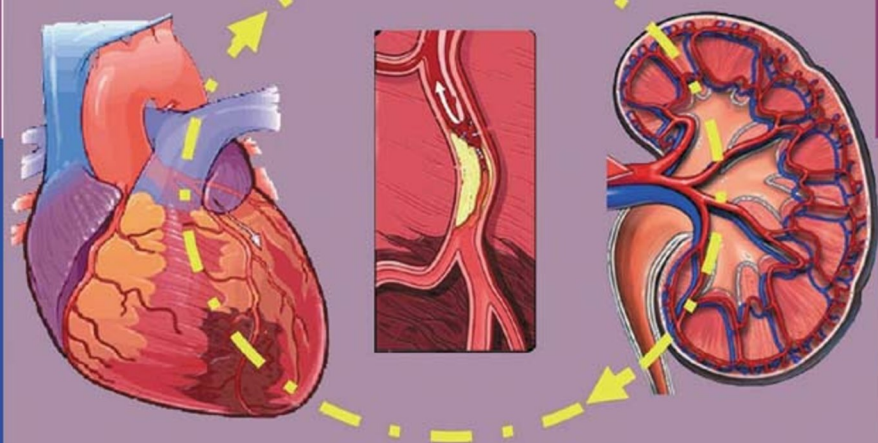


Adel E. Barbari
Giuseppe Mancia
Editors

Cardiorenal Syndrome



Mechanisms,
Risk and Treatment

 Springer

Cardiorenal Syndrome

Adel E. Berbari · Giuseppe Mancina (Eds.)

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**Mechanisms,
Risk and Treatment**

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Preface

It has long been known that a close relationship exists between chronic kidney disease (CKD) and cardiovascular disease (CVD), which has led to the adoption of the terminology “cardiorenal syndrome”. In recent years, the relationship between CKD and CVD has been shown to be even closer because of the demonstration that renal function acts as a sensor of global (or total) CVD risk. It is thus now well documented that from the initial to the advanced stages of renal disease, the cardiovascular system is involved. Primary disorders of CKD are associated with an enhanced progression of CVD, even when renal function is only mildly impaired. A significant number of patients with CKD die of CVD complications before they progress to end-stage renal failure. This excessive CVD risk is attributed to a high burden of both conventional and kidney (uremia)-related factors as well as to a wide spectrum of clinicopathologic entities. Conversely, primary CV disorders can initiate and perpetuate functional renal impairment and progressive CKD. Overall, the presence of renal dysfunction is an ominous sign of poor outcome in patients who develop ischaemic syndromes or undergo any type of surgical intervention.

Although a large number of clinical studies and reviews has addressed the cardiorenal syndrome, the editors deemed it appropriate to provide readers with a book that comprehensively addresses all the complex interactive aspects of the cardiorenal relationship, i.e. from pathophysiology to epidemiology, diagnosis and treatment. We believe that understanding the mechanisms linking CKD and CVD is essential also to have more clear perspectives on the future therapeutic approaches to this deadly association.

We express our deep gratitude and warm appreciation to the experts who kindly contributed to the various chapters of this book.

Beirut-Milan, June 2010

Adel E. Berbari
Giuseppe Mancia

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