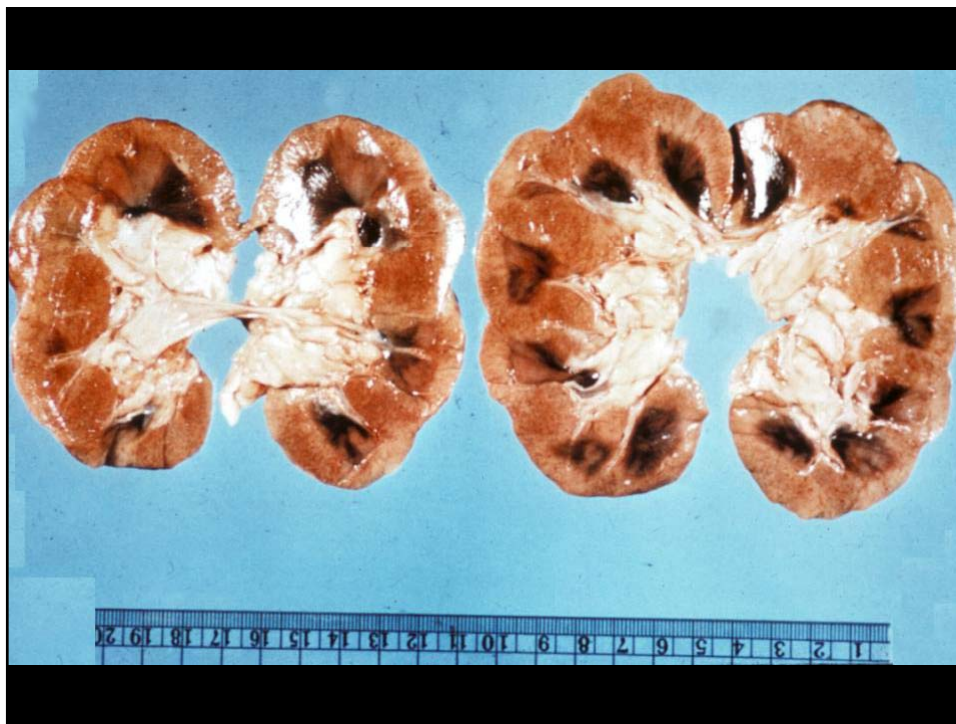
- Should a kidney biopsy be done?
- Is the renal failure acute or chronic?  
How do you know? How can you prove it?
- What is the likely etiology of the renal failure (hypotension, rhabdomyolysis, gentamicin, leptospirosis )
- What lab tests might confirm the diagnosis?

## **Acute renal Failure**

- Prerenal azotemia
- Post-renal azotemia
- Acute tubular necrosis
- Acute interstitial nephritis
- Acute glomerulonephritis
- Vascular ARF







## Acute Tubular Necrosis

- Predisposition of tubular epithelial cell
  - High metabolic activity/O<sub>2</sub> requirements
  - Prone to ischemic/hypoxic injury
  - Role in concentrating/reabsorbing filtrate
  - Increased exposure to toxins
- Two subtypes of ATN
  - **Ischemic** ATN
  - **Nephrotoxic** ATN





## Ischemic ATN

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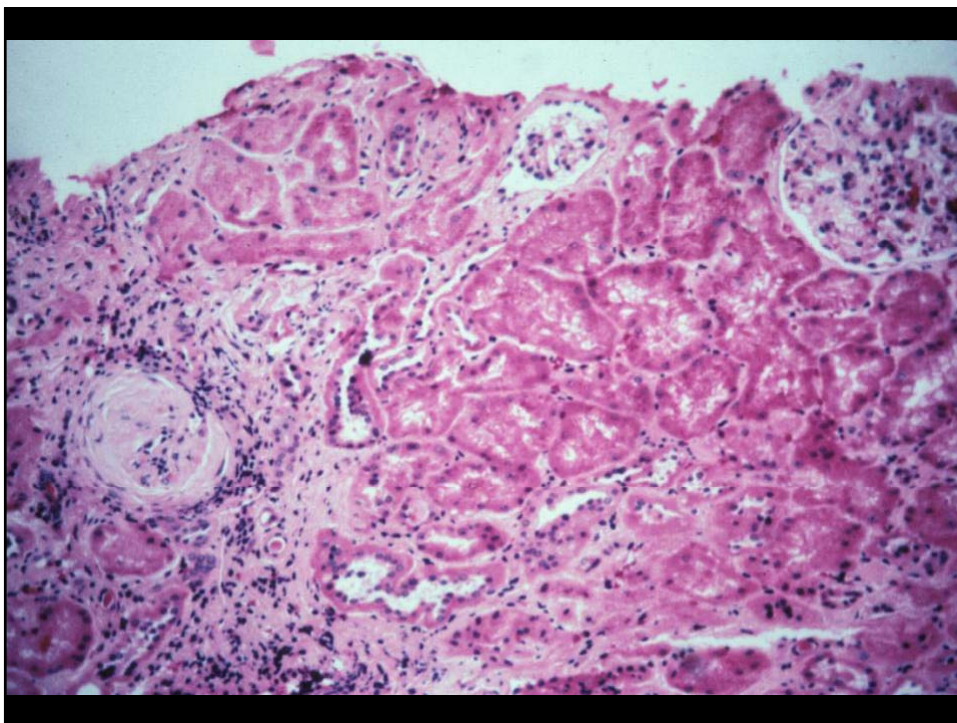
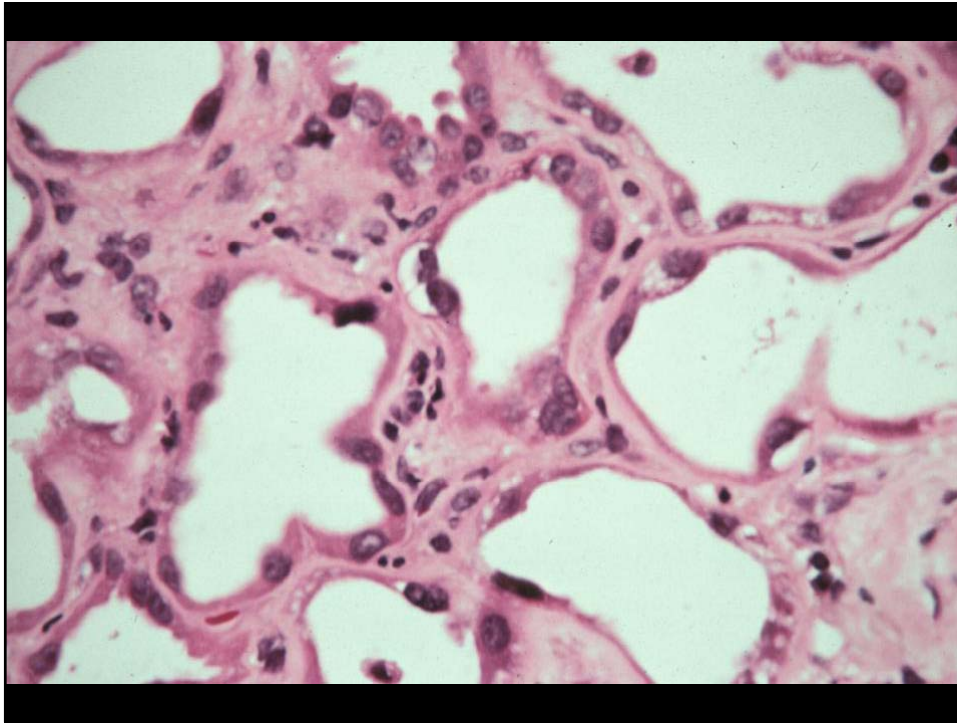
- Occurs in setting of decreased renal blood flow / hypotension, i.e. trauma/severe blood loss, CHF, septic shock
- Pathology
  - Gross: P & S
  - Degenerative changes
  - Subsequent regenerative changes
  - Most severe changes in proximal tub and mTAL

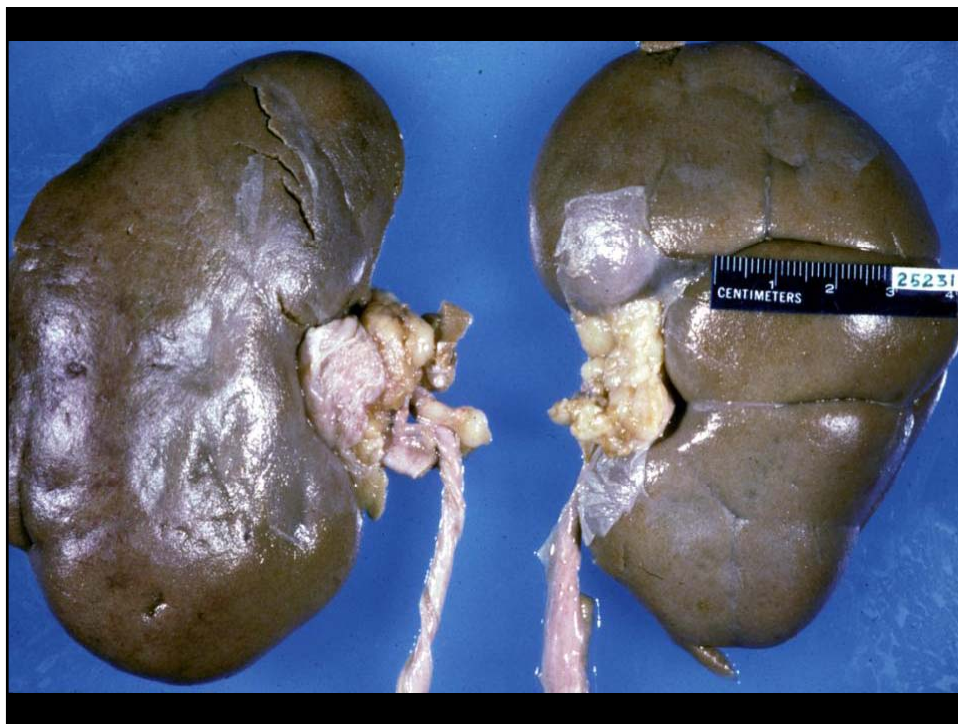


## Clinical Phases of ATN

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- Initiation
  - first 36 hours, dominated by initial event
- Maintenance
  - up to 3 weeks, oliguric, dialysis required
- Recovery ("diuretic phase")
  - increasing urine output – often substantial, electrolyte abnormalities
- Prognosis: > 90% recovery if survive initiating event





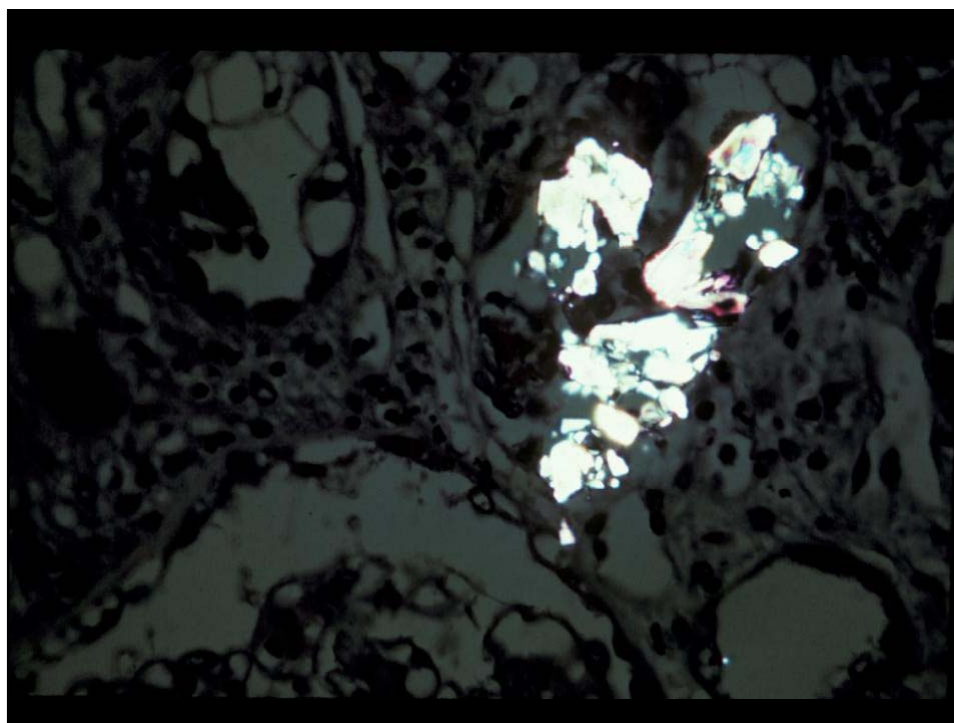
## Nephrotoxic ATN

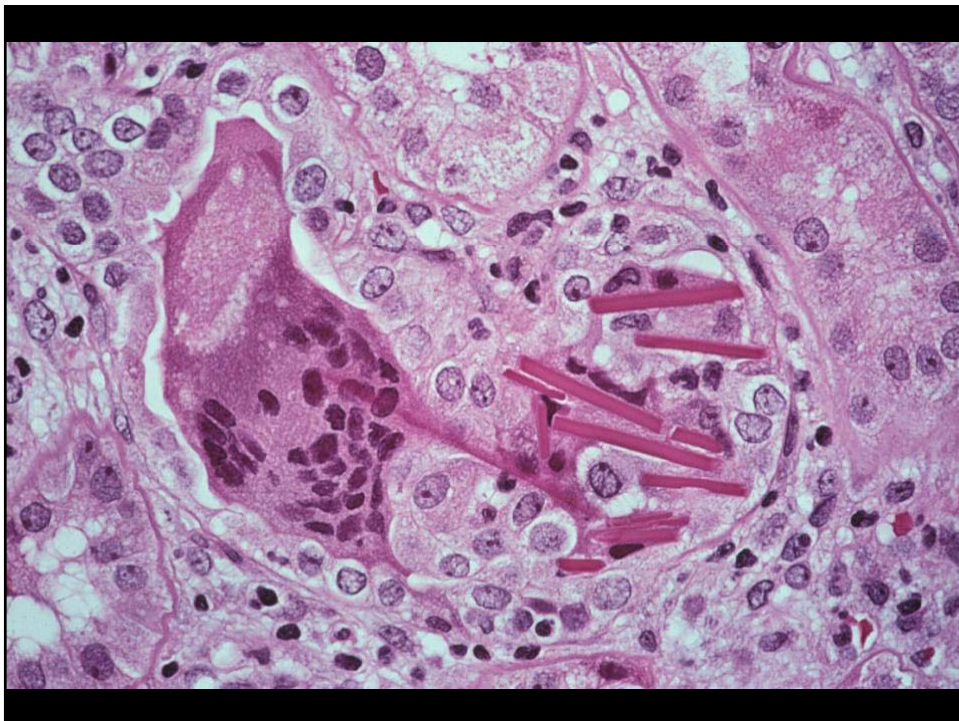
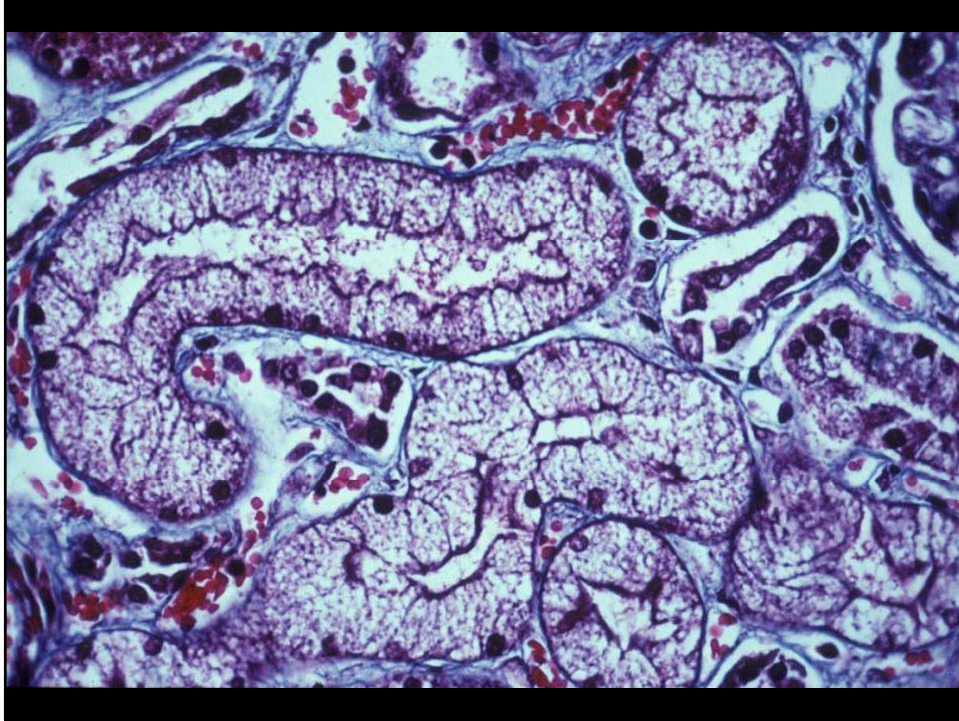
- Many toxins implicated
  - Heavy metals: Hg, Pb, gold, arsenic,...
  - Organic solvents: CCl<sub>4</sub>, ethylene glycol
  - Therapeutics
    - antibiotics: gentamicin
    - antifungals: amphotericin B
    - chemotherapeutic agents: cisplatin
    - bisphosphonate: zoledronate
    - radiation & radiocontrast
    - pigments: Hgb, Mgb
    - abnormal levels of physiologic substances
    - osmotic agents: mannitol



## Nephrotoxic ATN

- Similar pathology to ischemic ATN
- Additional, toxin-specific findings:
  - Ethylene glycol
  - Osmotic agents/radiocontrast
  - Light chains
  - Hemoglobin/Myoglobin







## Case 2

- 65 y o retired Ob-Gyn MD refer by NYC nephrologist for presumed RPGN
- Past Hx HBP x 40 yrs controlled on meds, arrhythmia →verapamil, hypothyroidism
- Some urinary urgency 1 wk PTA – Urologic check ( U/A neg ) ; Urticarial rash on legs several days PTA disappeared.
- 1 wk PTA gave blood and played golf.
- Not feeling well , thirsty. Check chem7

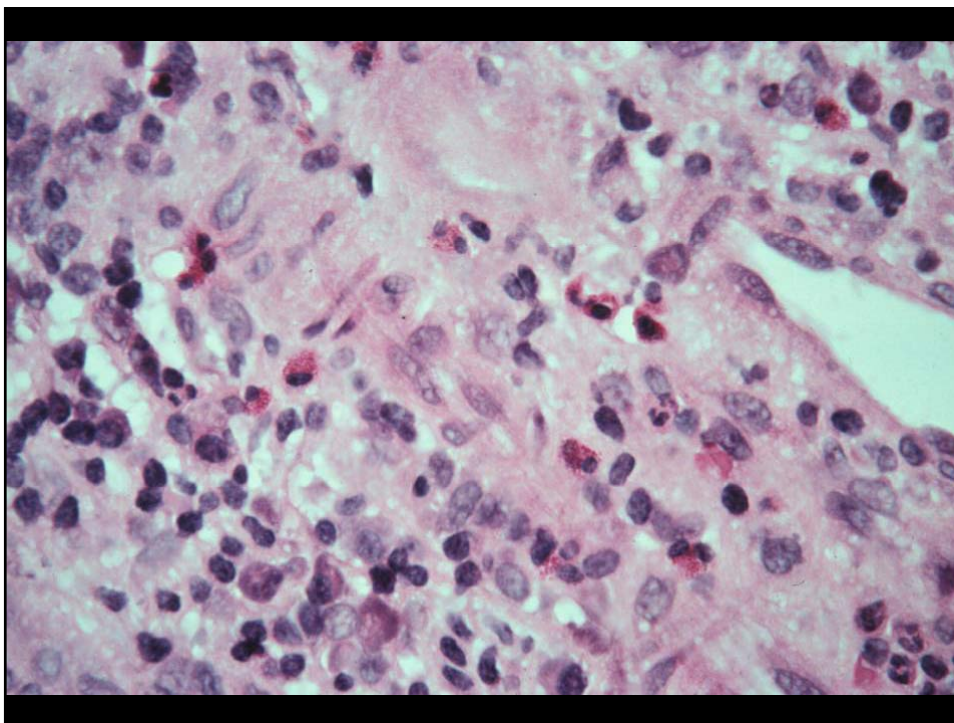


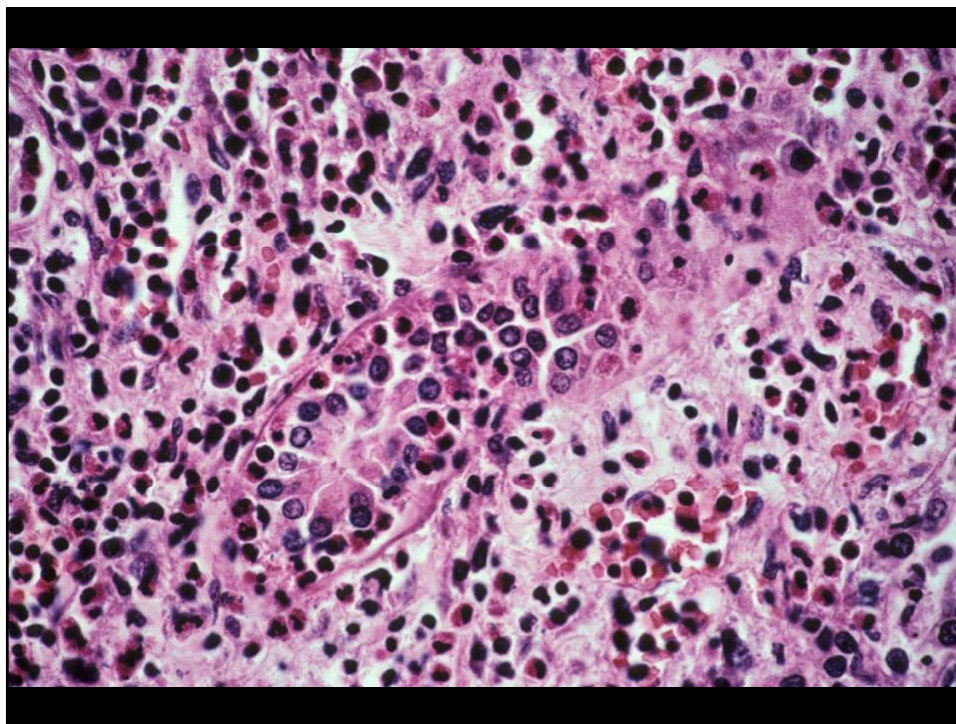
## Case 2

- BUN 94, creat 4.4 mg/dl
- Friend nephrologist – BUN 91 creat. 4.9 mg/dl K+ 6.7 , alb 4.1 WBC 8.4, Hct 36, Plts 441, U/A some rbc , no casts, ANA- , ASLO 33, UIF normal pattern, Ccr 32 cc/min
- Meds calan SR, PPI, zoloft, synthroid, cozaar – given Kayexolate →CPMC ? BX
- Px BP 170/90, P82, Cor-Chest-Abd- neg, no edema , fine maculo-papular rash on chest and upper arms.
- BUN 96 creat 5.1 U/A tr prot, 2+ heme, no casts

## Case 2

- What is the differential Dx of the acute renal failure?
- What labs help or hurt each diagnosis?
- Would you biopsy now? Wait and then consider biopsy if no recovery? Treat and then biopsy if no recovery? ( What therapy if treating? )





## Drug-Induced Interstitial Nephritis

- Pathogenesis: cell-mediated hypersensitivity reaction (T's)
- Pathology
  - interstitial inflammation & edema
  - EOSINOPHLS
  - Tubulitis
  - +/- granulomas



## **Clinical Features Penicillin-Related AIN**

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Rash = > 40%

Fever = > 75%

Eosinophilia = > 80%

Hypersensitivity Triad = 30%

(R + F + E)

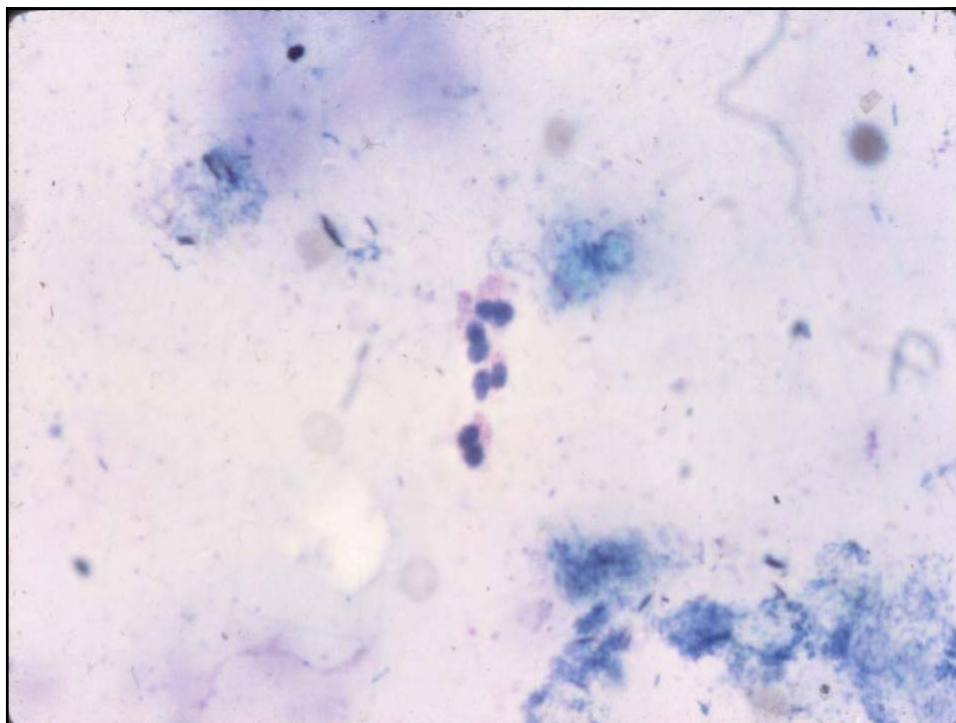
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## **Urinary Findings in Penicillin-Related AIN**

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- Mild proteinuria
  - Hematuria in over 90% (Gross hematuria in over 30%)
  - Sterile pyuria
  - Eosinophiluria
- 





## Medication Associated AIN

Beta-Lactam Antibiotics  
Other Antibiotics- Sulfonamides  
TM-SMX  
Rifampin  
Quinolones

Diuretics  
NSAIDS  
Other Drugs – Cimetidine, Dilantin,  
Sulfipyrazone, Allopurinol  
Proton Pump Inhibitors



## Course Patient 2

- D/C all meds – use alts for HBP and ulcer disease
- Prednisone 120 mg QOD x 6 wks
- Plasma creatinine decreased from 5.1 to 1.8 mg/dl
- Stable RFTs 4 yr later



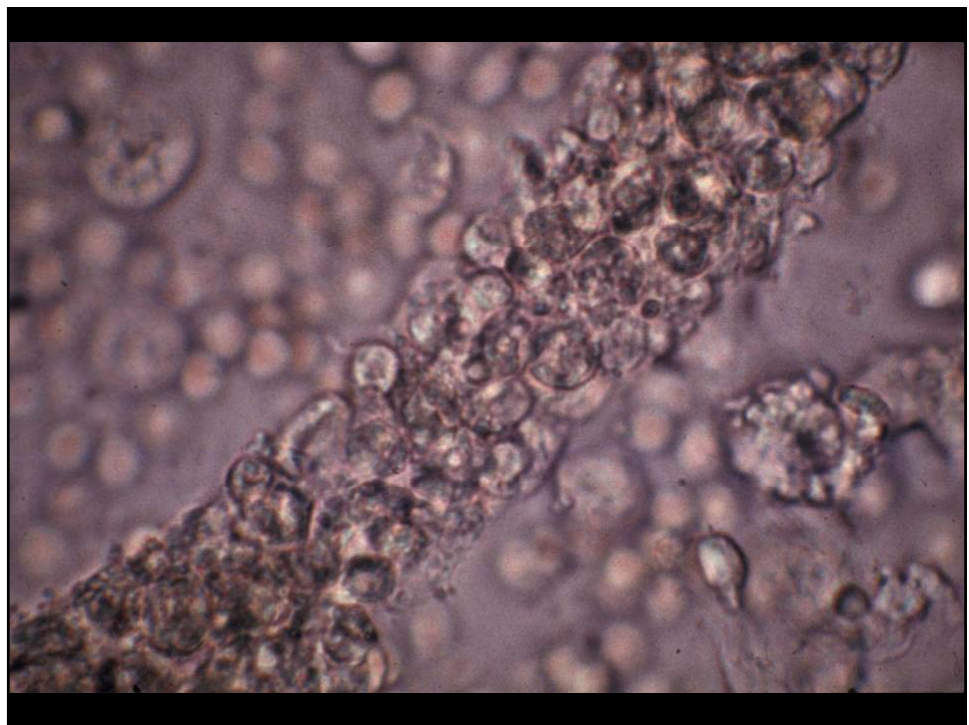
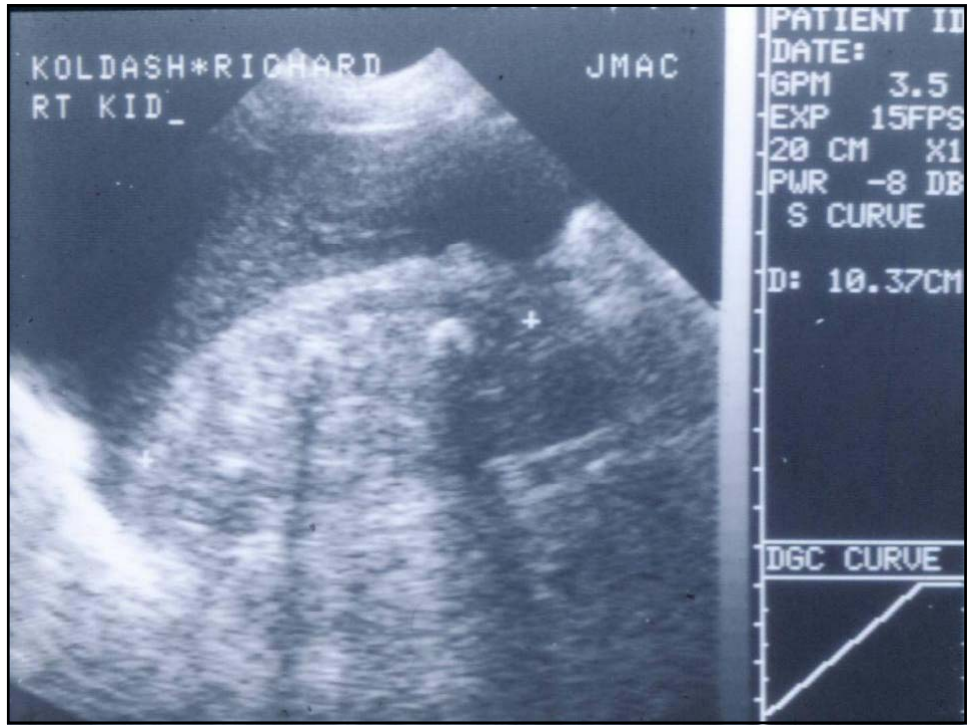
### Case 3

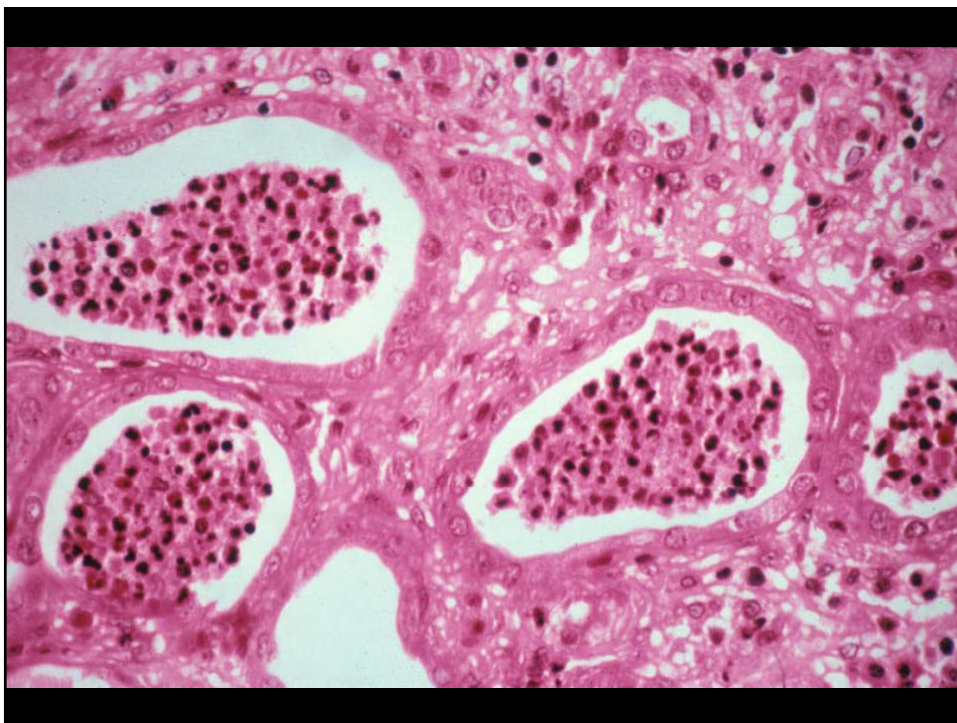
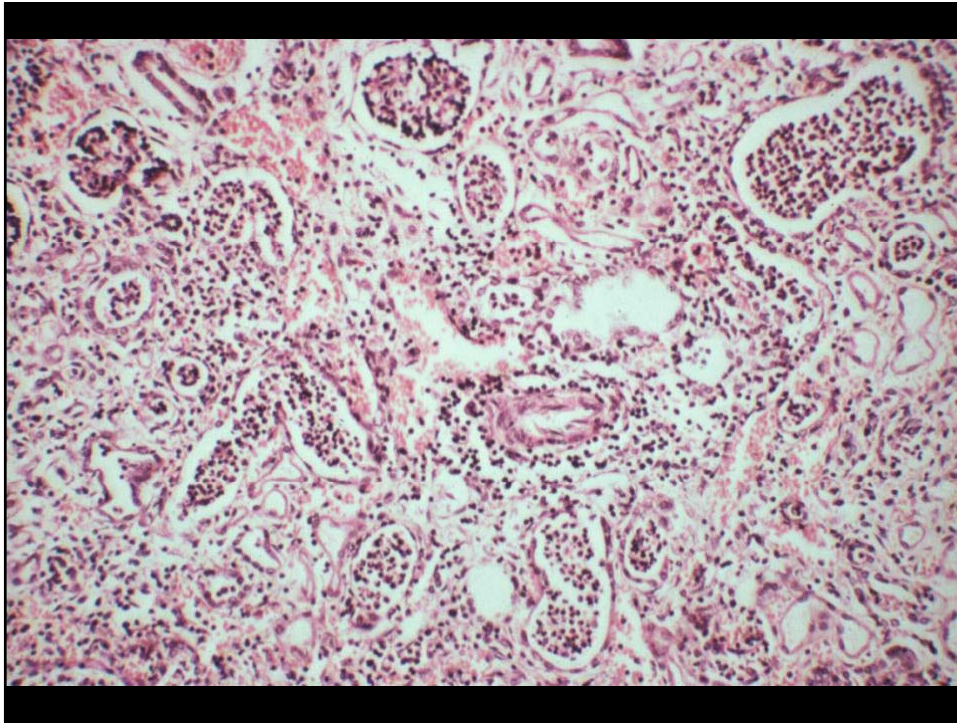
- A 64 yo BF has had diabetes and mild HBP for 6 yrs. Her BS has recently been poorly controlled and she has had polyuria and nocturia. Recently she noticed dysuria and frequency as well.
- She develops fever, chills, and left flank pain which increases over 24 hrs. She calls her MD who send her to the ER immediately.



### Case 3

- In the ER her BP is 110/72, P 100, Temp 102, R14. She has marked L CVA tenderness.
- BUN 35 mg/dl, Creatinine 1.4 mg/dl
- WBC – 16,500, Hct 39%, platelets nl.
- U/A shows 3+gluc, 2+ heme, tr alb, 10-15 rbc, wbc –TNTC, and wbc casts.
- Urinary Na<sup>+</sup> is 42 mEq/L. FENa<sup>+</sup> is 1.8.
- USG shows no hydronephrosis (obstruction) but a stone in L kidney.
- She is treated with hydration, amp, gent.
- Over the next 24 hours her BP incr to 145/82, temp 100, and urine output remains copious.
- BUN decrease to 14 mg/dl and creatinine to 0.7 mg/dl.





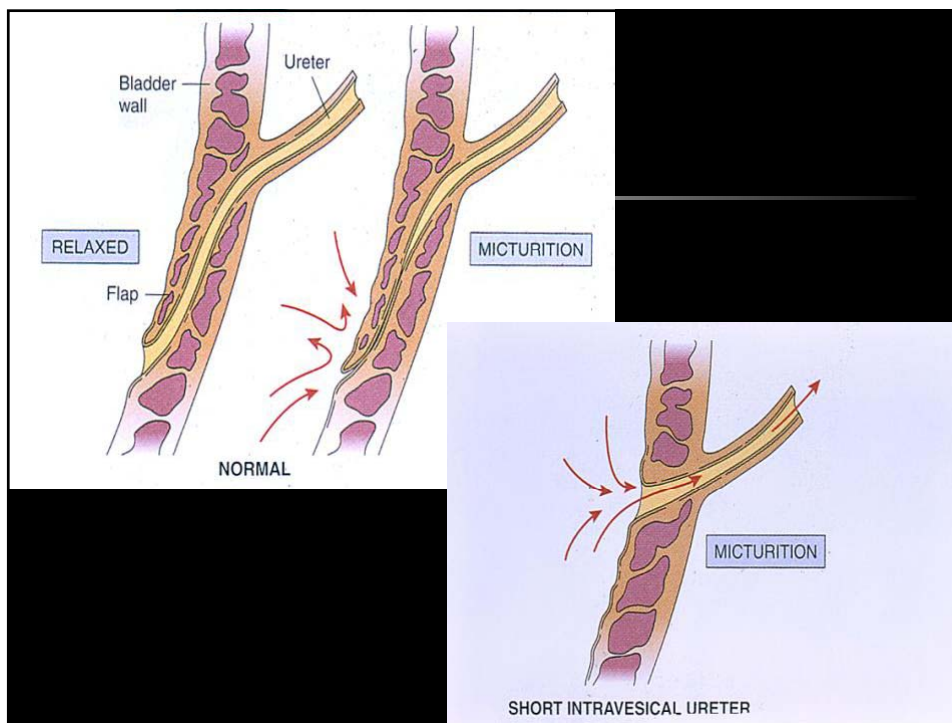


## Acute Pyelonephritis

- Acute suppurative infection of kidney
- Clinical: back pain, fever, pyuria, +/- RI
  - Urine cultures: confirmation / Ab sensitivity
- Route of infection
  - ascending > hematogenous
  - ascending starts in bladder as UTI (F>M)
  - hematog: septic emboli, bacteremia (F=M)
- Organisms
  - 85% gram negative bacilli (#1 E. coli)
  - fecal flora

## Acute Pyelonephritis

- Increased risk of ascending infection in three clinical settings
  - Obstruction: BPH, tumors, pregnancy, neurogenic bladder (DM)
  - Instrumentation
  - Vesicoureteral reflux
    - 50% UTI's in 1st year of life
    - congenital anomaly: intravesical portion of ureter lacks normal oblique course that prevents reflux







## Acute Pyelonephritis

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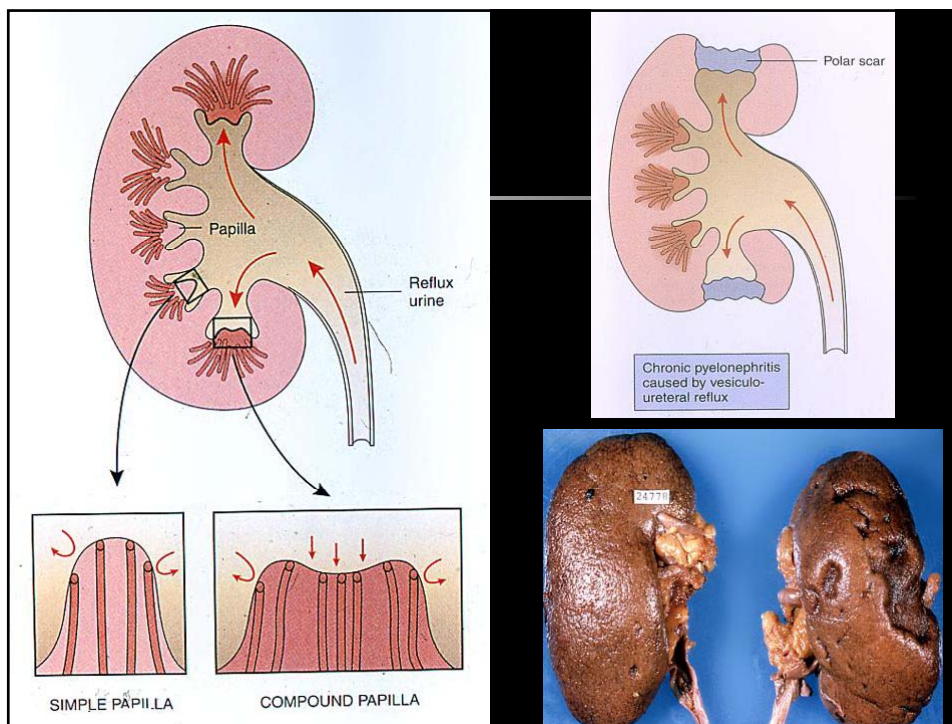
- **Gross:** normal size, +/- coalescent abscesses
- **Micro:** severe inflammation, PMN's
  - Microabscesses
  - PMN casts & tubulitis
  - **Distribution:**
    - Ascending: originates near medulla
    - Hematogenous: cortical



## Chronic Pyelonephritis

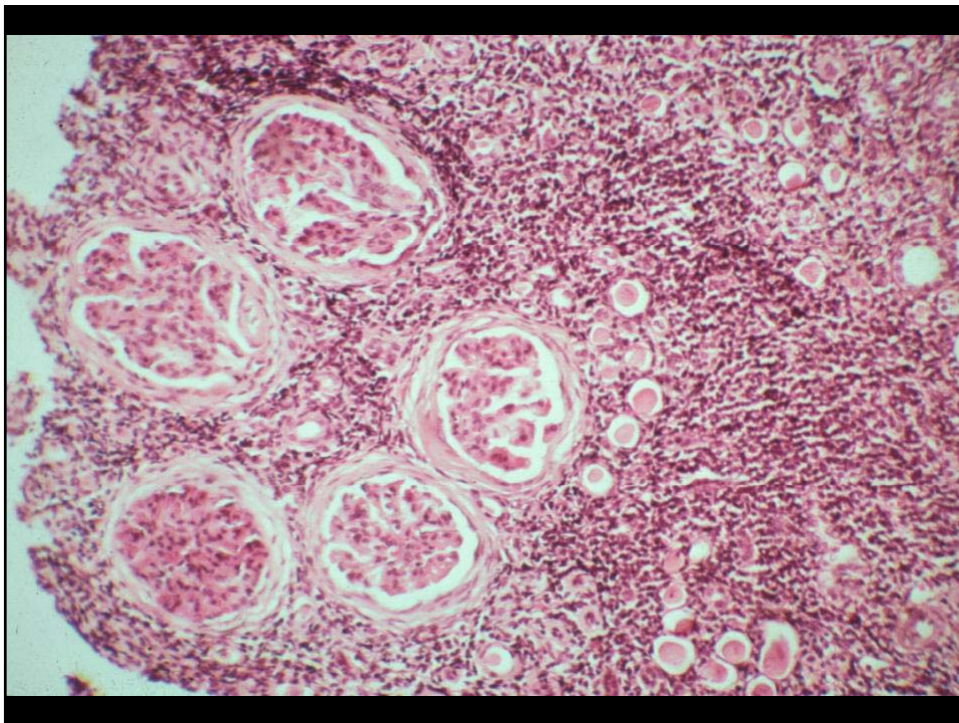
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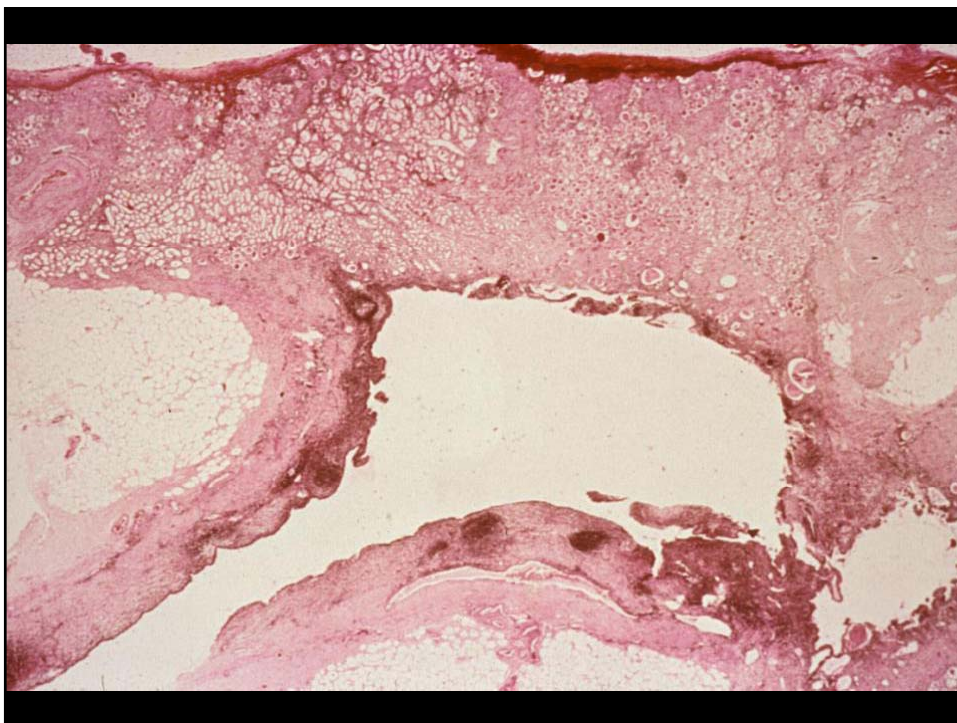
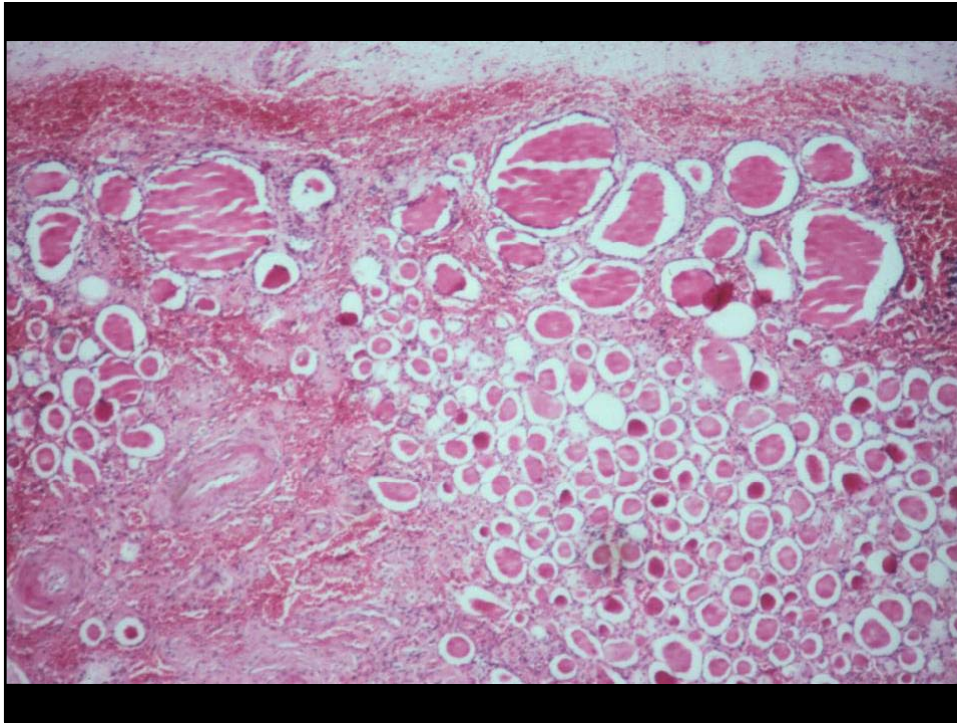
- **Definition:** chronic renal disorder with scarring, inflammation, and deformity of calyces/pelvis (ascending\*)
- **Gross:** shrunken
  - Irregular, asymmetric broad/flat scars (U\*)
  - Papillary blunting and calyceal deformity
- **Micro:**
  - Disproportionate tubulointerstitial scarring
  - Atrophic tubules with colloid casts ("thyroidization")
  - Chronic inflammation (not PMN's)

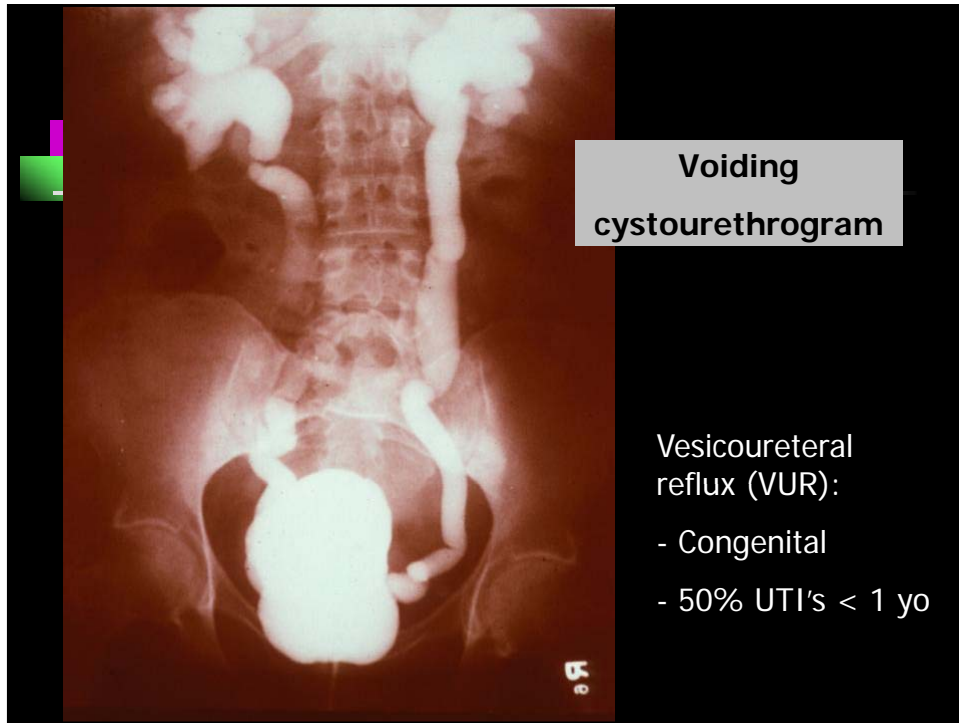


## Chronic Pyelonephritis

- **Clinical**
  - insidious onset of RI
  - +/- HTN, mild proteinuria, decreased urinary concentration, culture neg
  - Rarely follows "usual" acute pyelo
  - More common with persistent obstruction or VUR
  - +/- awareness of acute episodes
  - Rx: relieve obstruction / correct VUR, antibiotics as indicated







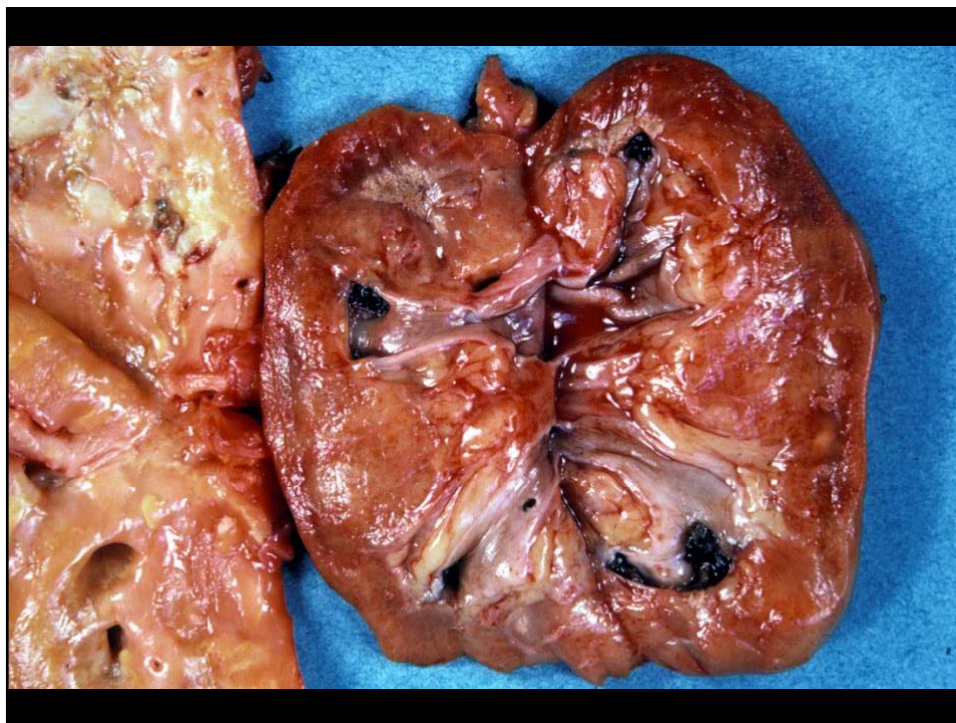
## Case 4

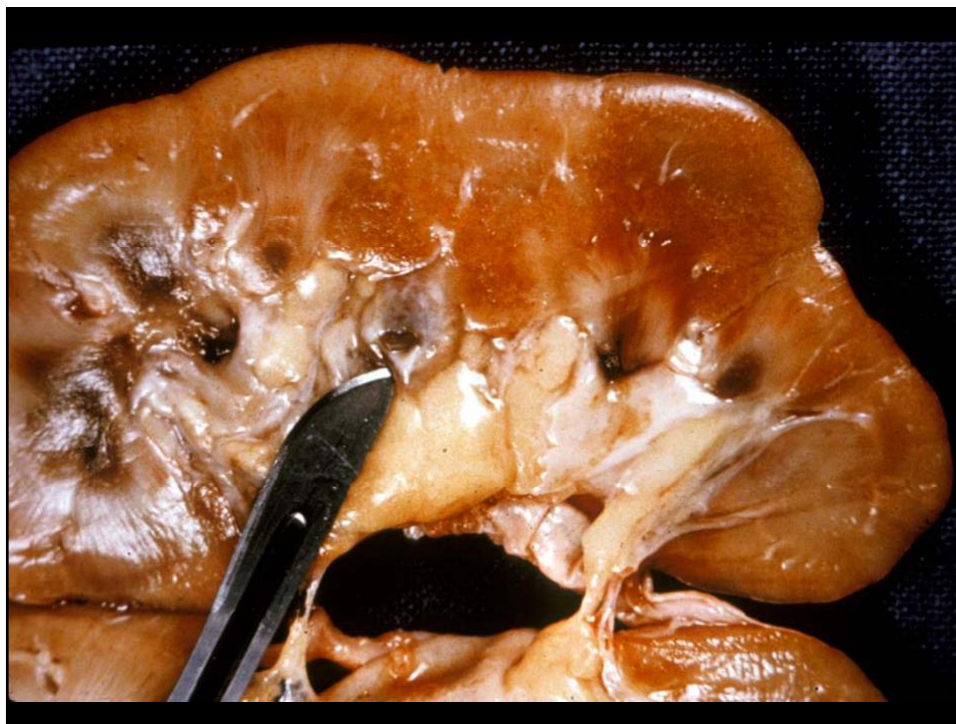
- A 52 yo F has had rheumatoid arthritis for 20 yrs and has been taking aspirin, tylenol, and NSAID's daily but no other medications for her disease. She develops R flank pain, but no fever, chills, or dysuria. Physical examination shows marked deformities of her joints but no edema.
- Labs: U/A tr protein, few rbc and many wbc. BUN 32 mg/dl, Pcreatinine 2.4 mg/dl, 24 hr prtoein 0.4 g/d, and negative or normal tests for complement, anti-DNAantibody, HBV, BS, HCV, etc. Urine culture is "no growth" after 2 days.
- An Intravenous Urogram is performed.



## Case 4

- Is bacterial pyelonephritis the cause of this patient's back pain?
- What are other possible causes?
- What other diseases could cause this picture?





## Analgesic Nephropathy

An international disease (Australia, Switzerland, Scandinavia, USA)

Abusers and Users – Headaches and Arthritis

Female:Male 6:1

Large amounts over prolonged time periods

Renal abnormalities

- sterile pyuria
- only mild proteinuria and hypertension
- Decreased concentration ability
- Decreased net acid excretion
- Salt wasting
- Papillary necrosis

Patients can recover function if they stop analgesic use





## Causes of Papillary Necrosis

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- **Obstructive pyelonephritis**
- **Sickle Cell Anemia**
  - medulla leads to sickling
  - sickling leads to medullary ischemia
- **Analgesic abuse (phenacetin\*)**
  - increased risk with combinations
  - direct toxicity and ASA-induced PG deficiency
- **Diabetes Mellitus**



## NSAIDs

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- **Multiple patterns of renal disease**
  - Acute interstitial nephritis
  - Acute tubular necrosis
    - Loss of PG vasodilation / precip ATN in the setting of volume depletion
  - Minimal change disease (rarely MG)
  - Papillary necrosis
- **Same nephrotoxicity for COX-2 inhibitors**