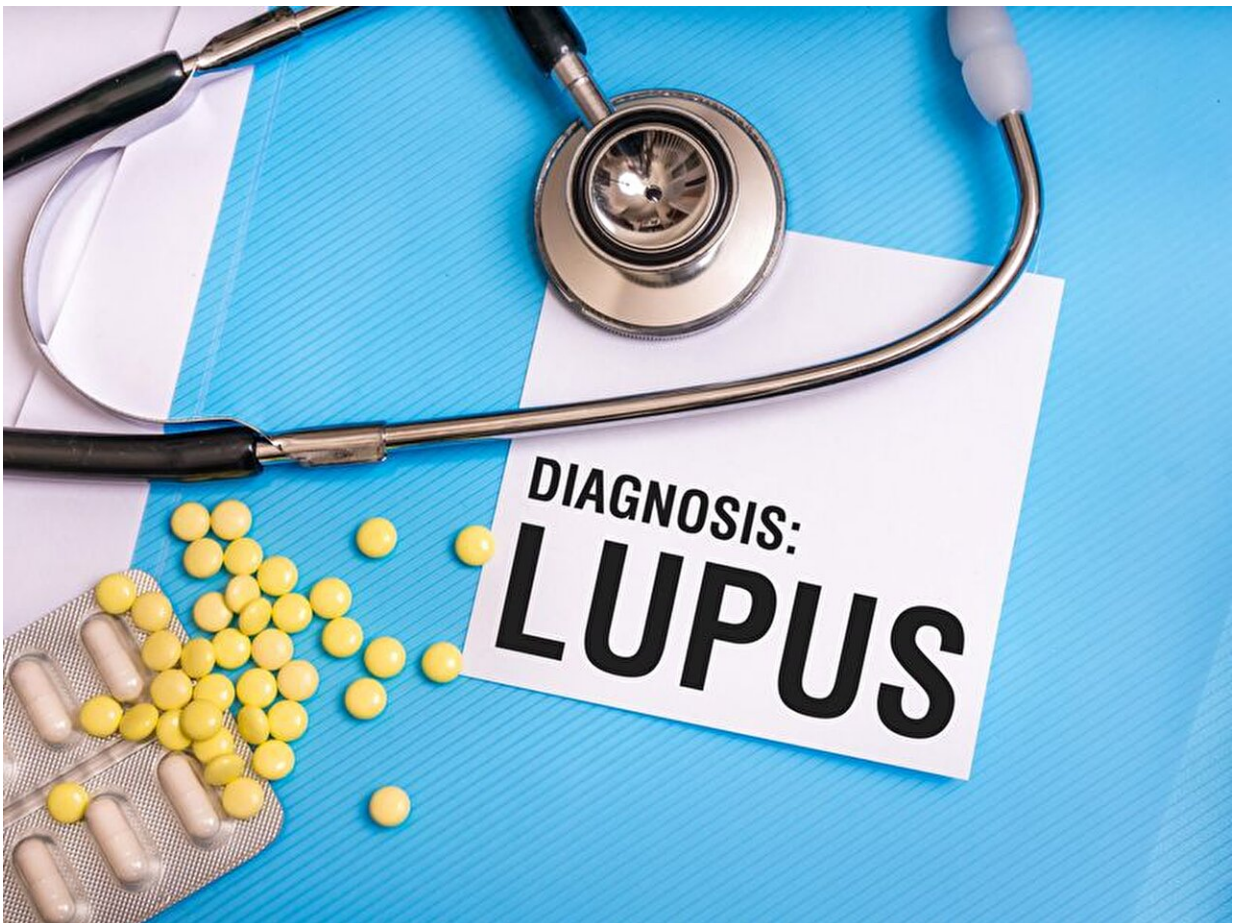


# Voclosporin safe, effective for long-term treatment of lupus nephritis

July 26 2023, by Lori Solomon

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Voclosporin can preserve kidney function up to three years for patients

with lupus nephritis, according to a study published online July 19 in *Arthritis & Rheumatology*.

Amit Saxena, M.D., from New York University in New York City, and colleagues evaluated the long-term safety, tolerability, and efficacy of voclosporin versus placebo in 216 patients with lupus nephritis receiving an additional two years of their assigned treatment following completion of the one-year AURORA 1 study.

The researchers found that adverse events occurred in 86 percent of patients in the voclosporin group and 80 percent of patients in the [control group](#) with a lower frequency but similar adverse event profile to AURORA 1. In the voclosporin group, both the [glomerular filtration rate](#) (GFR) decreased and hypertension occurred more frequently versus the control group (10.3 versus 5.0 percent and 8.6 versus 7.0 percent, respectively).

In both treatment groups, mean corrected estimated GFR was within the normal range and stable. Across three years of treatment, improved proteinuria persisted, leading to more frequent complete renal responses in voclosporin-treated patients.

"Notably, in this extension study, kidney preservation, sustained renal response, and reductions in steroid use were achieved with voclosporin," Saxena said in a statement. "These findings demonstrate the critical importance of voclosporin in the management of [lupus nephritis](#) to improve patient outcomes."

**More information:** Amit Saxena et al, Safety and efficacy of long-term voclosporin treatment for lupus nephritis in the Phase 3 AURORA 2 clinical trial, *Arthritis & Rheumatology* (2023). [DOI: 10.1002/art.42657](https://doi.org/10.1002/art.42657)

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