

Diseases And Conditions



Question: Glomerular Disease

Answer: Many diseases affect kidney function by attacking the glomeruli, the tiny units within the kidney where blood is cleaned. Glomerular diseases include many conditions with a variety of genetic and environmental causes, but they fall into two major categories: Glomerulonephritis (gloh-MEHR- yoo-loh-nef-RY-tis) describes the inflammation of the membrane tissue in the kidney that serves as a filter, separating wastes and extra fluid from the blood. Glomerulosclerosis (gloh-MEHR- yoo-loh-skleh-ROH-sis) describes the scarring or hardening of the tiny blood vessels within the kidney. Although glomerulonephritis and glomerulosclerosis have different causes, they can both lead to kidney failure.