Acute Kidney Injury Care Pathway



Wessex Strategic Clinical Networks

Get the basics right!

1

Risk Assessment

Assess all hospital admissions for common AKI risk factors.

General factors

- Age >65
- CKD at baseline
- History of previous AKI
- Long-lie

Comorbid illnesses

- Diabetes
- Vascular disease
- Heart / liver disease
- Malignancy

Medications/ toxins

- ACE / ARBs
- NSAIDS
- Diuretics
- Contrast

Beware of Sepsis

2

Prevention

In all acutely ill and at risk patients.

- Check and document serum creatinine at baseline.
- Recheck within 12-24 hours and regularly thereafter as clinical situation dictates.
- Optimise fluid balance and monitor urine output.
- Consider urinary catheter where indicated with senior advice.
- Review all medications and stop nephrotoxins when indicated.

3

Early Intervention

When AKI is suspected or confirmed.

Continue all the above basic measures plus:

- Establish and treat the cause.
- Perform urine dipstick and send MSU.
- Obtain renal ultrasound within 24 hours unless AKI cause is obvious. Discuss cases of obstruction with urology.

Think **STOP**

Sepsis Toxicity Obstruction Parenchymal disease

Remember to record all AKI episodes on the hospital discharge summary with follow-up instructions.

4

Seek Help / Advice

Discuss all critically ill patients with local intensive care. Seek renal advice when:

- AKI is deteriorating despite basic measures.
- Suspected intrinsic renal disease.
- Baseline CKD stage 4/5 or renal transplant.

For renal advice/referral

Think Kidneys: www.thinkkidneys.nhs.uk

Acute kidney injury NICE clinical guideline 169: www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg169

Wessex Strategic Clinical Networks: www.wessexscn.nhs.uk

