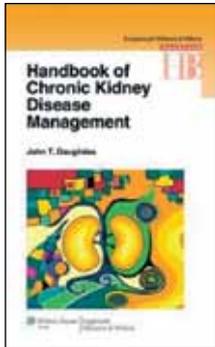


Book review



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Handbook of Chronic Kidney Disease Management

Edited by John Daugirdas

Lippincott Williams & Wilkins

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The *Handbook of Chronic Kidney Disease Management* is a much-awaited addition to my professional library. The *Handbook of Dialysis*, which is also edited by Daugirdas, has long been the most browsed and borrowed reference book I own. Released in April 2011, this handbook provides comprehensive information on the management of patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD). The focus is on the early stages of the disease rather than on the management of patients with advanced CKD requiring renal replacement therapies. As stated by Daugirdas in the preface, the interest in the field of early CKD management has grown extensively over the past decade. This is due to the realisation that identification and meticulous management of patients in the early stages of CKD may alleviate or delay the need for renal replacement therapy and improve patient survival.

The *Handbook of Chronic Kidney Disease Management* has contributions from a raft of health professionals including well-known Australian experts. The inclusion of Australian authors reflects the quantity and quality of investigation into the management of early CKD in this country.

The handbook includes 44 chapters providing comprehensive but succinct information on many facets of CKD

management. There are chapters on screening, risk factors for the development of CKD and possible treatments to mitigate their impact. There are chapters addressing CKD in children, management of CKD and pregnancy and the identification and management of CKD in the elderly. Chapters are dedicated to the management of specific chronic diseases; for example, polycystic kidney disease and the clinical manifestations of CKD including anaemia and bone disease and their treatment. Chapters addressing preparation for dialysis and pre-emptive transplant are also included. Final chapters provide a summary of relevant United States KDOQI Guidelines for CKD. One chapter also provides an overview of international guidelines with reference to the local Caring for Australasians with Renal Impairment (CARI) guidelines.

Unfortunately topics that have not been given much attention in this handbook are supportive care and advanced care planning. There is a small section on the considerations for managing the patient who does not wish to have dialysis in the chapter addressing management of CKD in the elderly. There is one chapter regarding reimbursement in the United States, which is not relevant to the Australian context.

Chapters are set out clearly and include case studies, a chapter summary and references and suggested reading is provided at the end.

The *Handbook of Chronic Kidney Disease Management* would be a valuable resource for all renal health care professionals and would make an ideal reference for general practice. Nurses with CKD patients in their portfolios including pre-dialysis, CKD and vascular access nurses and nurse practitioners should be pleased with the publication as the evidence regarding early CKD management is now pieced together in the one place – *The Handbook of Kidney Disease Management*.