

# Renal update

Jasmine Tan

# Mr TP

## Poor diabetic control and progressive proteinuria

- Poor medication adherence, no meds for 3-4 years while overseas
- Needle phobia
- Previous NSAID exposure post fall
- No arthritis or new rash
- No back pain
- No recent infection
- Noticed 10 kg weight gain over 4 months

# 35 yo male

## 1. Type 2 diabetes (2013, age 26)

- GAD and IA2 antibodies negative
- Commenced on insulin 2014
- HbA1c >100 since 2013
- Proliferative diabetic retinopathy with retinal haemorrhage (2021), treated with Avastin

## 2. CKD G3a A3 with nephrotic range proteinuria

- Albuminuria since 2013
- Progression to nephrotic range proteinuria documented 2022
- Serum albumin 23 g/L
- Bland urine microscopy
- Previous AKI with gastroenteritis

- 3. Hypertension
- 4. Previous balanitis
- 5. Hyperlipidaemia
- 6. Fatty liver disease
- 7. Increased BMI
- 8. Non smoker

# Medications

Lantus 30 units mane

Metformin 500 mg twice daily

Empagliflozin 10 mg daily

Amlodipine 5 mg daily

Atorvastatin 20 mg daily

# On examination

BSLs 17 – 20 mmol/L at home

Weight 94kg

Seated automated BP 183/112 mmHg (1), 177/110 mmHg (2)

Heart rate 83 bpm and regular

Heart sounds dual, no parasternal heave

Chest clear

Significant sacral and pedal oedema



# Investigations

HbA1c 86 mmol/mol (improved from 100s)

Creatinine **177** umol/L; eGFR **42** ml/min; urine ACR **1129.3** mg/mmol

**Urine microscopy <10 X 10<sup>6</sup>/L leukocytes, <10 X 10<sup>6</sup>/L rbc, epi 4 X 10<sup>6</sup>/L**

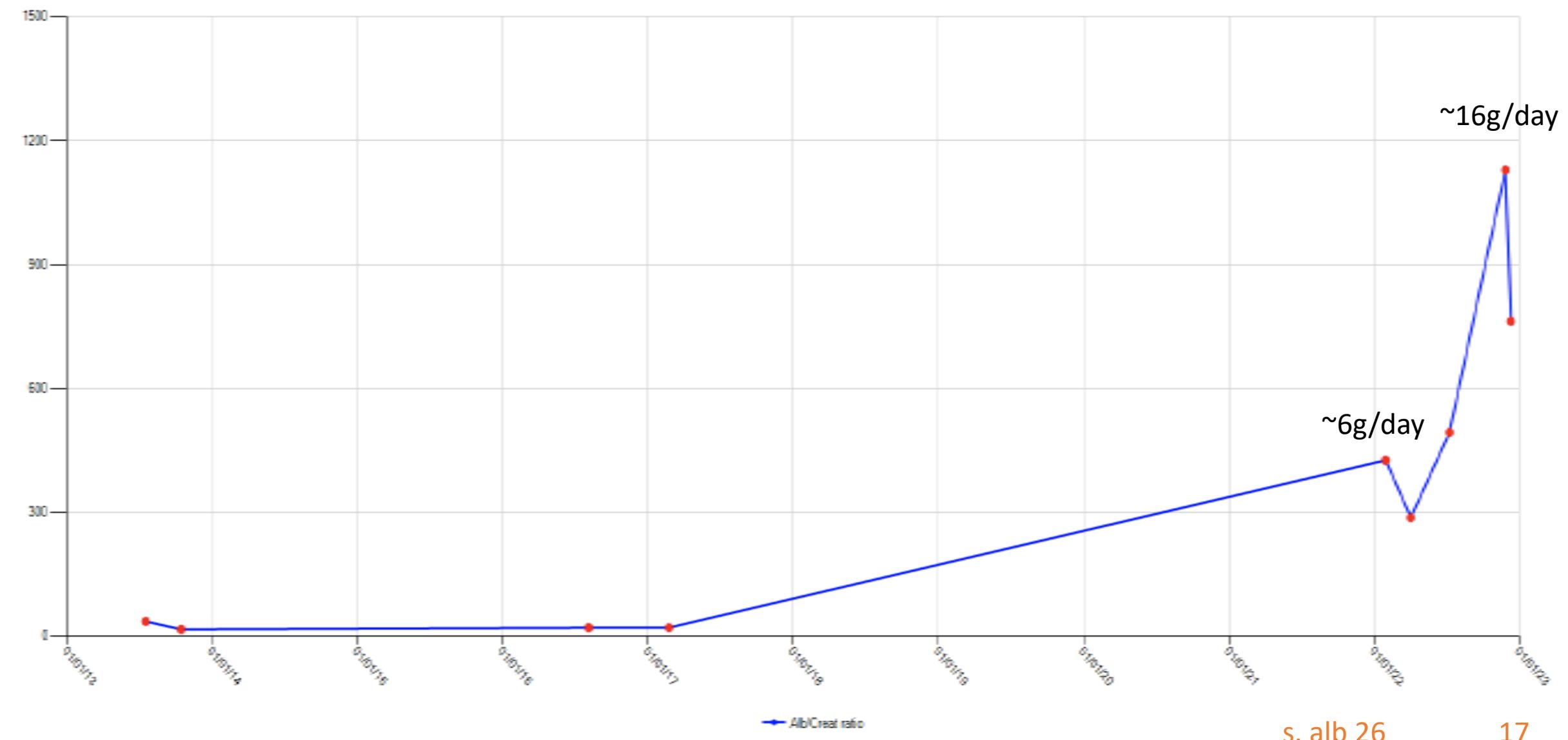
Serum albumin **17** mmol/L

Cholesterol **10.4** mmol/L; TG **3.5** mmol/L; HDL 1.34 mmol/L; LDL **7.2** mmol/L; ratio 7.8

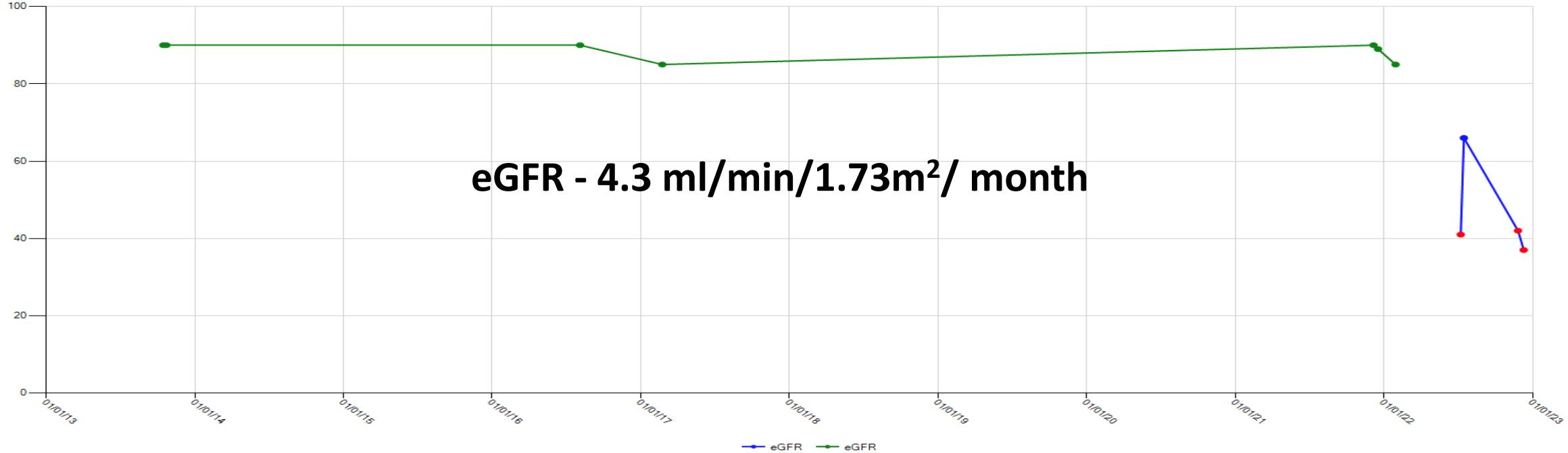
KUB ultrasound: Bilateral kidneys normal in size. Increased echogenicity in right renal upper pole, likely containing cysts.

No obstruction or nephrocalcinosis

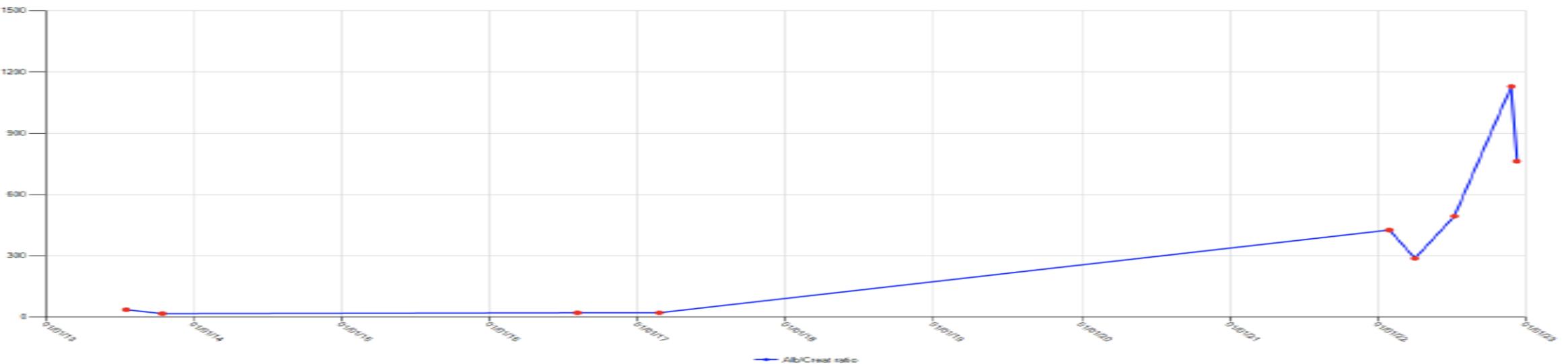
ALBUMIN CREATININE RATIO 18/07/13 10:10 - 10/12/22 08:05



RENAL FUNCTION TESTS 15/10/13 11:41 - 10/12/22 08:05

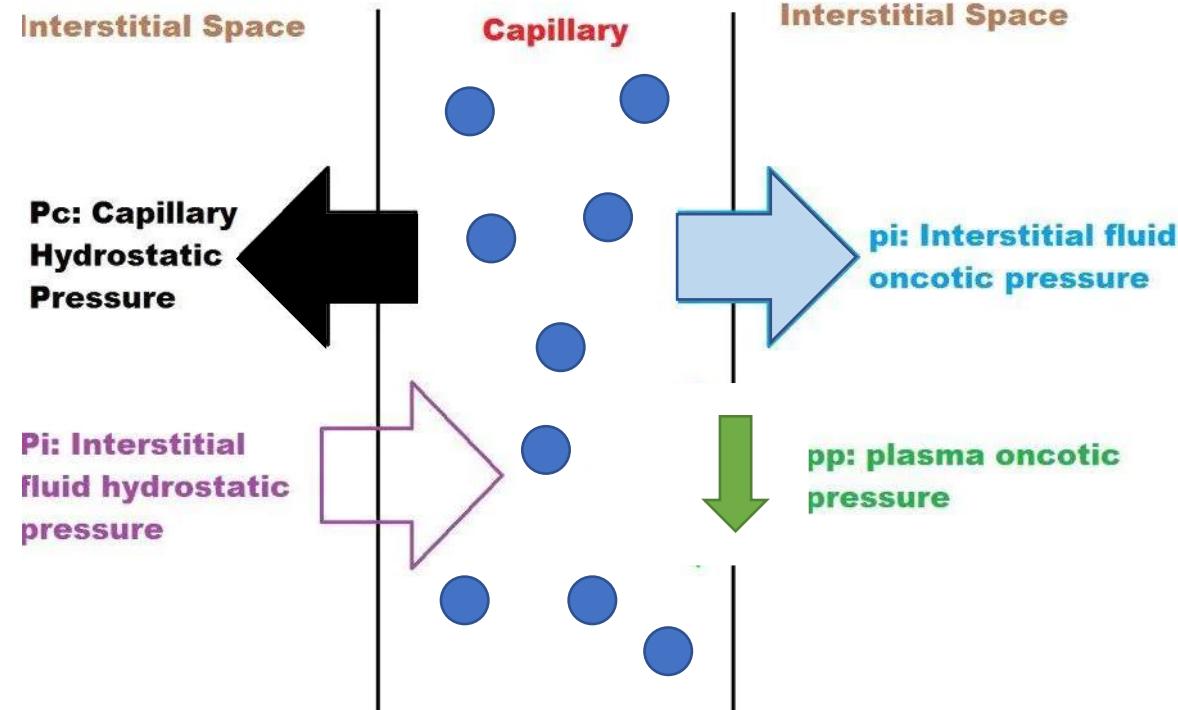
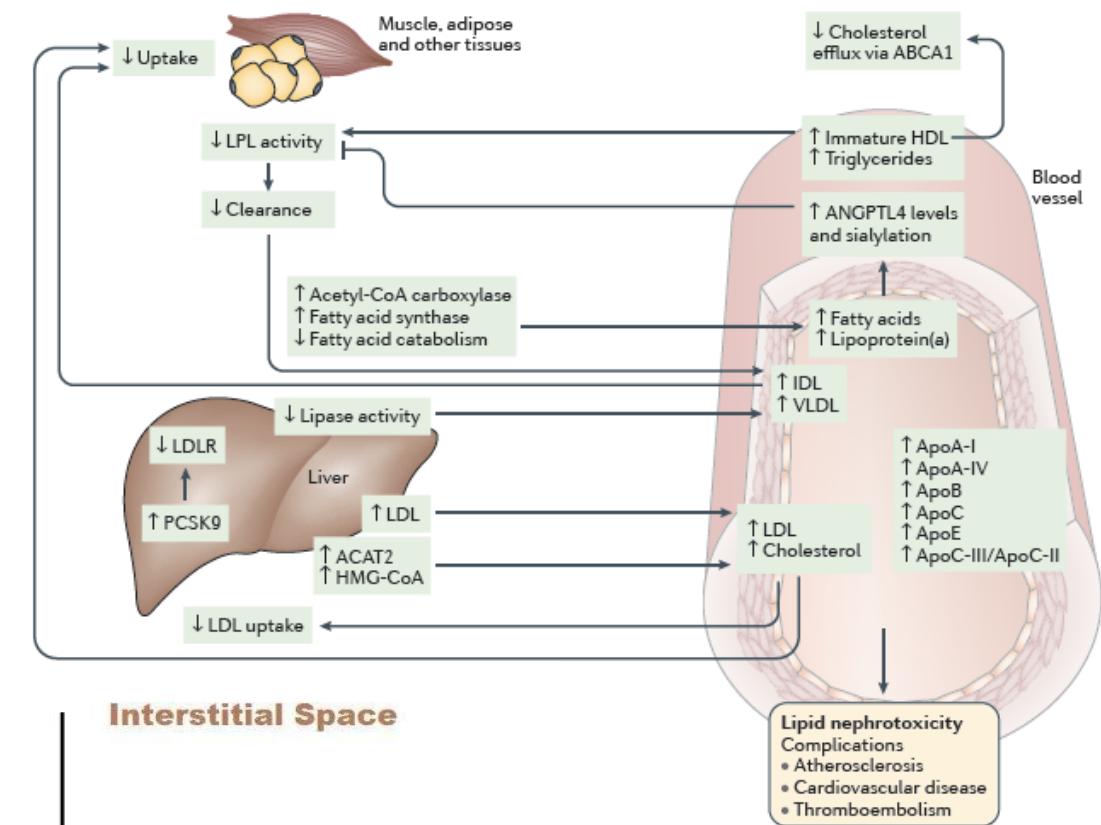
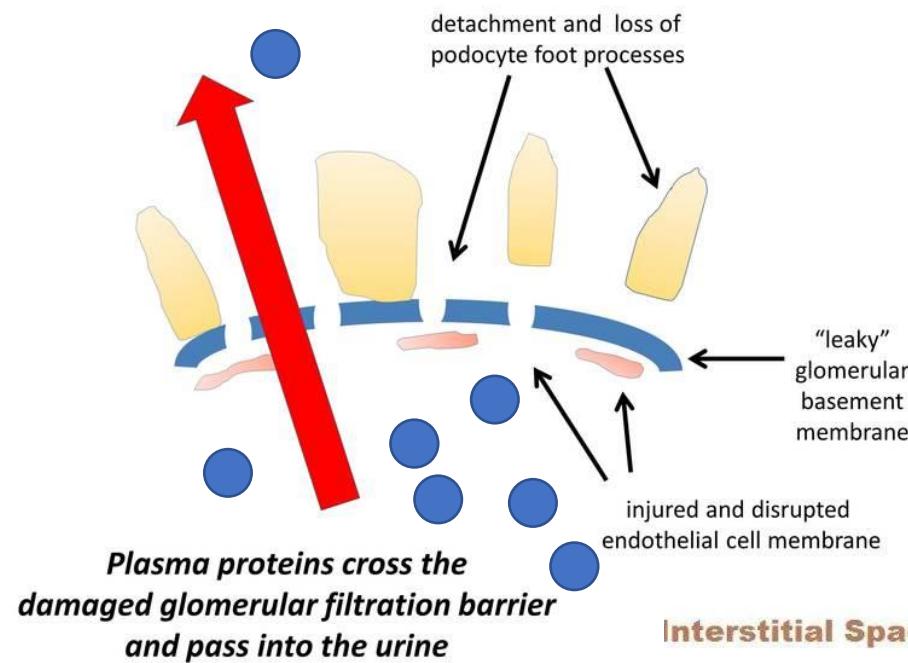


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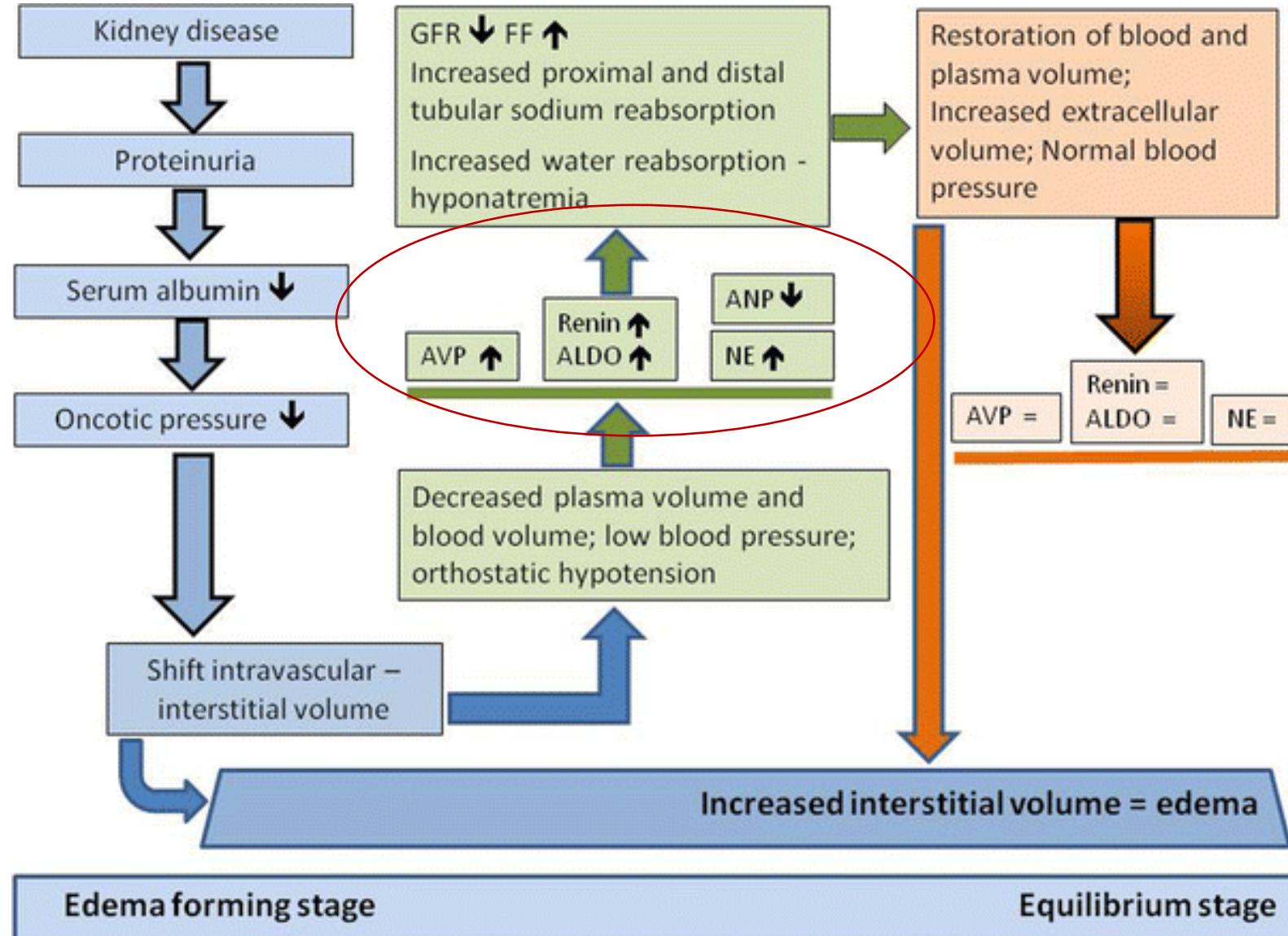


# Nephrotic syndrome

- Heavy proteinuria (>3.5 g/ 24 hours)
  - Hypoalbuminemia (< 30 g/L)
  - Peripheral oedema
  - Hyperlipidemia
- 
- Hypertension
  - Acute renal impairment
  - Increased risk of thrombotic disease



*Nature Rev Nephrology 2018; 14, 57–70.*



# What is the potential cause for nephrotic syndrome?

- A. Advanced diabetic nephropathy
- B. Focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (FSGS)
- C. Membranous nephropathy
- D. Amyloidosis
- E. Systemic lupus erythematosus

# Further investigations

- Serum free light chains - kappa **74** mg/L (3 – 19); lambda **56** mg/L (6 – 26); ratio 1.31 (0.26 – 1.65)
- Normal serum electrophoresis, serum calcium 2.22 mmol/L
- PLA2 IgG <2 (<14 negative)
- ENA negative
- Complements C3 and C4 normal
- Hep B and Hep C serologies negative
- HIV negative
- Urate 0.52 mmol/L (0.23 – 0.42)

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# Presentation, pathology and prognosis of renal disease in type 2 diabetes

Jasmine Tan,<sup>1,2</sup> L Jonathan Zwi,<sup>3</sup> John F Collins,<sup>4</sup> Mark R Marshall,<sup>5</sup> Tim Cundy<sup>1,6</sup>

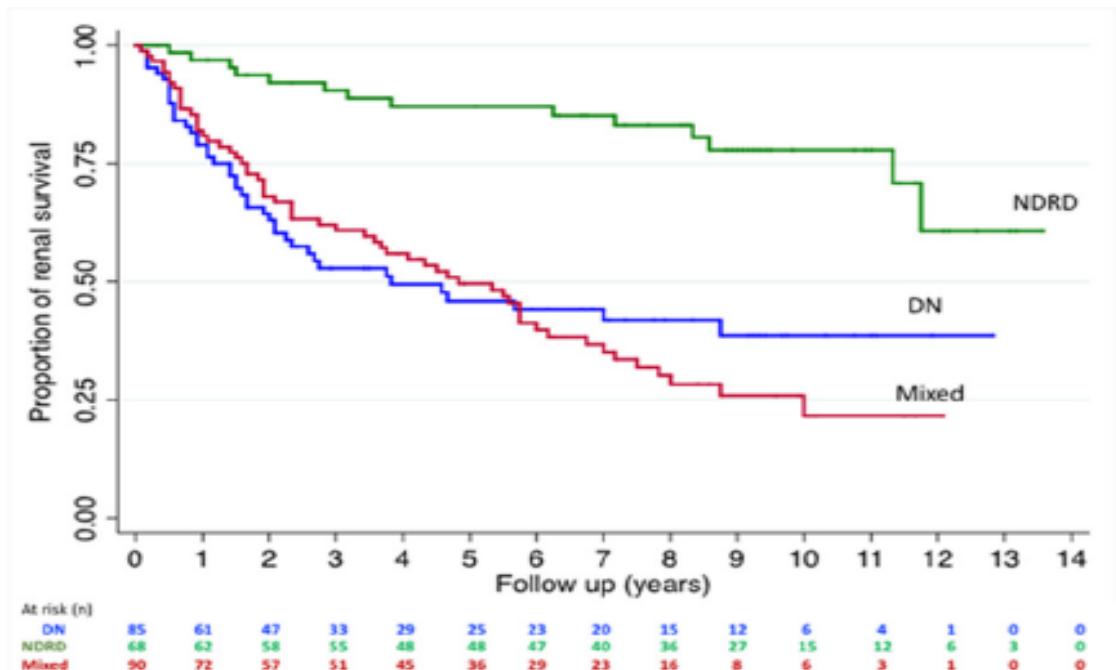
263 patients with type 2 diabetes with renal biopsies (2002 – 2008)

- AKI
- Progressive CKD or proteinuria without other microvascular complications

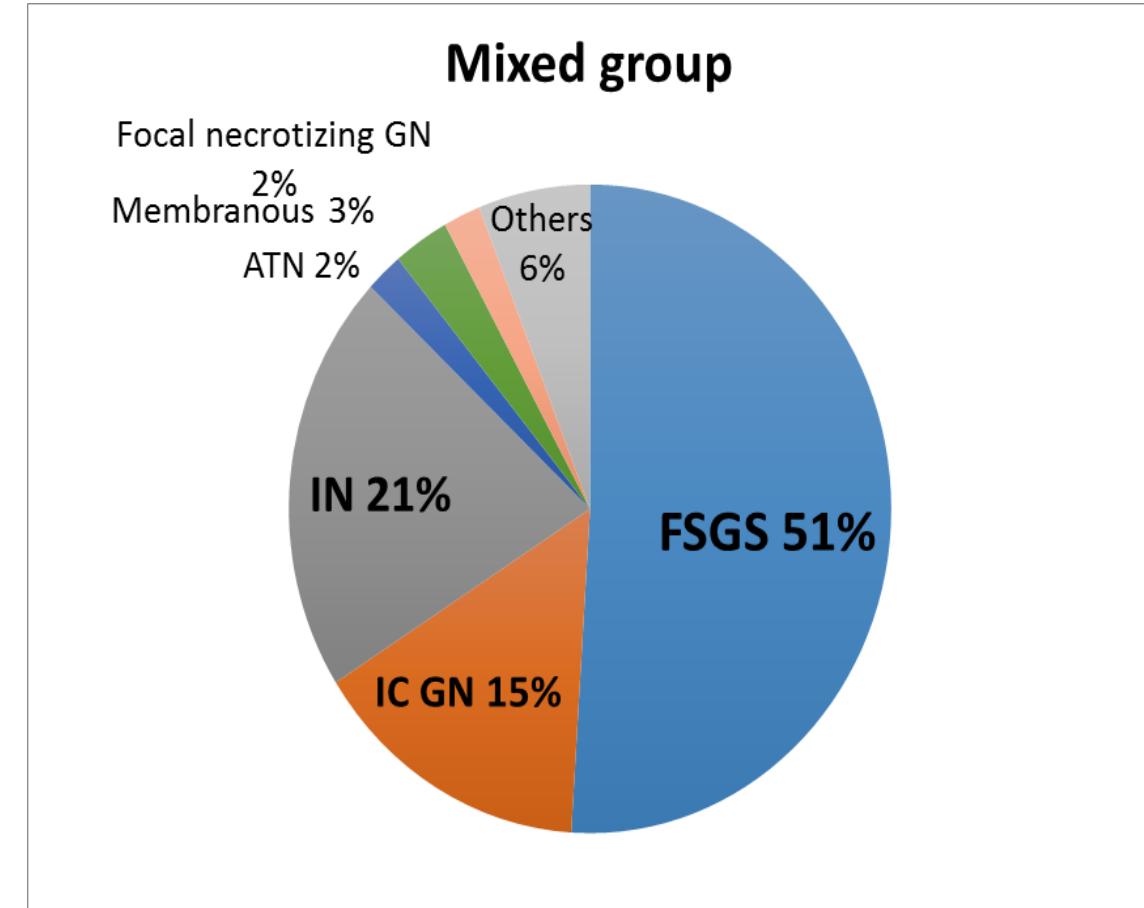
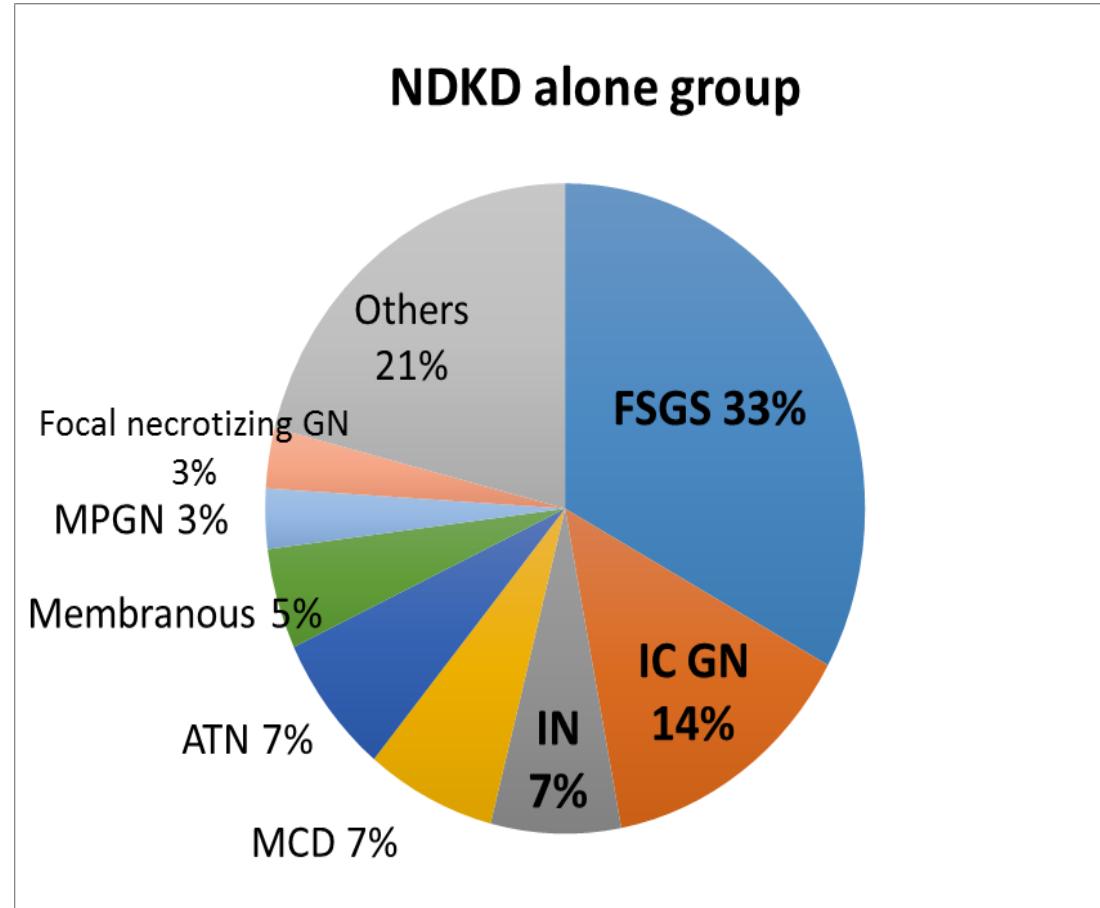
3 groups:

- Diabetic nephropathy (DN) **36%**
- Non diabetic renal disease (NDRD) **37%**
- Mixed (DN + NDRD) **27%**

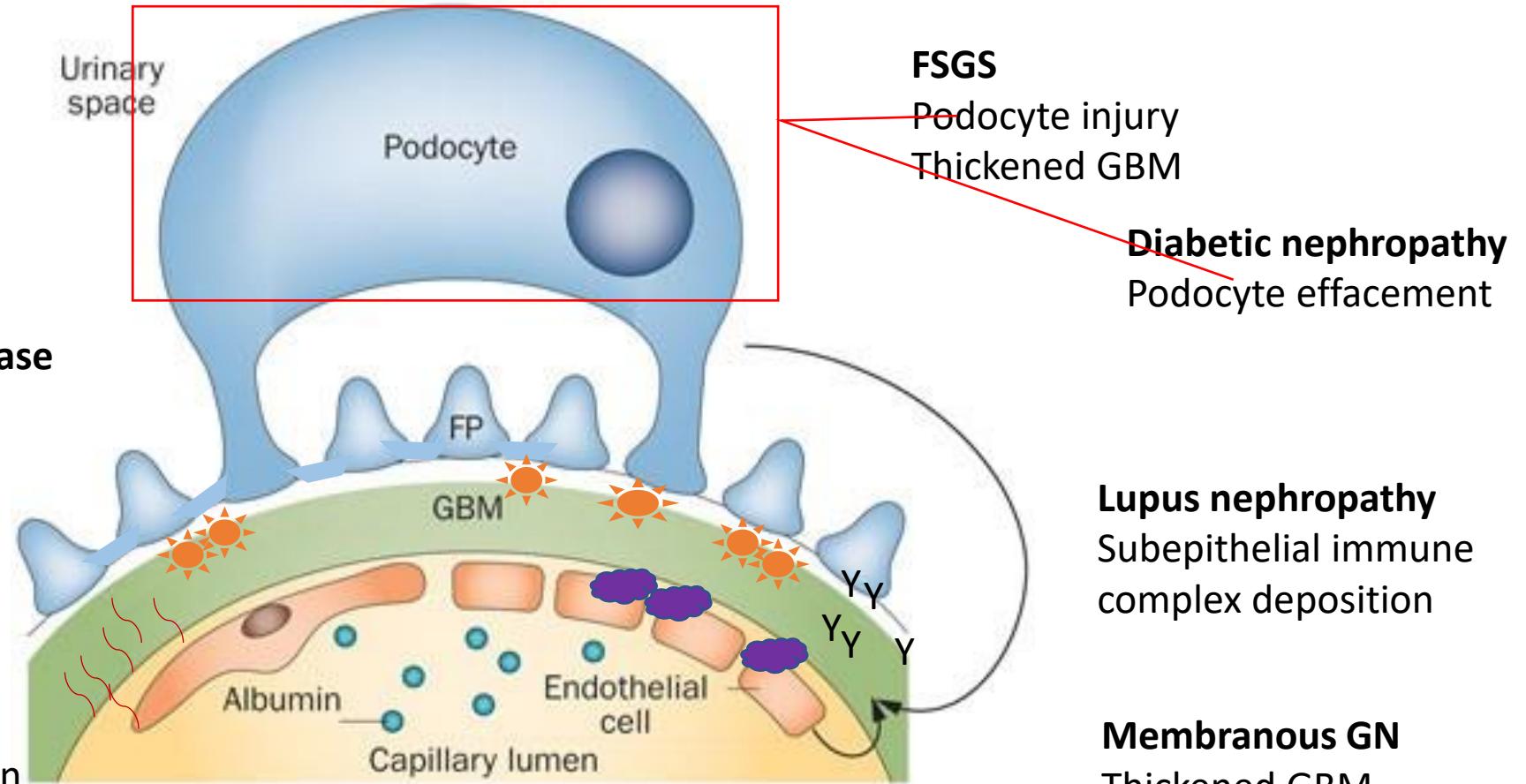
- Poorer renal prognosis compared to the NDRD group following adjustment
- Corresponded with advanced renal lesions and AKI



# High prevalence of non-diabetic renal disease in T2D



# Glomerulopathies



## Amyloidosis

Immunoglobulin deposition  
In mesangium and capillary loops

## Membranous GN

Thickened GBM  
Subepithelial deposits  
PLA2 R IgG deposition

## Lupus nephropathy

Subepithelial immune complex deposition

## Minimal change disease

Fusion of FP  
Subendothelial buff

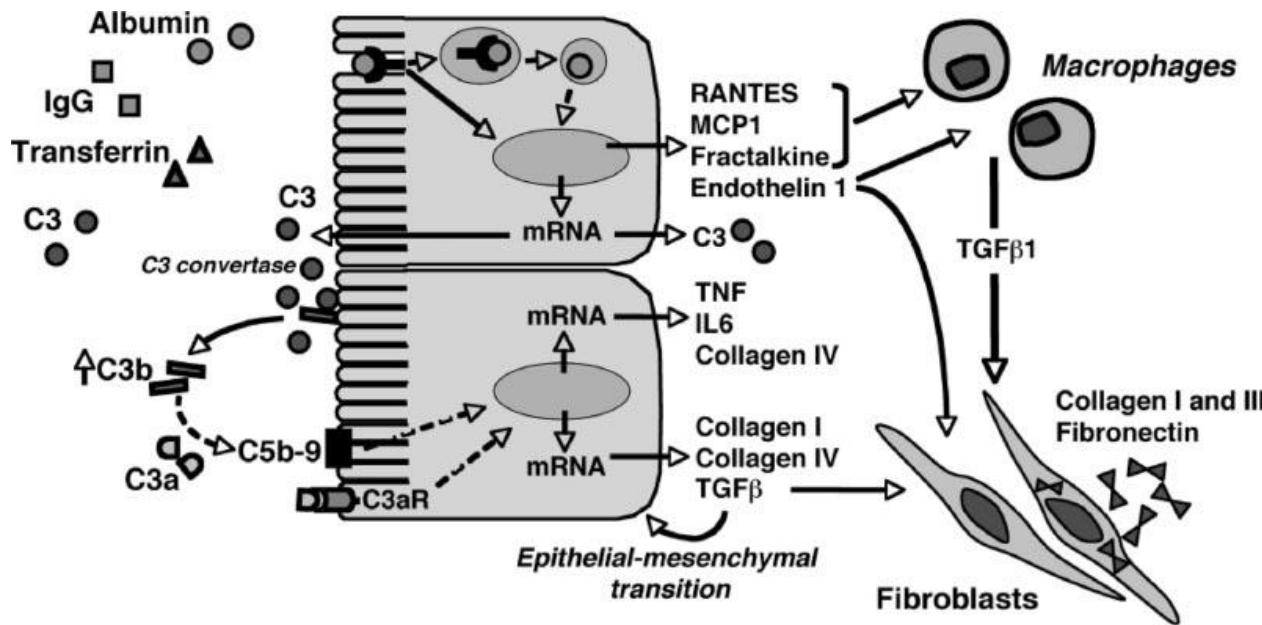
## FSGS

Podocyte injury  
Thickened GBM

## Diabetic nephropathy

Podocyte effacement

# Proteinuria nephrotoxicity

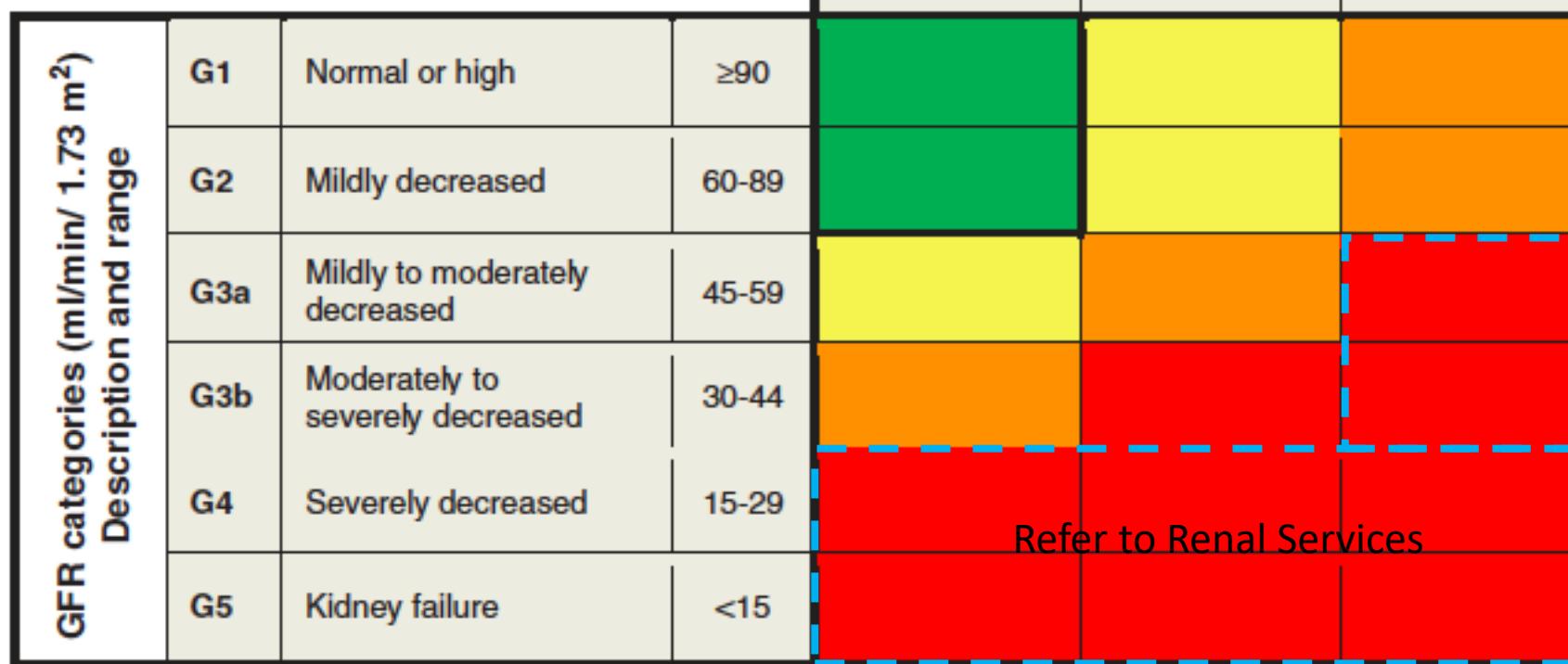


- Proteinuria – pathogenetic role in progression to ESRD and CV risk
- Activation of inflammatory and fibrogenic pathways in proximal tubules

*J Am Soc Nephrol 2006; 17: 2974–2984.*

- Albuminuria strong predictor for CKD development
- Normoalbuminuria in 24% (T1D); 36 – 50% (T2D)

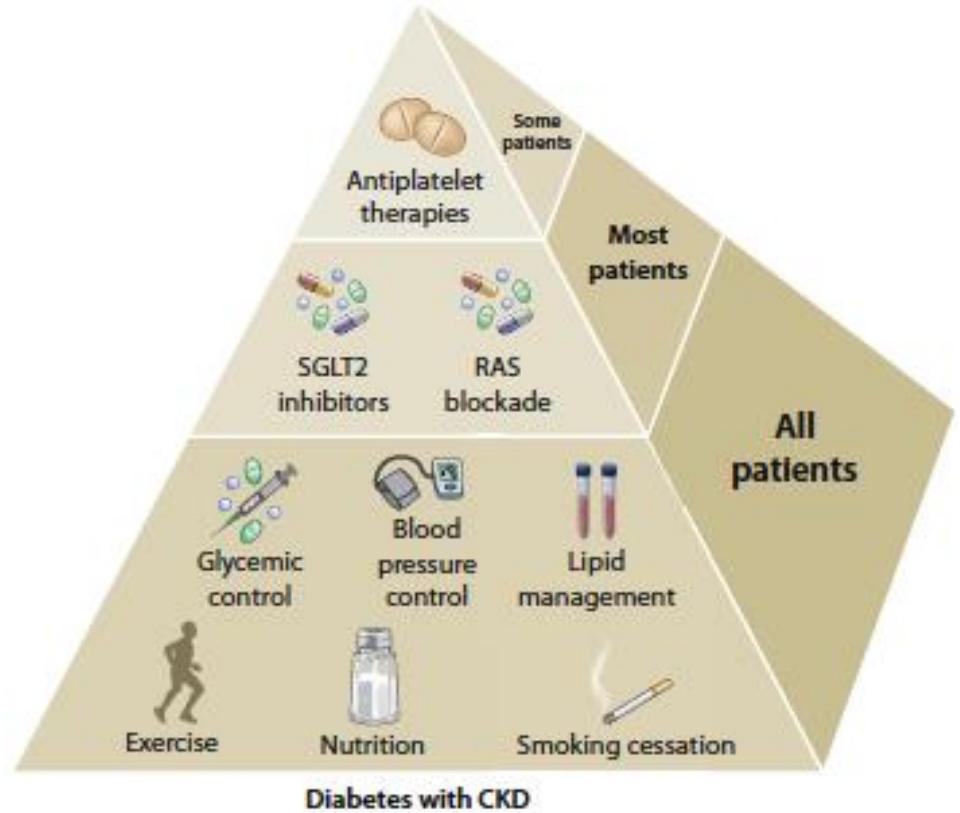
**Prognosis of CKD by GFR  
and Albuminuria Categories:  
KDIGO 2012**



Green: low risk (if no other markers of kidney disease, no CKD); Yellow: moderately increased risk; Orange: high risk; Red, very high risk.

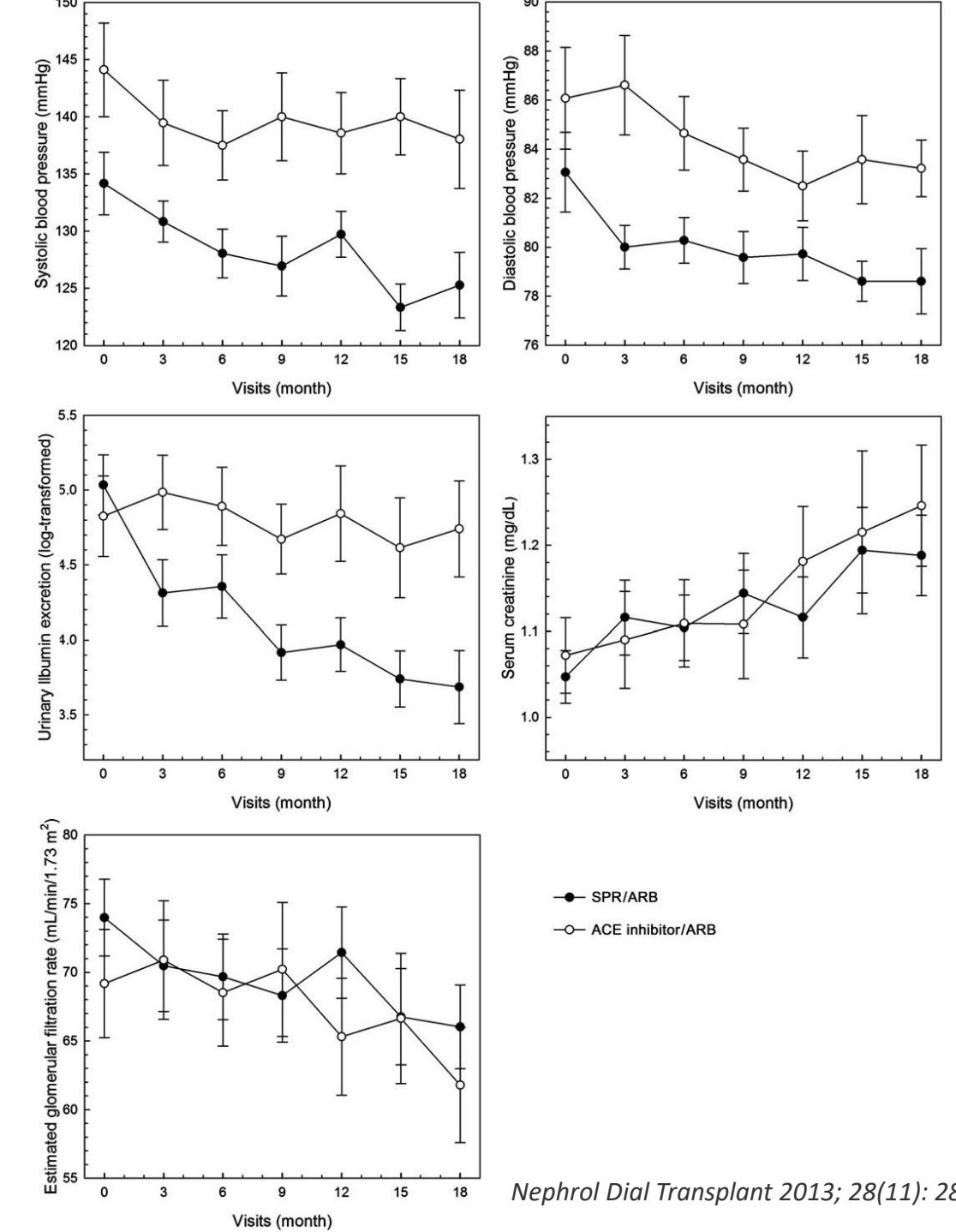
# Specific therapies in DKD

- SGLT 2 inhibitors – Empagliflozin
- RAS blockers
- Mineralocorticoid receptor blockers
- Good glycaemic control
  - *RR 67% in doubling of plasma creatinine (UKPDS)*



# Role of MRA in diabetic kidney disease

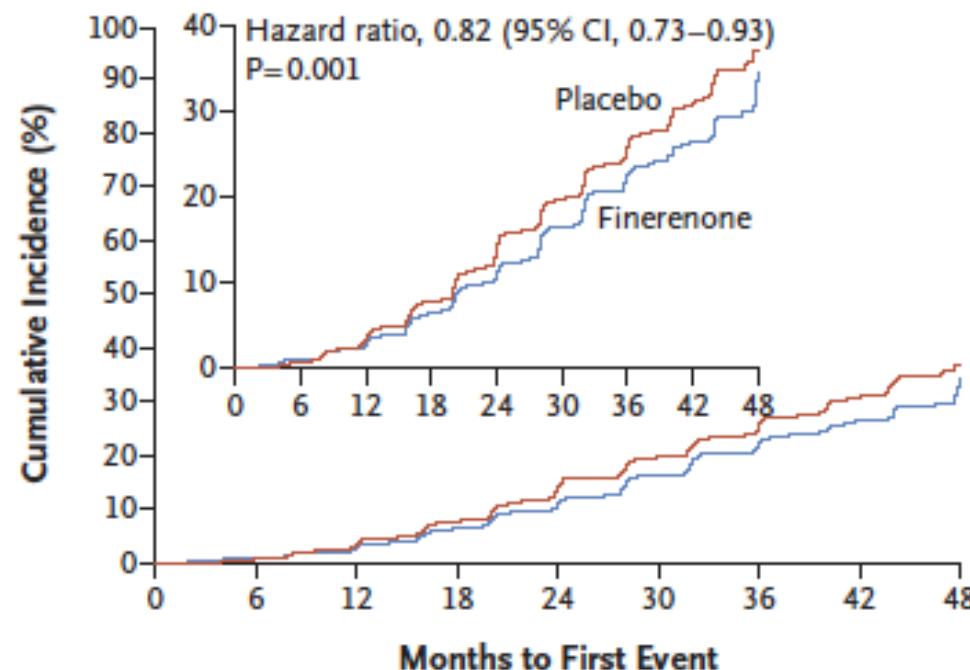
- Spironolactone (non-selective) and Eplerenone (selective)
- Finerenone (non-steroidal, selective)
- Role in downregulating proinflammatory and fibrogenic effects



- 18 months: SPR + ARB vs ACEi + ARB
- At 18 months
  - -8.9/-4.4 mmHg vs. -6.1/-2.2 mmHg
  - -60.4 mg/24 hr vs. + 22.0 mg/24 hr
  - eGFR – 10.2 ml/min vs. -9.1 ml/min
- Similar effects with eplerenone
  - SE hyperkalaemia & gynaecomastia
  - Inferred CV and renal protective benefits

# FIDELIO-DKD: Renal outcomes with Finerenone

A Primary Composite Outcome



No. at Risk

|            |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |    |
|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|----|
| Placebo    | 2841 | 2724 | 2586 | 2379 | 1758 | 1248 | 792 | 453 | 82 |
| Finerenone | 2833 | 2705 | 2607 | 2397 | 1808 | 1274 | 787 | 441 | 83 |

ESRD, sustained decrease of  $\geq 40\%$  from baseline eGFR, renal death

- Moderate – severe CKD population
- 88% macroalbuminuria
- Standard therapy
- 10 % on SGLT2/GLP1RA
- RR 31% reduction in albuminuria
- 1° outcome: Consistent across CKD subgroups
- CV death RR 14%, p=0.03
- Minimal increase in serum potassium

# Superiority of Finerenone

- Higher selectivity of MR
- Stronger anti-inflammatory and anti-fibrotic effects
- Effects distributed between heart and kidney compared with Spironolactone effect on kidney predominantly

# Back to our Mr TP: Management of NS

- Diuretics and dietary salt restriction (2g/day ~ <1 tsp/day)
  - Loop diuretics +/- thiazide
- RAS blockade & Empagliflozin
  - Reduce glomerular hyperfiltration and proteinuria
  - Possible addition of Spironolactone/Eplerenone
- Aspirin
- Statins

# Summary

- Nephrotic syndrome associated with hypertension, AKI, risk of thrombosis associated with dyslipidemia
- Urine microscopy useful to exclude glomerulonephritides
- Albuminuria increases tubulointerstitial inflammation and fibrosis
  - RAS blockers
  - Empagliflozin
  - MRA

# Questions?

- Thanks for your attention!