

Renal-pulmonary Crosstalk in Patients with Chest Disease in ICU: Role of Flouroquinolones in AKI Development

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ABSTRACT

Acute kidney injury is a prevalent consequence in studied cases who have acute pulmonary insult, in many studies reported incidence rates of up to 35%. AKI and ARDS together ensure a worse prognosis, including increased death. Describing the risk factors that make AKI more common in these studied cases is necessary. Understanding these factors could aid physicians in better managing these conditions, ultimately reducing mortality. Hypertension, diabetes, high BMI, and mechanical ventilation, drugs (antimicrobials such as flouroquinolones, NSAIDs, RAAS blockers and diuretics) are significant predictors of AKI in patients with respiratory diseases. These findings underscore the importance of monitoring and managing these factors to mitigate the Occurrence of AKI in critical care settings. Antibiotic resistance is a common factor in the development of AKI. studied cases receiving antibiotics are frequently predisposed to an increased risk of AKI because of underlying medical conditions & the severity of their illness. In addition, certain medicines can have direct effects on the kidneys.

Keywords: Acute kidney injury-Acute Respiratory distress syndrome - Risk factors-Mechanical ventilation- Intensive care unit-Body Mass Index

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INTRODUCTION

In critically ill patients, the interaction between the kidneys and lungs has received a lot of attention. (1). Both organ injuries and dysfunctions are common and linked to considerable morbidity and mortality (2) Acute kidney injury is a major complication with high mortality rates in hospital and ICU units, affecting up to 20% of all hospitalized studied cases and 57% of ICU patients, with approximately 13% requiring renal replacement therapy (RRT) (3). Due to hemodynamic, neurohormonal, and inflammatory consequences, patients with acute respiratory failure or acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARF/ARDS), particularly those requiring invasive mechanical ventilation, are more likely to develop AKI. (4) A multicenter ICU study found that 44.3% of ARDS patients developed AKI within two days of ARDS onset and mechanical ventilation (5) Acute respiratory failure can lead to renal damage through several mechanisms: hypoxia can reduce renal blood flow & reduce glomerular filtration, while hypercapnia can cause renal vasoconstriction and systemic vasodilation due to high PaCO₂ levels (6) Additionally, systemic proinflammatory mediators released from injured lungs are linked with AKI (7). Although the most common consequence in studied cases with acute respiratory distress syndrome is acute kidney injury (AKI), it's crucial to describe the main risk factors for AKI in these

studied cases. Knowing these factors will help doctors better manage these diseases, which will eventually lower mortality. (8) Potential nephrotoxic drugs make up one-fourth of all prescriptions administered in hospitals. According to estimates, hospitalized patients' Medication is one of the most frequent reasons for AKI in ICU studied cases, accounting for nineteen percent to twenty-six percent of all occurrences of AKI. (9)

Acute Kidney Injury

The description of acute renal injury, formerly known as acute renal failure, as measured by glomerular filtration rate, is an abrupt & usually reversible decline in kidney function (10). Sometimes, however, blood urea nitrogen (BUN) or creatinine (Cr) values immediately following a renal insult could be within normal limits, & the only sign of AKI could be a decrease in urine output. AKI may cause salt, water, and other metabolic products to build up. Additional electrolyte problems can also be caused by AKI. In hospitalized patients in particular, AKI is a common illness that affects up to seven percent of admissions, & thirty percent of admissions in intensive care units. Numerous criteria, including RIFLE, AKIN, and KDIGO criteria, have been applied to diagnose AKI. KDIGO is the most modern and widely utilized. KDIGO describes AKI as the existence of any one of the following (table 1) (11); For classification, the criterion with the greatest impairment is

Table1: KDIGO’s criteria for acute kidney injury (12)

Stage	Rise in serum creatinine	Urine output
1	≥0.3mg/dL (26.5µmol/L) in 48h or 1.5–1.9times baseline in 7days	<0.5mL/kg/h for six to twelve hour
2	2.0–2.9times baseline in 7days	<0.5mL/kg/h for ≥twelve hour
3	≥three times baseline, or ≥ 4.0mg/dL (354µmol/L) increase in 7days or initiation of RRT or in studied cases <18years of age, reduce in estimated GFR to <35mL/min/1.73m ²	<0.3mL/kg/h for ≥twenty-four hour or Anuria ≥twelve hour

employed. When baseline Cr is unknown, a baseline GFR among seventy-five & one hundred mL/min is assumed, or an estimated baseline Cr can be determined using the Modification of Diet in Renal Disease equation. The RIFLE criteria identify three types of impairment—risk, damage, & failure—as well as two categories of long-term renal outcome. (13). (table 2) Also known as the "modified RIFLE" criteria, the AKIN criteria have been derived from the RIFLE criteria. All three systems are similarly good in

predicting in-hospital mortality, even though RIFLE and KDIGO are more sensitive than AKIN.(11).

Etiology of AKI

Numerous factors can lead to AKI, but its primary causes are higher energy demands (from cellular stress) and a focused mismatch in the delivery of nutrients & oxygen to the nephrons because of compromised microcirculation. Classifying AKI patients into 3 primary categories—pre-renal, intrinsic, & post-renal—was the foundation for diagnosis and treatment for a long time. (Figure 1)(15).

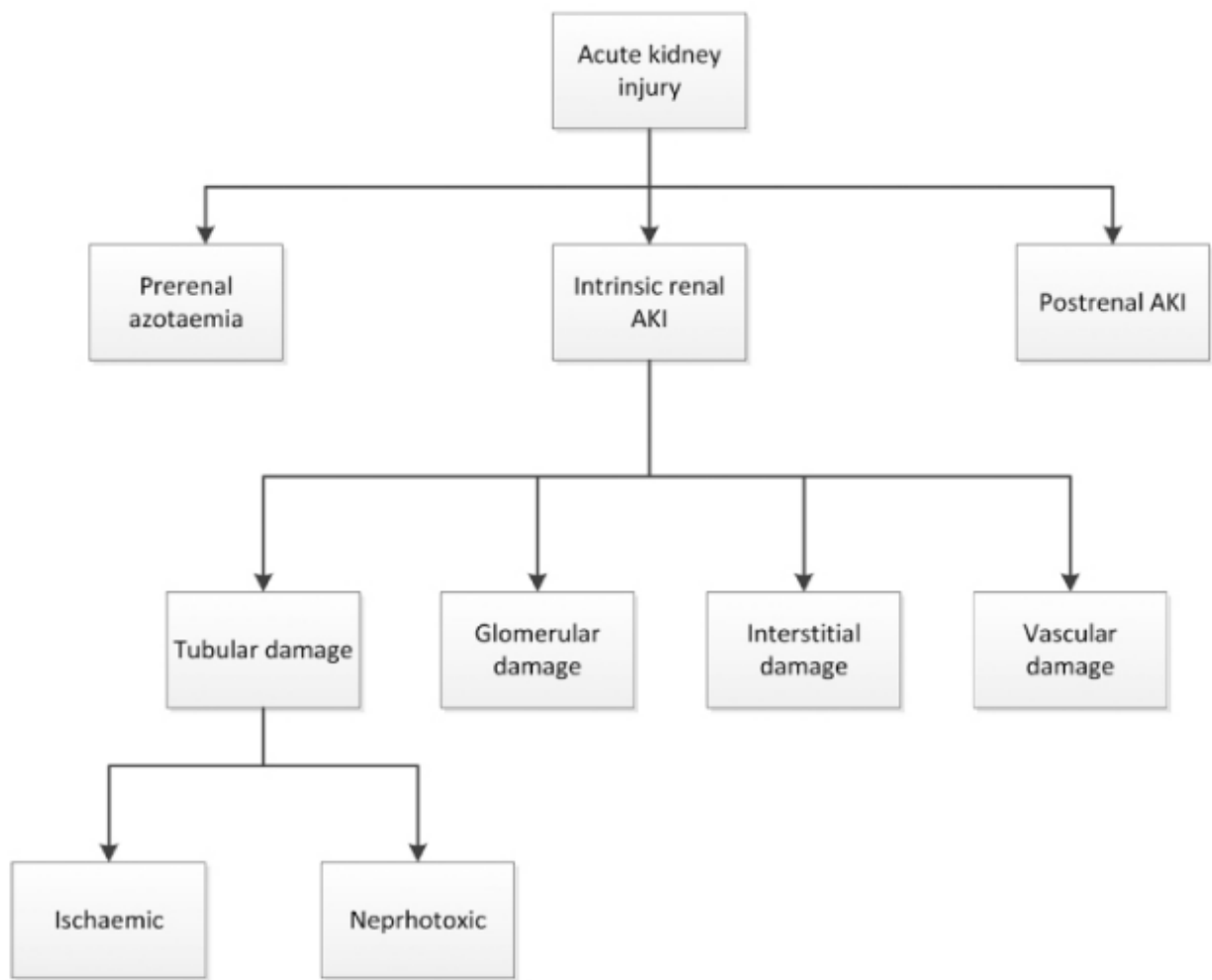


Figure1: Etiologies of acute kidney injury(16).

Table 2: RIFLE criteria(14).

Stage	Creatinine / GFR	Urine output
R (risk)	1.5-fold rise in serum creatinine / GFR decrease of twenty-five percent or more	< 0.5ml/kg/h for at least 6hours
I (njury)	2-fold rise in serum creatinine / GFR decrease of fifty percent or more	< 0.5ml/kg/h for at least 12hours
F (ailure)	3-fold rise in serum creatinine / GFR decrease of seventy-five percent or more	< 0.3ml/kg/h for at least 24hours
L (oss)	persistent renal failure (after week four)	
E (SRD)	chronic kidney disease (after month three)	

Risk factors for AKI

AKI risk factors include exposures and patient vulnerabilities. (17) (table 3).

Epidemiology

Hospitalized patients are often found to have AKI; in the US, 1% of all admissions had AKI at the time of admission. Up to sixty-seven percent of studied cases permitted to the intensive care unit experience AKI. & account for approximately 2% to 5% of acute kidney injury incidence during hospitalization.(18).

Pathogenesis

Due to its numerous etiologies and risk factors, AKI has a very complex pathophysiology. Sepsis, shock, major heart or transplant surgeries, and other diverse conditions can all lead to it. The process primarily depends on vascular, tubular, & inflammatory damage mechanisms as well as the subsequent repair processes, even though the precise mechanism is unknown. These processes can either generate progressive fibrotic alterations that contribute to chronic kidney disease or they can restore normal function.(19). Although the traditional view of the etiology of AKI is pre-renal, intrinsic, & obstructive, which is more anatomical, immunological systems are crucial for both epithelial layer repair and injury or modulation of the inflammatory response. (20). Depending on what causes the AKI, the mechanism causing it can vary. AKI is still primarily caused by renal ischemia, which can be brought on by a variety of factors like the production of enzymes, cytokines, & oxygen-free radicals; leukocyte adhesion & endothelial activation; activation of the coagulation system; & apoptosis induction. It is generally accepted that intrinsic renal failure can be caused by glomerular or tubular disorders, renal ischemia, or diminished renal perfusion from any source. The afferent and efferent arterioles, which

keep blood flow & filtration fraction constant in an 80–180 mm Hg range of mean arterial blood pressure, are responsible for the remarkably good autoregulation of renal perfusion. The renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system, the tubuloglomerular feedback mechanism via the macula densa, & the myogenic activity of the afferent arterioles are the main autoregulation mechanisms of renal blood flow.(21). The maintenance of glomerular filtration requires afferent arteriolar vasodilation in response to hypotension. Prostaglandins and nitric oxide are secreted along with activation of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system and other vasodilators. Afferent arteriolar vasoconstriction during hypertension is caused by a variation of mediators, comprising adenosine, sympathetic nerve activation, endothelin-1, angiotensinII, thromboxane A2, prostaglandin H2, leukotrienes, & efferent arteriole dilatation to stabilize RBF & GFR. The risk of acute kidney injury escalates when any cause, such as the use of Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications & angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors, inhibits these autoregulatory systems. (22). Acute kidney injury frequently manifests as hypotension brought on by bleeding, dehydration, sepsis, compromised heart function, or the use of vasoactive medications. Systemic hypotension may not necessarily be required, though, as variations in regional renal flow might lead to regional renal hypoperfusion. Normally, the kidneys receive 25% of the heart's output. The peritubular arteries & vasa recta renis, which are crucial for the reabsorptive function, are where the kidney's glomerular afferent & efferent arterioles branch. This function is highly energy-dependent; adenosine triphosphate is produced by oxidative metabolism in the cortex, while the medulla receives approximately thirty-three percent of its energy from glycolysis, making it vulnerable to ischemia. The medulla's

Table 3: Risk factors for acute kidney injury (17).

AKI Risk Factors	
advanced age	Shock
Diabetes	Sepsis
High blood pressure	Nephrotoxins
persistent renal illness	(NSAIDs, ARB, ACEi, contrast)
Heart-related conditions	Operation
persistent liver damage	elevated uric acid
Long-term obstructive lung disease	Low blood sugar
HIV infection	elevated blood sugar
Being overweight	Anemia

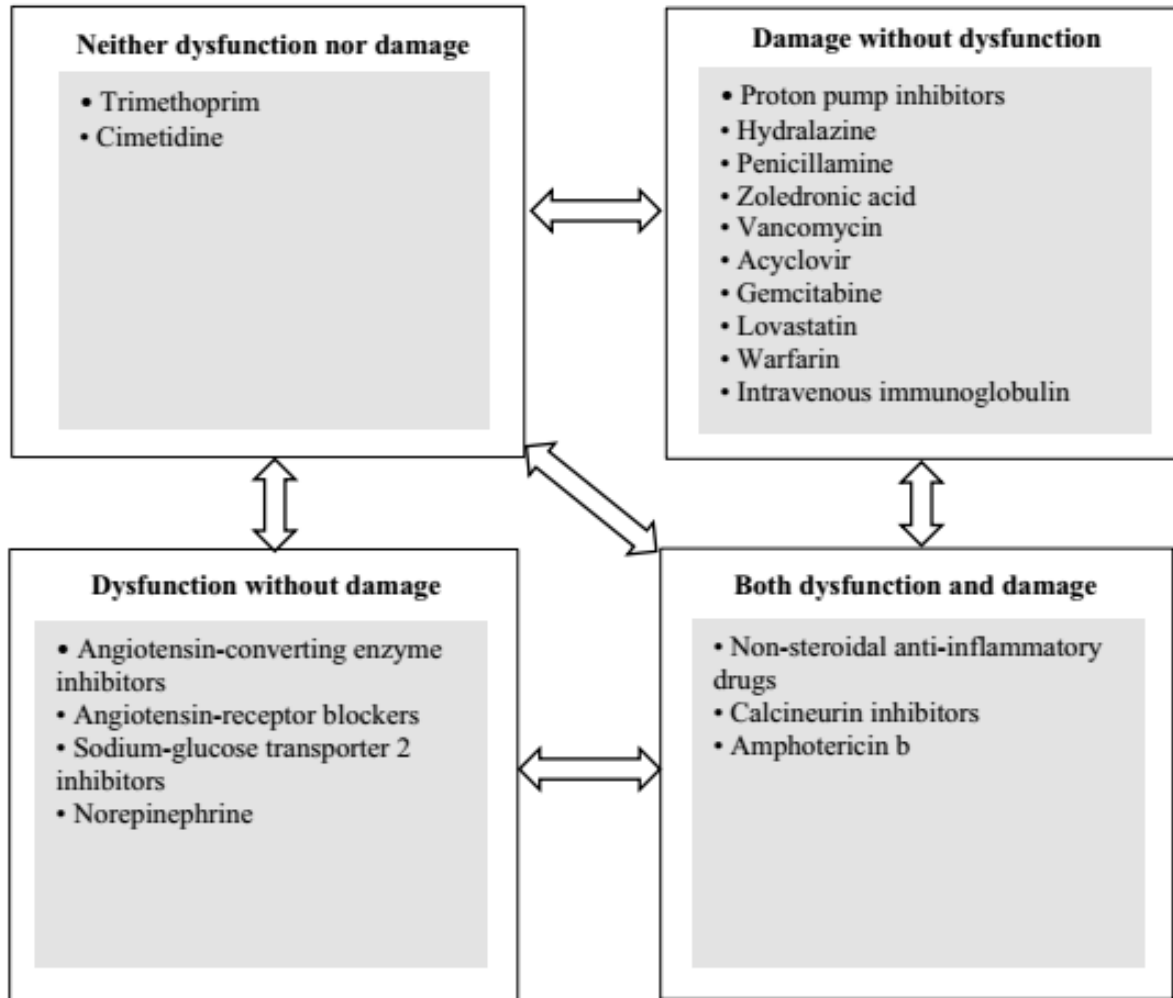


Figure 2: Drug-induced kidney injury classification scheme based on damage & functional biomarkers (31).

partial pressure of oxygen decreases from 70mm Hg in the cortex to 20mm Hg because of the tubular saltwater reabsorption function's high oxygen requirement. The medulla is hence highly susceptible to hypoxia and damage(23). The breakage of tight connections between cells caused by tubular ischemia damage or necrosis allows glomerular filtrate to flow back, significantly lowering effective GFR. Compared to the distal tubular cells, which may use glycolysis for metabolism, the proximal tubules rely on aerobic metabolism, making them more susceptible to mitochondrial malfunction. Additional hypothesized processes behind tubular damage include endothelial cell activation, endothelial enlargement, and increased adhesion molecule expression accompanied by glycocalyx denuding. Leukocyte stimulation, platelet aggregation, red cell entrapment, & activation of the coagulation cascade are other processes that result in vascular congestion & further ischemia damage. As the dying cells produce cellular debris that sloughs off into the tubules, obstructive casts form, further lowering GFR & leading to the loss of functional nephrons. Another theory about the mechanism of tubular damage is induced autophagy(21). According to the ischemia-reperfusion theory, ischemic injury causes the

epithelial cells to lose their polarity, changing where adhesion molecules and Na/K ATPase are located. This is followed by either necrosis or apoptosis, which is the final stage of cell death. The viable epithelial cells are unable to properly adhere to the basement membrane because of this change in adhesion molecule placement, and ultimately the healing process fails. Certain researchers propose that in cases of severe and protracted injury, the epithelial cell might undergo fibroblast transformation, which would then trigger fibrosis-based repair. Because fibrosis will make it harder for nutrients and oxygen to reach the tubules, tubular stress, and epithelial cell damage will increase. (24).

Clinical Feature

Individuals with AKI do not have symptoms that are unique to the illness. On the one hand, they might exhibit symptoms of the underlying illness, such as thrombotic microangiopathy, sepsis, heart failure, or systemic vasculitis. The normal course of AKI has 4stages: (I) initiation, (II) oligo-anuria, (III) polyuria, & (IV) restitution, if renal function is compromised. Stage 2 (oligo-anuria) of this dynamic process is when clinical indications of renal impairment first appear. (20). 70% of AKI patients have reduced urine production, which may lead to fluid

retention, heightened hypertension, & heart failure with pulmonary edema. The entire organism is impacted by decreased excretion of electrolytes & endogenous & exogenous waste products. Such a toxification has been referred to as uremia, and it is linked to a wide range of symptoms such as pruritus, neurological symptoms, nausea & vomiting, diarrhea, anorexia-related appetite loss, cardiac arrhythmia, and sleeplessness (25). Furthermore, the patients are more vulnerable to bleeding problems and infections. Uremia is significant since it usually means that dialysis treatment is required. Stage three (polyuria) usually marks the beginning of the recovery of renal function, but it may affect significant losses of water, salt, & potassium. The latter could cause arrhythmia in the heart. AKI becomes chronic kidney disease, or CKD, if the renal healing process takes longer than three months(26).

Drug-induced kidney disease

About twenty-five percent of all drugs administered in hospitals have the potential to be nephrotoxic(27). It is believed that 19–26% of hospitalized patients' cases of AKI are caused by DIKD.(28), with one of the most frequent reasons for AKI in ICU studied cases being medication(29). Studies have sought to incorporate temporality & the mechanism of injury into the evaluation of DIKD, and have employed a variety of the previously described classification systems. (30). Based on clinical presentation and injury mechanism, Mehta et al. (2015) proposed four phenotypes of DIKD: glomerular disease, nephrolithiasis, tubular dysfunction, & AKI. Considering conceptual frameworks about the temporal course of occurrences, DIKD had been further classified into acute (one to seven days), subacute (eight to ninety days), & chronic (> ninety days) (28). A new framework for classifying tables (2 by 2) was recently presented by a panel of experts at the twenty third ADQI conference, which took place in Rome, Italy in April 2019. **(Figure 2)** (31). As a result, the main mechanism(s) of nephrotoxicity as well as functional and damage biomarkers have been combined to categorize drugs into the following 4 groups: dysfunction with damage, dysfunction and damage combined, dysfunction without damage, & neither dysfunction nor damage(**Figure 2**) (31).

Fluoroquinolones & Nephrotoxicity

Broad-spectrum antibiotics, known as fluoroquinolones, are used to treat respiratory infections, some gram-positive bacteria, & intestinal gram-negative bacteria. But AKI is linked to some FQs, namely ciprofloxacin, & less frequently, levofloxacin & moxifloxacin (32). Given that the risk of AKI is far lower in FQs like gatifloxacin, norfloxacin, & gemifloxacin, the risk of AKI does not seem to be class-related (33) Fluoroquinolones have been linked to AKI in a nested cohort research (rate ratio 2.19, 95% CI 1.74–2.73) (33). On the other hand, 6.5 incidents increased the absolute incidence of AKI for every 10,000person-years of fluoroquinolone use. Additionally, a self-controlled case series discovered no meaningful correlation (34). The AKI from FQs usually results in AIN, but it can produce ATN when taken in excess, & in rare cases, it can cause crystalluria & granulomatous interstitial nephritis (35). Alkaline urine (pH > 6.8), concurrent use of renin-

angiotensin system blockers, & precipitation-related characteristics such as low urine volume & high medication concentrations are risk factors for developing crystalluria (36). The distal tubules are frequently where the crystals form, which obstructs urine output & causes interstitial inflammation. The crystals that have been recovered from urine samples have a stellate appearance, are birefringent under polarized light, &, according to biopsies, are needle-shaped in the tubules (37). Like other antibiotics, AIN derived from FQs is usually nonoliguric & could or could not exhibit conventional inflammatory impacts (e.g., pyuria, eosinophilia). On the other hand, anuria may result from AKI from ATN. FQs-related crystalline nephropathy frequently manifests as an abrupt rise in creatinine & oliguria without any other symptoms. Maintaining adequate hydration, avoiding alkaline urine, and utilizing FQs that are less frequently linked to AKI, like norfloxacin or moxifloxacin, are preventative approaches (32). Treatment options involve tapering down the antibiotic or using a different medication (38).

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