

# Recognition of AKI, assessment of severity and planning treatment

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# Overview

- National Patient Safety Alert
- AKI alerts
- Paediatric AKI in the UK
- Guidance documents
- Take home messages



# Adding Insult to Injury

A review of the care of patients who died in hospital with a primary diagnosis of acute kidney injury (acute renal failure).

# Conclusion



- Systematic failings in AKI
- Failures in:
  - Recognition and management of AKI
  - Recognition and management of complications
  - Referral and support
- Failures in recognition of the acutely ill



# Patient Safety Alert

## Stage Three: Directive Standardising the early identification of Acute Kidney Injury

9 June 2014

Alert reference number: NHS/PSA/D/2014/010

Alert stage: Three - Directive

National patient safety data tells us that patients are dying and suffering severe harm due to a delay in detecting Acute Kidney Injury (AKI). AKI often occurs without causing any symptoms or signs and its presence frequently goes unrecognised by patients and doctors alike.

*"A patient with a complex physical and mental health background became unwell over a weekend. Despite persistent hypotension there was no record of fluid balance. Bloods were delayed until late Sunday night, indicating acute kidney injury. Acute kidney injury not recognised or commented on until mid way through the following day. Medications given to the patient over the weekend included drugs contraindicated in renal failure. The patient was admitted to ICU and on admission was unconscious/shocked. There were multiple systematic failures in the management of this patient including a life threatening delay in critical care of >12 hours and systems failure in the recognition of deteriorating patients."*

Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) is a sudden reduction in kidney function. Complex long term medical conditions, medication and intercurrent illness are often complicated by AKI. It is estimated that 1 in 5 emergency admissions into hospital are associated with AKI, prolonging inpatient care and contributing to 100,000 deaths in secondary care. National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcome and Death (NCEPOD) estimated that one quarter to one third of cases have the potential to be prevented.

A national algorithm, standardising the definition of AKI has now been agreed. This provides the ability to ensure that a timely and consistent approach to the detection and diagnosis of patients with AKI is taken across the NHS.

This algorithm has been endorsed by NHS England and it is recommended that the algorithm is implemented across the NHS. When integrated into a Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) the algorithm will identify potential cases of AKI from laboratory data in real time and produce a test result. The laboratory system will then send the test result, using existing IT connections to patient management systems.

NHS England in partnership with the UK Renal Registry has launched a National AKI Prevention Programme which will include the development of tools and interventions. A priority for the Programme is the development and adoption of e-alert systems, based on the test result, which will proactively notify clinicians when a patient has AKI, supporting implementation of AKI NICE guidance (CG169).

Although primary care is an important focus for detection and prevention of AKI, it is anticipated that AKI results will be sent to primary care in a second phase of the programme. Meanwhile Trusts are expected to discuss with primary care representatives the management of AKI test results, particularly at times when deputizing services are providing medical cover.

Further support will be provided by the National Programme as exemplar e-alerting system are developed: [www.england.nhs.uk/AKIProgramme](http://www.england.nhs.uk/AKIProgramme)

The AKI detection algorithm can be found at the following link: [www.england.nhs.uk/aki-algorithm](http://www.england.nhs.uk/aki-algorithm)

### Actions

**Who:** NHS acute trusts and foundation trusts providing pathology services

**When:** By 9 March 2015

- 1 Bring this alert to the Director of Pathology/IT with responsibility for the upgrading of LIMS systems
- 2 Work with local LIMS supplier to integrate AKI algorithm into LIMS system
- 3 Work with local LIMS supplier to ensure the test result goes to local Patient management systems and into a data message sent to a central point for national monitoring purposes
- 4 Communicate with appropriate primary care providers to ensure they seek advice if test results are received
- 5 Regularly access NHS England AKI website where additional resources and information will be provided as developed

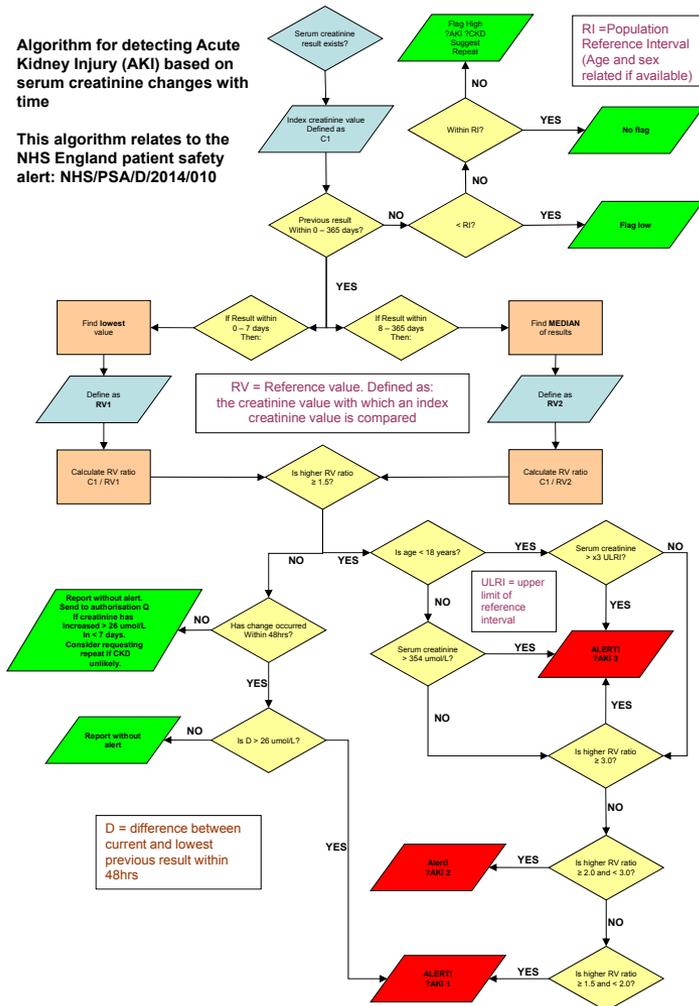
**Supporting information**  
For further information to support the implementation of this alert go to [www.england.nhs.uk/aki-algorithm](http://www.england.nhs.uk/aki-algorithm)

- Think Kidneys Campaign
- AKI Algorithm
- Electronic AKI alerts
- Patient Safety Alert
- 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015

# National AKI algorithm

Algorithm for detecting Acute Kidney Injury (AKI) based on serum creatinine changes with time

This algorithm relates to the NHS England patient safety alert: NHS/PSA/D/2014/010



- NHS England
- Standardising the early identification of AKI
- AKI 1,2,3
- Paediatrics included

# Is AKI a problem in paediatrics?

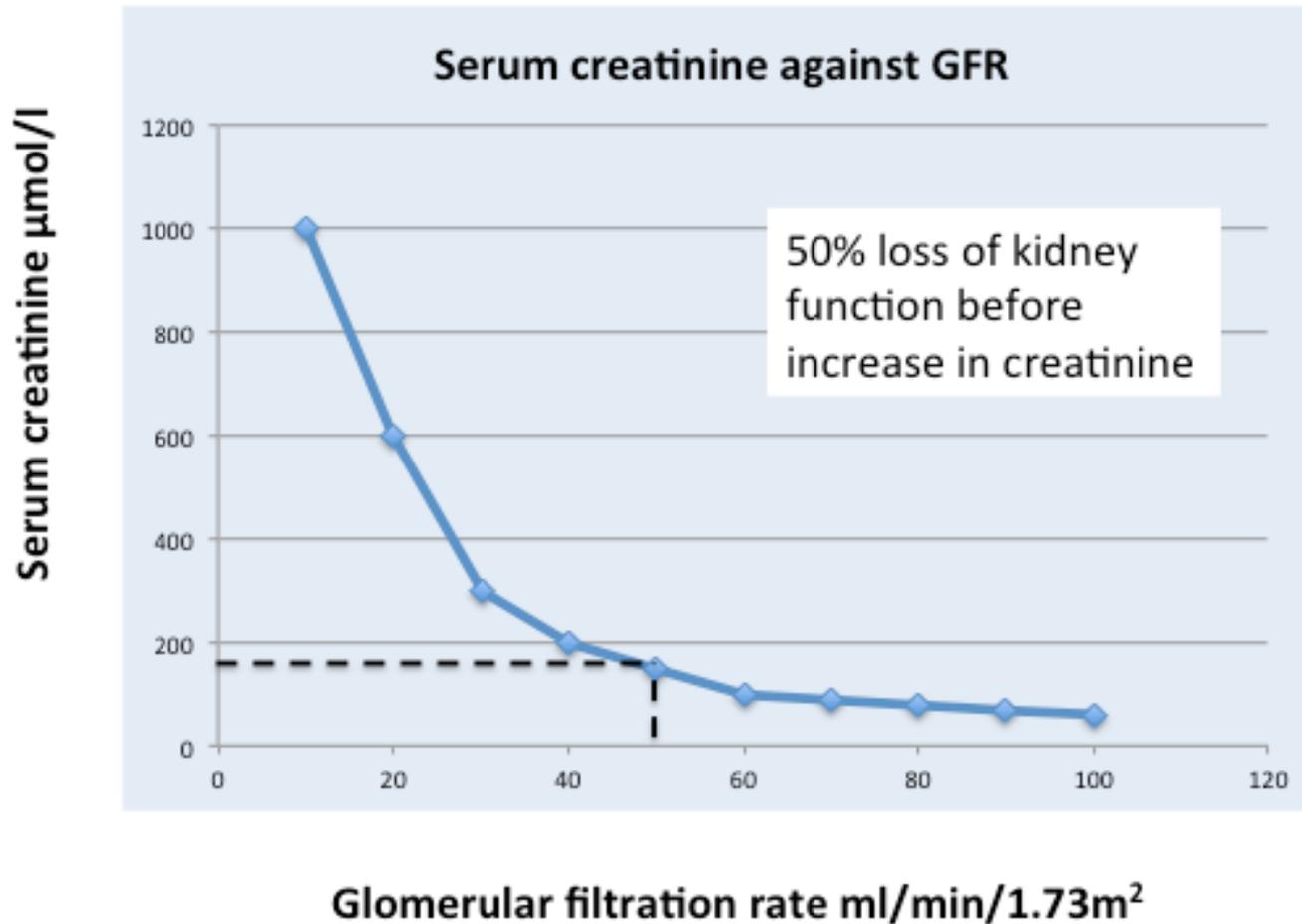
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MARCH  
2016



— KIDNEY —  
DISEASE  
& CHILDREN

**ACT EARLY  
TO PREVENT IT!**

# Creatinine is a late biomarker



# Paediatric AKI- the literature

- Depends on AKI definition used in studies
- 9-fold increase since between 1980-2005
  - *Vachvanichsanong P, Pediatrics 2006*
- PICU:
  - 25% all admissions
  - **82% AKI in critically ill children** (ventilation, inotropes)
  - 49% AKI Royal Manchester Children's Hospital
    - *McCaffrey J et al, Pediatric Nephrology 2015*

# National study of paediatric AKI

Bristol  
Evelina  
Leicester  
North-Middlesex <sup>Worcester</sup>  
Manchester



**6-months**

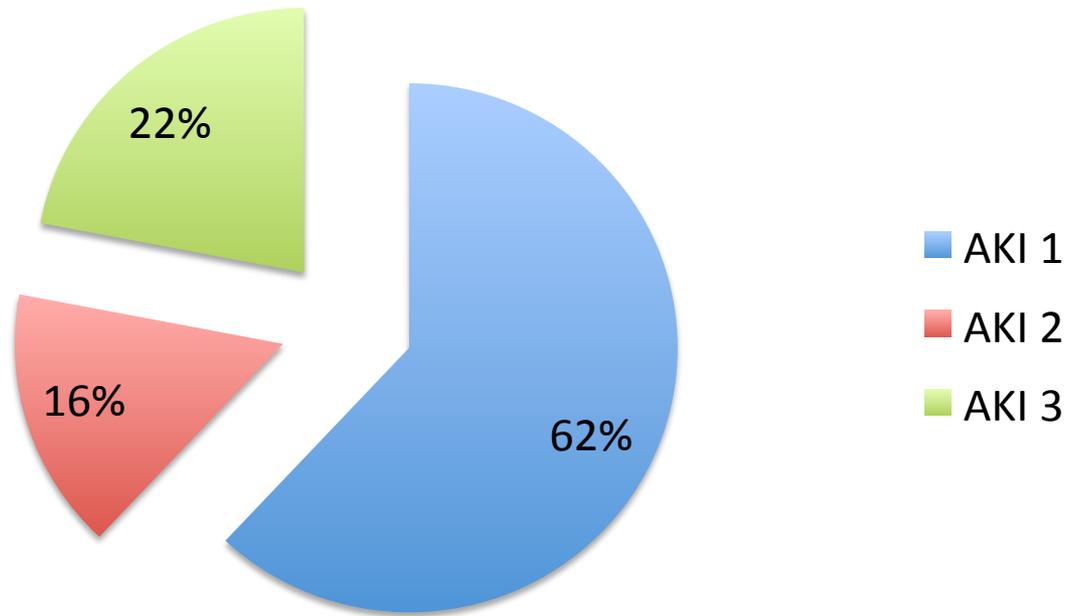
**57,278 creatinine values**

# National study of paediatric AKI

- **5325** (10.8%) AKI episodes in **1112** patients
- **27%** AKI episodes recognised
- **In 27%:**
  - **16%** daily weight
  - **33%** urinalysis,
  - **38%** renal USS,
  - **66%** nephrotoxicity considered

# National study of paediatric AKI

% AKI Stage



# Guidance for clinicians managing children at risk of, or with, acute kidney injury

Publication date May 2016

## BAPN AKI MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

AKI can be preventable: early detection and appropriate management reduces harm

### Risk assess for AKI

check serum creatinine

#### High risk groups

Nephrourological, cardiac, liver disease  
 Malignancy, bone marrow transplant  
 Dependence on others for access to fluids  
 Medication (eg., ACEI, ARB, NSAIDS, diuretics, aminoglycosides, calcineurin inhibitors)

#### High risk scenarios

History of reduced urine output  
 Sepsis  
 Hypoperfusion or dehydration  
 Nephrotoxic drug or toxin exposure  
 Renal disease or urinary tract obstruction  
 Major surgery

### Prevention: 3Ms

**MONITOR** (Early Warning Score, fluid balance, daily weight, urinalysis, serum creatinine and electrolytes)

**MAINTAIN** circulation (treat hypoperfusion adequately)

**MINIMISE** kidney insults (review, monitor and adjust medication)

### Recognise AKI

#### Serum creatinine:

> 1.5x *reference* creatinine (=previous baseline if known)  
 >1.5x age specific upper limit reference interval (ULRI)  
 (if creatinine between ULRI and 1.5x ULRI, repeat measurement)

#### Urine output:

<0.5mls/kg/hr for 8 hours

### AKI stage

**AKI 1:** Measured creatinine >1.5-2x *reference* creatinine/ULRI

**AKI 2:** Measured creatinine >2-3x *reference* creatinine/ULRI

**AKI 3:** Measured creatinine >3x *reference* creatinine/ULRI



# AKI can be preventable: early detection and appropriate management reduces harm

## Risk assess for AKI

```
graph TD; A[Risk assess for AKI] --> B[High risk groups]; A --> C[High risk scenarios];
```

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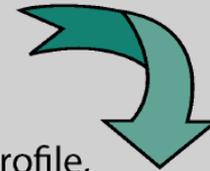
# Management of confirmed AKI: 4Ms

1. Recognise and treat the underlying cause
2. Evaluate and review according to the following cycle:



## Management

Urgent consultant review  
Initial investigations: FBC, creatinine, electrolytes, bone profile,  
bicarbonate, urine microscopy,  
urinary tract ultrasound scan (within 24 hours)



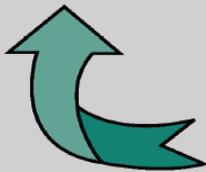
## Minimise kidney injury

Review, monitor and adjust medication  
especially aminoglycosides, calcineurin inhibitors,  
ACEi, ARB, NSAIDS, diuretics



## Maintain circulation

Treat hypoperfusion adequately



## Monitor

EWS, fluid balance, daily weight, urinalysis,  
serum creatinine and electrolytes

## Further management

**AKI 1:** If clinically relevant: C3/C4, ASOT, ANA, ANCA, anti-GBM antibodies, immunoglobulins, blood film, LDH, CK.  
**Consider discussion** with a specialist paediatrician with an interest in nephrology (SPIN) or tertiary nephrology

**AKI 2:** Investigations as for AKI 1. **Discuss** with SPIN or tertiary nephrology

**AKI 3:** Investigations as for AKI 1. **Discuss** with tertiary nephrology

## PAEDIATRIC NEPHROLOGY REFERRAL

1. AKI in a patient with CKD4 or 5 or a renal transplant
2. Early referral if AKI is associated with multisystem disease or suspected intrinsic renal disease eg. haemolytic uraemic syndrome

**Immediate referral** in any stage of AKI with the following:

Potassium >6.5mmol/l (non-haemolysed sample)

Oligoanuria and plasma sodium <125mmol/l

Pulmonary oedema or hypertension unresponsive to diuretics

Plasma urea >40mmol/l unresponsive to fluid challenge

## Follow-up

All patients who required dialysis or who have persisting proteinuria or reduced renal function at 3 months should be followed up by SPIN or tertiary nephrology

*the 4Ms were adapted with kind permission of London AKI Network*



# Do I need to do anything in my hospital?

Age Group	Male		Female	
	Lower (LLRI)	Upper (ULRI)	Lower (LLRI)	Upper (LLRI)
0 - <14days	27	81	27	81
14d - <1yr	14	34	14	34
1 - <3yr	15	31	15	31
3 - <5yr	23	37	23	37
5 - <7yr	25	42	25	42
7 - <9yr	30	48	30	48
9 - <11yr	28	57	28	57
11yr	36	64	36	64
12yr	36	67	36	67
13yr	38	76	38	74
14yr	40	83	43	75
15yr	47	98	44	79
16yr	54	99	48	81
>16yr	Adult Range		Adult Range	
	59	104	45	84

Age related references ranges for creatinine ( $\mu\text{mol/l}$ )

# Take home messages

- AKI is a common problem in paediatrics
- Respond to Safety Alerts
  - Reference ranges
- Guidance:
  - **M**onitor, **m**aintain, **m**inimise, **m**anage
- Outcome
  - Reduce the risk of chronic kidney disease

# Acknowledgements



**Karen Thomas**

**Julie Slevin**



**AKI working group**

<https://www.thinkkidneys.nhs.uk>