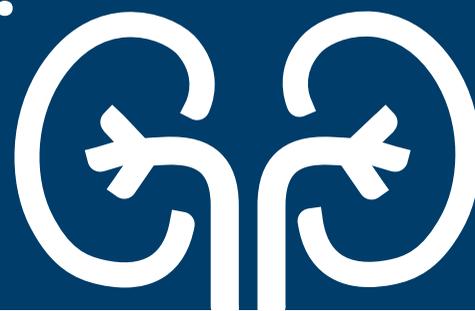
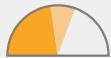


# Chronic Kidney Disease: Understanding the Five Stages



**Your kidneys filter toxins.** They lose filtering power at each stage. Your Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR) tells your doctor how much kidney function you have and factors into your treatment plan.

STAGES OF CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE		GFR*	% OF KIDNEY FUNCTION
STAGE 1	Kidney damage with <b>normal</b> kidney function	90 or higher	 ≥90%
STAGE 2	Kidney damage with <b>mild loss</b> of kidney function	89 to 60	 60%–89%
STAGE 3A	<b>Mild to moderate</b> loss of kidney function	59 to 45	 45%–59%
STAGE 3B	<b>Mild to severe</b> loss of kidney function	44 to 30	 30%–44%
STAGE 4	<b>Severe</b> loss of kidney function	29 to 15	 15%–29%
STAGE 5	Kidney <b>failure</b>	Less than 15	 <15%

\* Your GFR number tells you how much kidney function you have. As kidney disease gets worse, the GFR number goes down.

This content is for informational purposes only and is not a substitute for medical advice or treatment. Consult your physician regarding your specific diagnosis, treatment, diet and health questions. If you are experiencing an urgent medical condition, call 9-1-1.

## HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT AT EACH STAGE

STAGE 1	Your kidneys are still filtering toxins but you may be losing protein. Your doctor will want to control your blood pressure and blood sugar to decrease any protein loss.
STAGE 2	Your kidneys have begun to lose filtering power. Your doctor will continue to closely monitor and provide recommendations to delay further damage.
STAGE 3	This stage is broken into 2 classifications based on the filtering power of your kidneys. Your doctor will provide kidney education class options in your community.
STAGE 4	<p>Your doctor will continue to work with you and your other physicians to protect your remaining kidney function. Your doctor may refer you to a blood specialist, called a hematologist, if your blood counts are low. Your doctor will discuss kidney replacement therapy options including kidney transplant, peritoneal dialysis, home hemodialysis, and in-center hemodialysis.</p> <p> If you are interested in getting on the kidney transplant waitlist, your doctor will refer you to a transplant center.</p> <p> If you choose to pursue peritoneal dialysis (PD), your doctor will refer you to a surgeon for PD catheter placement.</p> <p> If you choose to pursue hemodialysis, your doctor will refer you to a surgeon for arteriovenous access placement.</p>
STAGE 5	When your filtering power drops below 15%, you may require kidney replacement therapy. Your doctor will follow your labs and blood levels very carefully. Your body will often tell you when it is time to start dialysis. You also have the option for conservative management if you choose not to undergo dialysis.

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