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Acute kidney injury (AKI)

Acute kidney injury (AKI) is increasingly recognized as a risk factor for long term adverse events, including death, need for dialysis, cardiovascular events, and progression of chronic kidney disease. The association between AKI and these downstream adverse events is confounded by the high burden of risk factors present in patients who develop AKI. It has been argued that AKI is acting as a marker of patients with a high burden of risk factors and that subsequent adverse event is therefore an expected consequence. However, the possibility that AKI is responsible for causing those adverse effects has received less attention. While some retrospective analyses of large datasets supports an independent association between AKI and adverse events, more compelling proof is absent.

In this presentation, the types of studies necessary to provide compelling data on a causal relationship between AKI and long-term adverse events will be discussed. Small studies fulfilling the necessary criteria will be presented.

Biography

Dr. Solomon is the Patrick Professor of Medicine at the University of Vermont College of Medicine and Director of the Division of Nephrology at Fletcher Allen Health Care. He is a recognized authority on AKI and contrast-induced nephropathy (CIN). He is involved in a number of national trials for the prevention of CIN. He has published more than 150 papers and reviews for all that major Nephrology, Cardiology and Radiology journals.

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