

# **Renal Complications in Sarcoma**

**an emerging role for  
"Pediatric Onco-Nephrology"**

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## CASE

A 10-year-old girl diagnosed with Ewing sarcoma of the right femur has been undergoing multi-agent chemotherapy, including cisplatin, vincristine, doxorubicin, and ifosfamide, now on her 4th cycle. She initially presented with localized bone pain and swelling; a biopsy confirmed Ewing sarcoma. The patient has tolerated treatment relatively well but has recently developed increasing fatigue, muscle cramps, and mild nausea.

**She has no history of recent infections or other comorbidities. Her physical exam is notable for mild pallor and mild tenderness at the tumor site. Limb function is preserved with no neurological deficits. Volume status appears normal.**



**Laboratory data:**

**Scr: 1.2 mg/dL (baseline 0.5)**

**Bun: 35 mg/dL**

**Na<sup>+</sup>: 140 mEq/L**

**K<sup>+</sup>: 3.1 mEq/L**

**Mg<sup>2+</sup>: 1.2 mg/dL**

**PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>: 2.0 mg/dL**

**Cl<sup>-</sup>: 112 mEq/L**

**Uric acid: 4.5 mg/dL**

**pH: 7.31**

**PaCO<sub>2</sub>: 30 mmHg**

**HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>: 18 mEq/L**

**Urine sediment: no dysmorphic RBC or casts**

**Urine output: 1.2 mL/kg/hr**

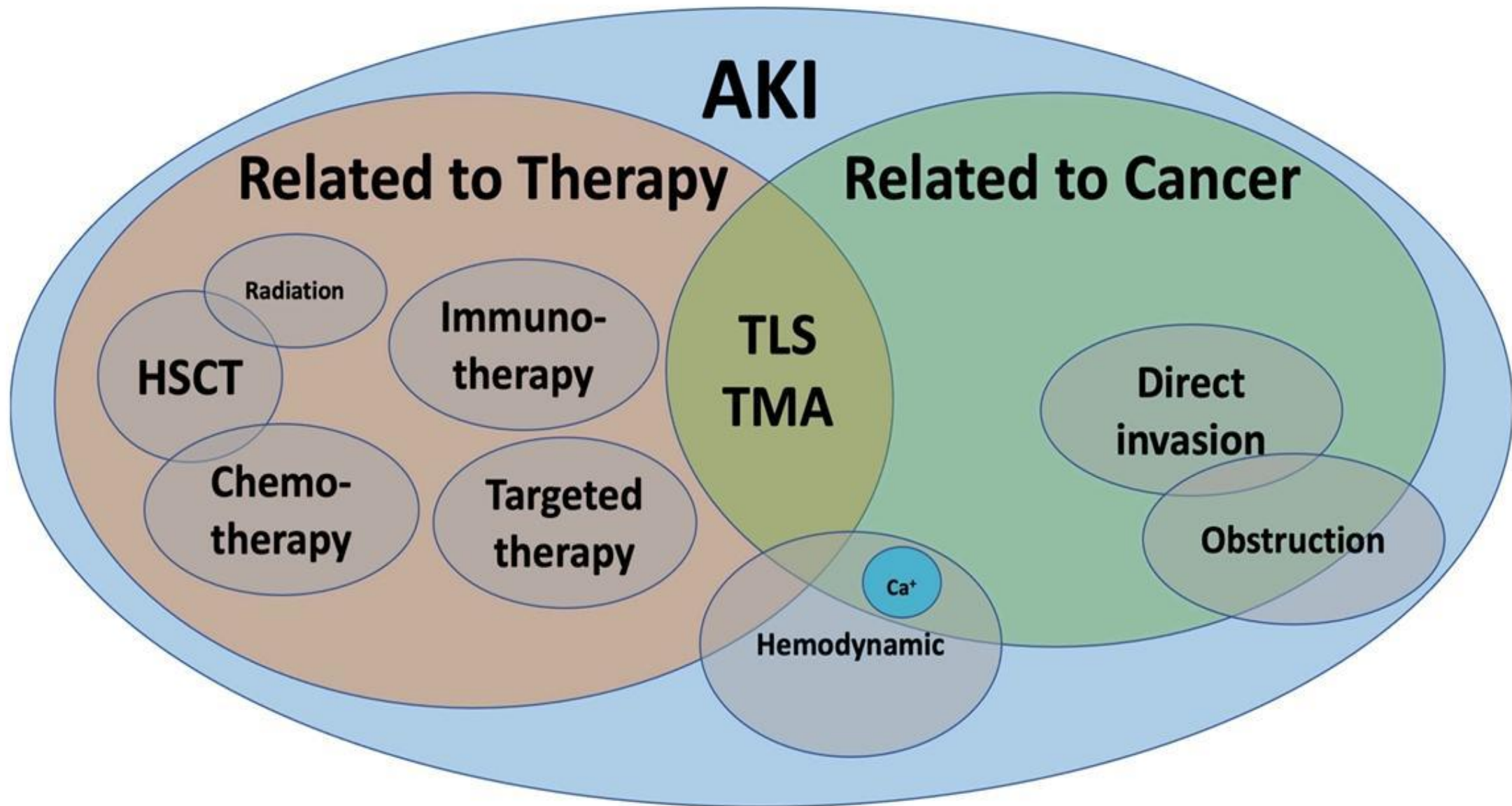


**Question:**

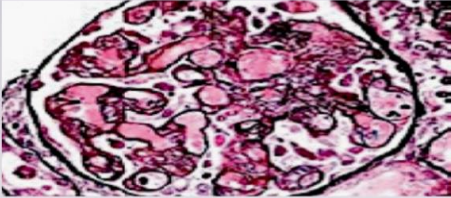
**Which diagnosis best explains this patient's acute kidney injury and biochemical abnormalities?**

- A) Cisplatin-induced nephrotoxicity**
- B) Tumor lysis syndrome (TLS)**
- C) Thrombotic microangiopathy (TMA)**
- D) Ifosfamide-induced nephrotoxicity**



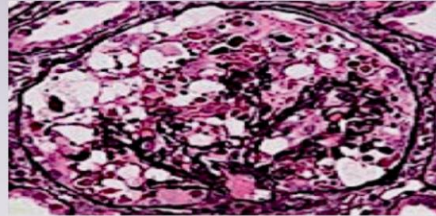


### Thrombotic microangiopathy



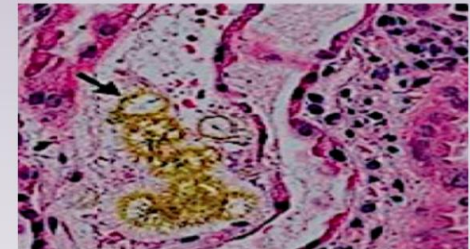
- Mitomycin C
- Gemcitabine
- Antiangiogenesis drugs

### Focal segmental glomerulosclerosis



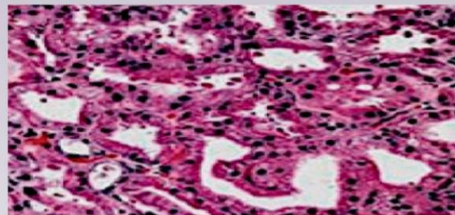
- Pamidronate
- Interferon
- Antiangiogenesis drugs

### Crystalline nephropathy



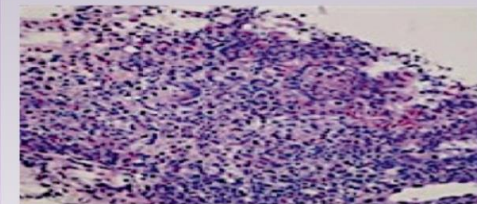
- Dysproteinemia-related
- Drug-induced
- Metabolic

### Acute tubular injury

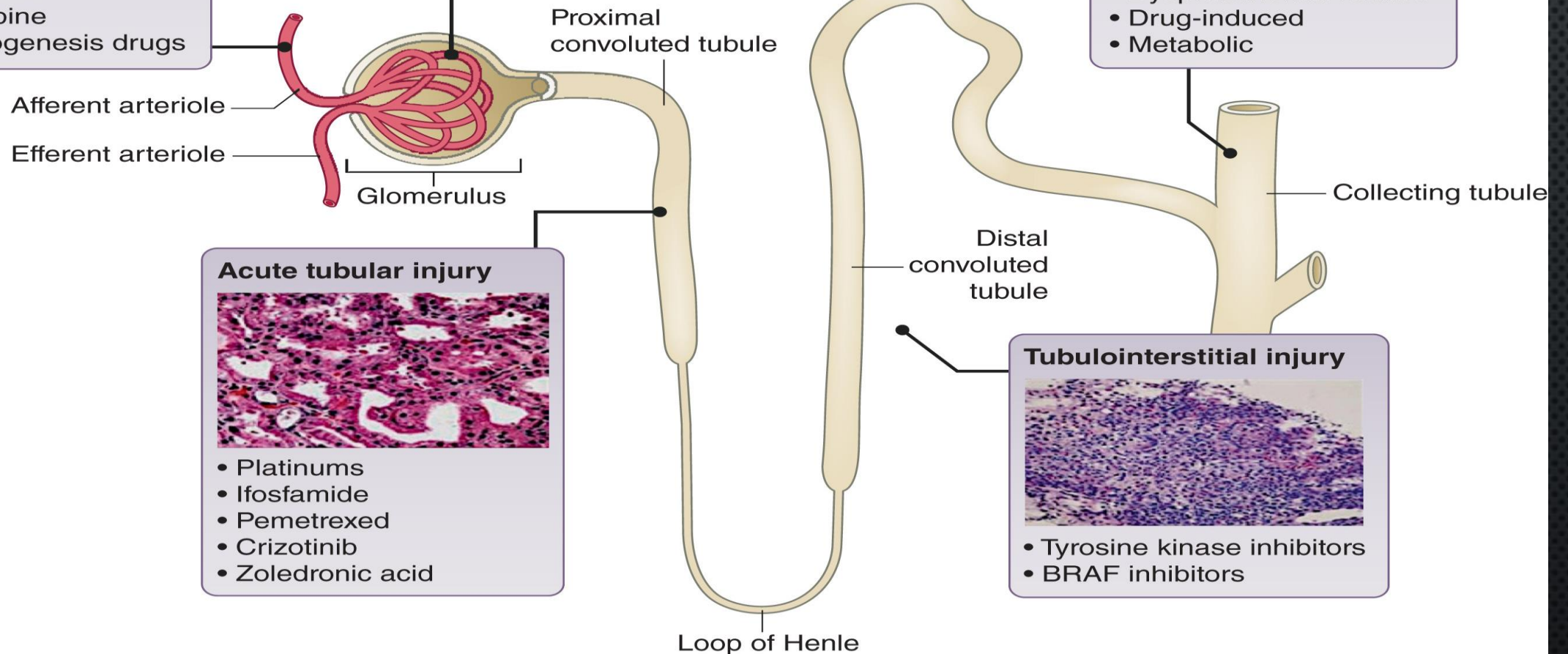


- Platinums
- Ifosfamide
- Pemetrexed
- Crizotinib
- Zoledronic acid

### Tubulointerstitial injury



- Tyrosine kinase inhibitors
- BRAF inhibitors





Drug	Type of Kidney AEs	Mechanism of Kidney AEs	Prevention and Treatment
Platinum agents	AKI-ATN (Cis>>Carbo>Oxali), Fanconi syndrome, hyponatremia, hypomagnesemia	ATN: direct tubular toxicity	Volume expansion, magnesium repletion
Ifosfamide	AKI-ATN, hemorrhagic cystitis, NDI	ATN: direct tubular toxicity; hemorrhagic cystitis: bladder injury	Volume expansion/mesna for hemorrhagic cystitis
Cyclophosphamide	Hyponatremia, hemorrhagic cystitis	Hyponatremia: increased tubular reabsorption of water/? ADH secretion; hemorrhagic cystitis: bladder injury by metabolite	Volume expansion/mesna for hemorrhagic cystitis
Bendamustine	AKI-ATN, NDI, Gitelman	ATN: direct tubular toxicity	
Melphalan	AKI, hyponatremia	SIADH	SIADH: drug withdrawal, usual approach to SIADH
Methotrexate	AKI	Intratubular crystal formation	Volume expansion, urine pH > 7.0, stop PPI, NSAIDs
Pemetrexed	AKI	Acute tubular necrosis, progressive interstitial fibrosis, nephrogenic diabetes insipidus, and distal renal tubular acidosis	Folic acid and vitamin B <sub>12</sub> , adequate hydration
Gemcitabine	AKI, hypertension, proteinuria	TMA	Drug withdrawal, complement inhibitors may be considered
Nitrosoureas	CCNU, Me-CCNU, BCNU: chronic interstitial nephritis, Streptozocin-Fanconi syndrome, AKI	Chronic interstitial nephritis: ? tubular cell protein alkylation; AKI: tubular injury	
Trabectedin	AKI	? secondary to rhabdomyolysis	
Doxorubicin	AKI, hypertension, proteinuria	TMA	TMA: drug withdrawal
Mitomycin C	AKI, hypertension, proteinuria	TMA	TMA: drug withdrawal, ? eculizumab
Vinca alkaloids	AKI, hypertension, proteinuria, hyponatremia	TMA, SIADH	TMA: drug withdrawal; SIADH: drug withdrawal

### Hyponatremia

Reduced GFR from any cause  
SIAD (Small cell lung cancer, head & neck cancer)  
Volume depletion from paracentesis/thoracentesis  
Cancer-associated nausea, pain  
Cancer-associated vomiting, diarrhea  
Chemotherapy (cisplatin, cyclophosphamide, vinca alkaloids)  
Immunotherapy-induced thyroiditis/adrenalitis/hypophysitis  
CAR-T-associated CRS & volume depletion

### Hypernatremia

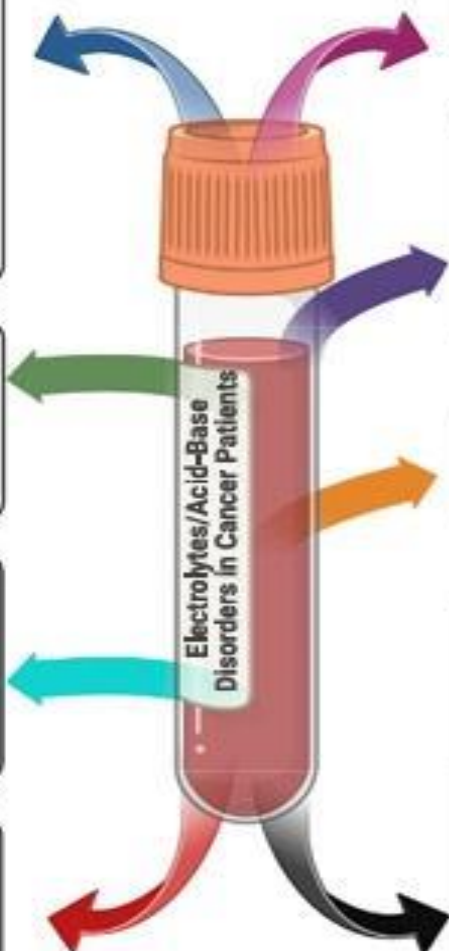
Cancer or therapy-associated vomiting, diarrhea  
Decreased fluid intake (lack of thirst, dysgeusia)  
Diabetes insipidus (Central- CNS tumors; Nephrogenic- ifosfamide)

### Hypomagnesemia

Cancer-associated vomiting, diarrhea  
Decreased dietary intake with cancer-associated anorexia  
Decreased absorption (PPI)  
Chemotherapy (cisplatin, EGFR inhibitors)

### Hypokalemia

Cancer-associated, poor intake  
Diarrhea/vomiting from chemotherapy or cancer  
Ileal conduit  
Leukemia/lymphoma blast crisis  
Lysozymuria with certain leukemias  
Cisplatin, ifosfamide-induced tubulopathy  
ACTH/renin/aldosterone-secreting tumors  
GM-CSF, Vitamin B-12 therapy  
Post-AKI diuresis (ATN, obstruction, etc.)



### Hyperkalemia

AKI/CKD from any cause in a cancer patient  
Tumor lysis syndrome

### Hypophosphatemia

Decreased dietary intake with cancer-associated anorexia  
Tumor osteomalacia (FGF-23 secretion from hemangiopericytomas, giant cell tumors)

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### Acid-Base Disorders

#### *Metabolic acidosis*

Type A LA (infection, etc.)

Type B LA (lymphoma, leukemia, other tumors)

Fanconi syndrome (chemotherapy, MM)

#### *Metabolic alkalosis*

Cancer-associated vomiting

Renin producing tumor

#### *Respiratory acidosis*

Opioid analgesics for cancer pain

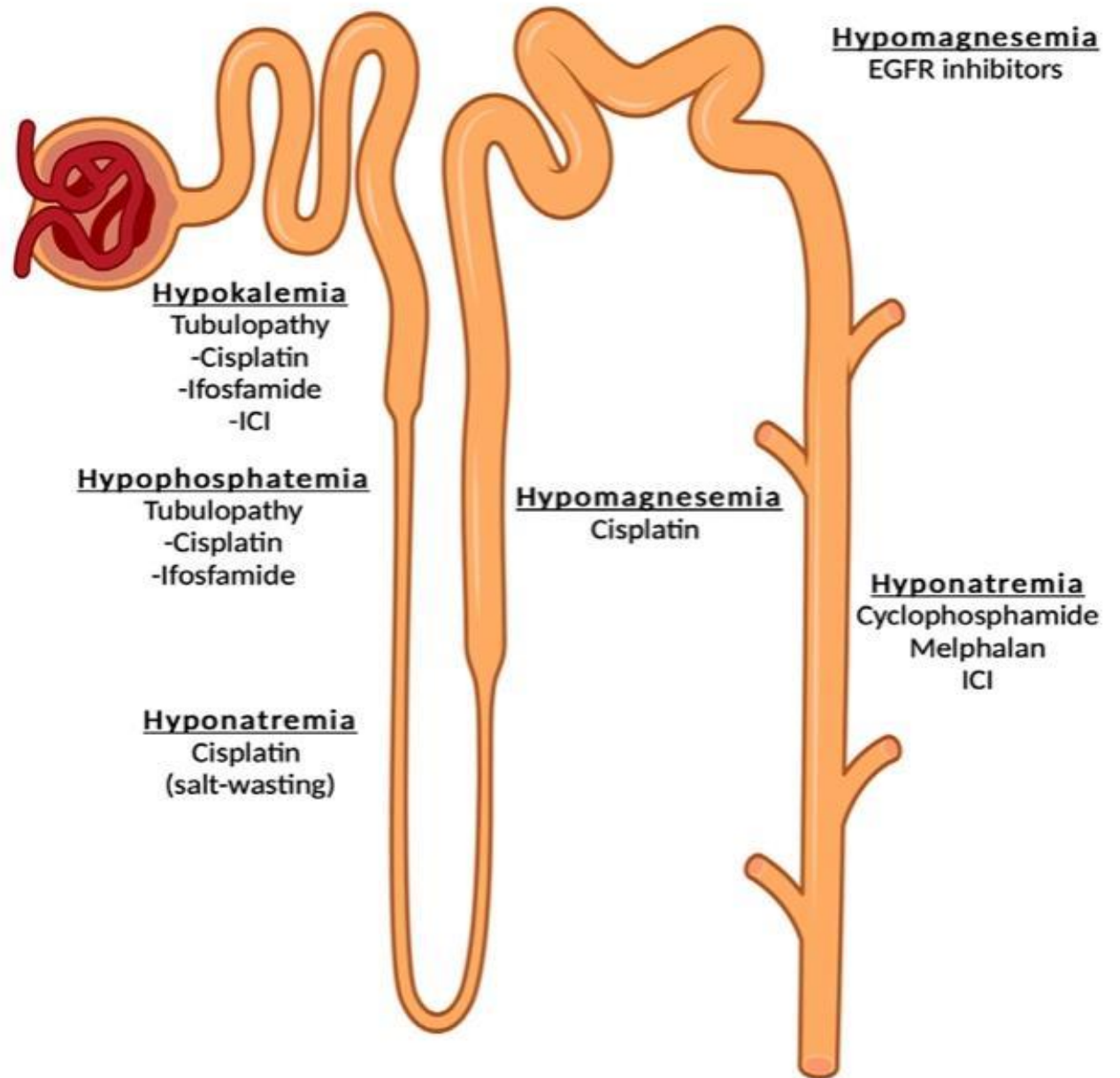
Brainstem/cervical spine tumor

Tracheal stenosis from tumor/radiation

#### *Respiratory alkalosis*

Central neurogenic hyperventilation from pontine tumors







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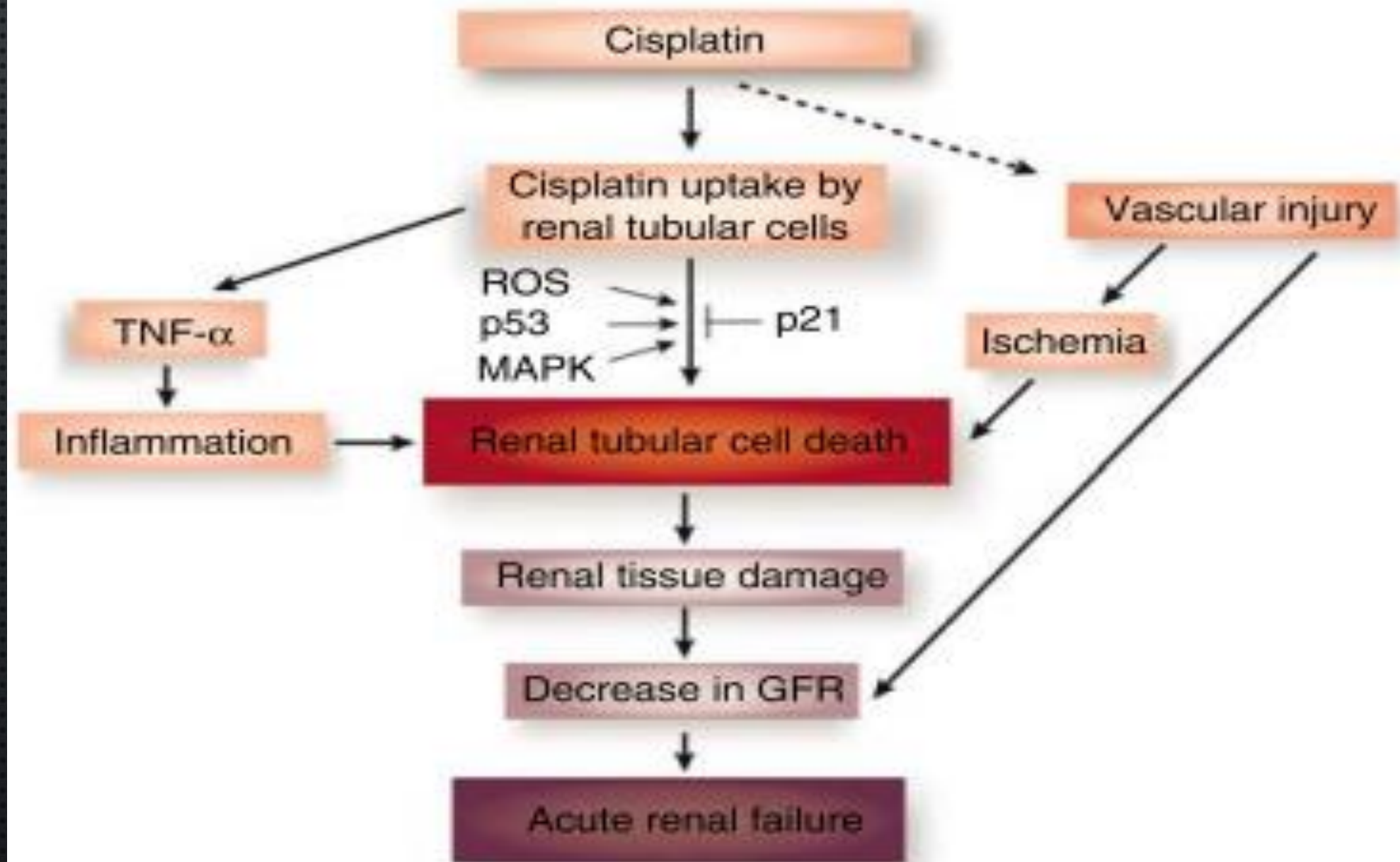


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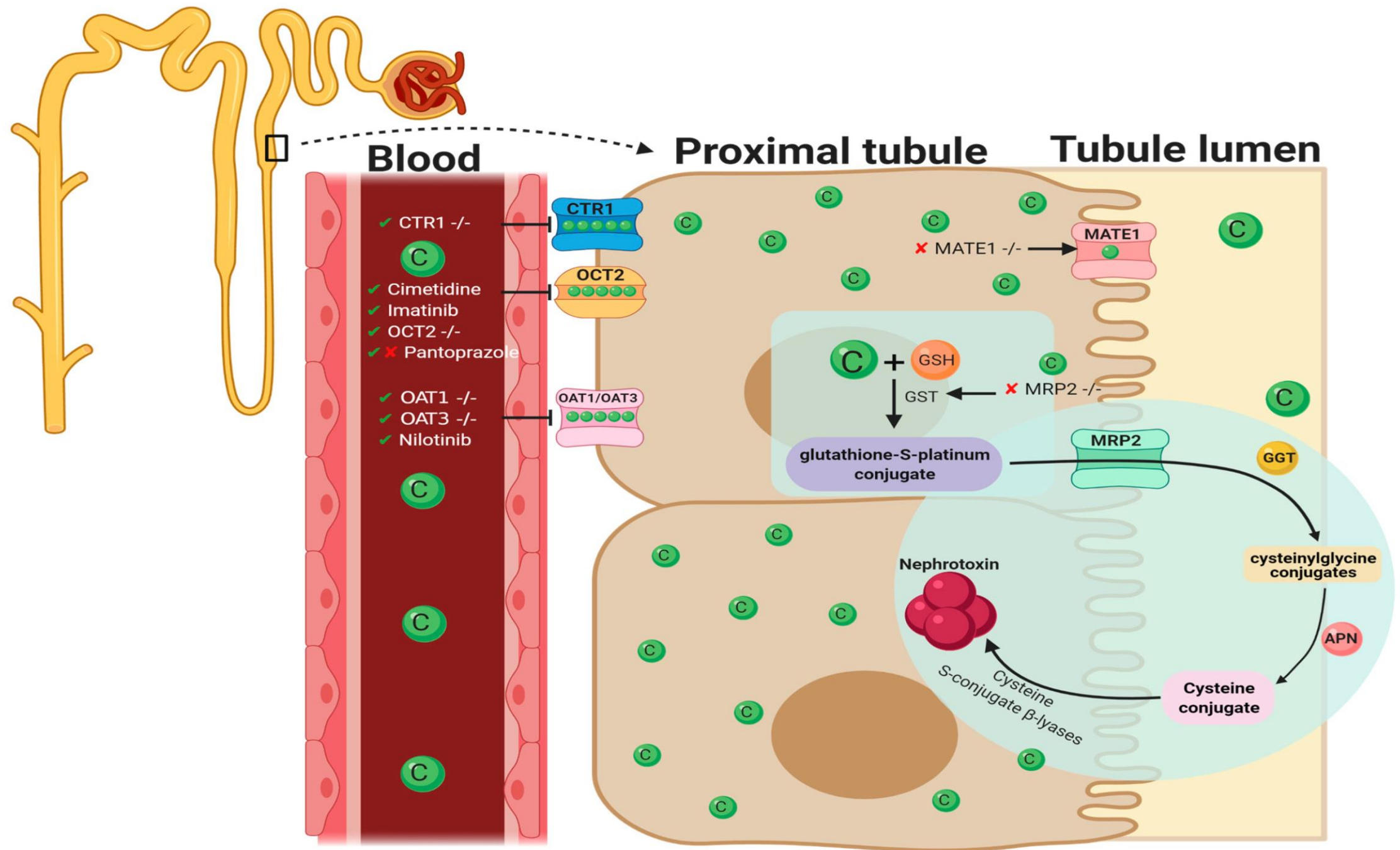
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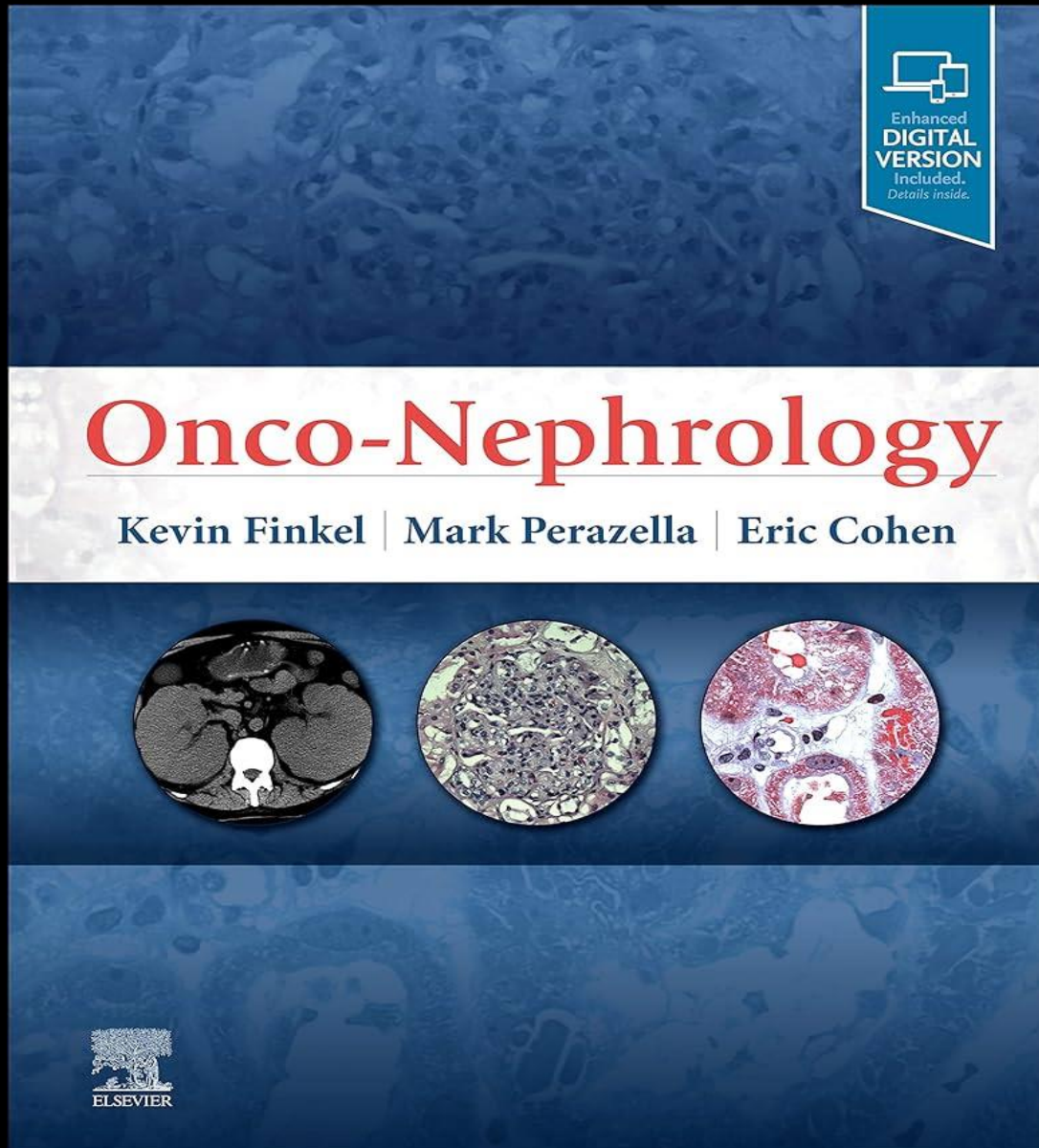












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Educational Review

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