

## **RENAL DISEASE IN MEN AND WOMEN: WHAT PROTECTS WOMEN AND MAKES MEN VULNERABLE**

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In many types of kidney disease, including chronic renal disease, polycystic kidney disease, membranous nephropathy and immunoglobulin A nephropathy, renal disease progression is faster in men than women. This sex difference in renal disease progression is also observed in a wide variety of animal models. This presentation will focus on the clinical and experimental studies that have investigated these sex differences. The role of blood pressure, serum lipids, renal structure and function, the renin angiotensin system, gonadal steroid hormone action, as well as oxidative stress and inflammatory pathways in female protection and male vulnerability to progressive renal disease will all be addressed. Understanding the mechanisms underlying the sex differences in renal disease progression will facilitate the development of new therapeutics for the treatment of chronic kidney and end stage renal disease in both sexes.