

Guidance notes for Primary Care

Acute Kidney Injury (AKI): Stage 3
recognise, review, respond

Adult ≥ 18 years old

Key Read Codes:

- K04. |12Hq7|C|Acute kidney injury
- K04C. |00HqU|C|Acute kidney injury stage 1
- K04D. |00HqV|C|Acute kidney injury stage 2
- K04E. |00HqW|C|Acute kidney injury stage 3

You have received a warning alert for potential AKI: patients with chronic comorbidities especially heart failure, chronic kidney disease, diabetes, or frailty, are at high risk of AKI; patients with acute severe illness may have AKI. AKI is associated with potentially avoidable morbidity and mortality.

AKI Stage 3		
Recognise →	Review/Recall patient within the specified time frame →	Respond →
<p>Increase in creatinine, either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • >3 x baseline <p>or:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • >1.5x baseline to above 354 µmol/L 	<p>Review Patient within 24 hours*</p> <p>Clinical Assessment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fluid status, i.e. for hypotension or reduction in urine output (fluid depletion); or any peripheral oedema, pulmonary oedema or pleural effusion, raised JVP (fluid excess) 2. Urine dipstick (infection, blood, protein, SG) 3. Is there any other infection as the cause of AKI - consider commencing antibiotics 4. Exclude a palpable bladder <p>Medication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop NSAIDs, ACEi/ARB, Metformin. • Stop diuretics unless fluid overloaded. • Consider suspending or reducing doses of opiates, gabapentin/pregabalin, benzodiazepines, insulin, sulfonylureas, digoxin, allopurinol, and anticoagulants (all risk accumulation). <p>This is not an exhaustive list – if uncertain seek further advice</p>	<p>Discuss all cases with the hospital</p> <p>Call Renal Registrar if any of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CKD stage 5 • Kidney transplant • Creatinine >500 µmol/L • Potassium >7 mmol/L <p>Call Urology Registrar: If strong suspicion of obstruction</p> <p>Call Medical Registrar: For all other AKI stage 3 patients</p>
<p>Also consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could this alert be a false positive? e.g. (a) from a stable dialysis / CKD stage 5 patient • Response may be inappropriate for a patient on a palliative pathway • Pregnant women with AKI should be discussed with Maternity Assessment Unit on 01865 220221 		

*To arrange a next day OOH review please phone 01865 903339. If the patient will require bloods then please refer to EMU or an acute Trust

For more Information, see Think Kidneys Primary Care guidelines: <https://www.thinkkidneys.nhs.uk/aki/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2016/10/RespondingtoAKI-Warning-Stage-Test-Results-for-Adults-in-Primary-Care.pdf>