

Reflux medications linked to chronic kidney disease and kidney failure

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A recent analysis has linked certain medications commonly used to treat heartburn, acid reflux, and ulcers with the development of kidney disease. The findings will be presented at ASN Kidney Week 2017 October 31-November 5 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, LA.

Proton pump inhibitors (PPIs), which reduce gastric acid production, are one of the most commonly prescribed medications worldwide. Recent studies have raised concerns over a potential increased risk of kidney problems among PPIs users but the results of those studies were inconsistent.

To investigate, Charat Thongprayoon, MD (Bassett Medical Center), and his colleagues conducted an analysis of published studies that reported the risk of chronic kidney disease or kidney failure among PPI users compared with non-users.

Five studies with 536,902 participants met the eligibility criteria and were included in the meta-analysis. Individuals who used PPIs had a 33% increased relative risk of CKD or kidney failure when compared with non-users.

"This study demonstrates a significant association between the use of PPIs and increased risks of [chronic kidney disease](#) and [kidney failure](#)," said Dr. Thongprayoon. "Although no causal relationship has been proven, providers should consider whether PPI therapy is indicated for

patients. Chronic use of PPIs should be avoided if not really indicated."

More information: Study: "Proton Pump Inhibitors and Risk of Chronic Kidney Diseases: A Meta-Analysis" (Abstract 2763180)

Provided by American Society of Nephrology

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