به نام خداوند جان و خرد

# **Renal Cell Carcinoma For The Nephrologist** 2 Isfahan Kidney Research Center

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### Renal Cell Carcinoma

- Renal cell carcinoma (RCC) is commonly encountered in the practice of nephrology, particularly when acute kidney injury (AKI) or chronic kidney disease (CKD) develops in patients with RCC or when a mass is incidentally discovered during workup of kidney disease
- Renal cell carcinoma accounts for approximately 3% of adult malignancies

### **Renal Cell Carcinoma**

- Clear cell RCC, is the most common histological subtype.
- papillary,
- other rare tumors

#### Clear cell RCC

Von-Hippel Lindau (VHL) disease Gene: VHL (3p25-26)

Protein: VHL protein

Phenotypic features: RCC, hemangioblastoma, pheochromocytoma, renal and pancreatic cysts, ovarian cystadenoma, epididymal cystadenoma

#### BRCA-associated protein 1 (BAP1) mutations and familial kidney cancer

Gene: BAP1 (3p21)

Protein: BRCA-associated protein

Phenotypic features: RCC, breast cancer, mesothelioma, cutaneous melanocytic tumors

#### Succinate dehydrogenase (SDH)-associated kidney cancer

Gene: SDHB (1p36); SDHC (1q23); SDHD (11q23)

Protein: Succinate dehydrogenase subunits B, C, and D

Phenotypic features: RCC, paragangliomas, pheochromocytoma, carotid body tumor

#### Papillary RCC

#### Hereditary papillary RCC (type 1 papillary)

Gene: MET (7q31)

Protein: Hepatocyte growth factor receptor

Phenotypic features: None

Hereditary leiomyomatosis and RCC (type 2 papillary) Gene: FH (1q43) Protein: Fumurate hydratase

Phenotypic features: RCC, uterine leimyosarcomas, breast and bladder cancer, cutaneous and uterine leiomyomas

#### Other RCC types

**Birt-Hogg-Dubé disease** Gene: FLCN (17p11.2)

Protein: Folliculin

Phenotypic features: RCC, fibrofolliculomas and trichodiscomas, pulmonary cysts

#### Hamartoma tumor syndrome (Cowden syndrome)

Gene: PTEN (10q23)

Protein: Phosphatase and tensin homologue

Phenotypic features: RCC, cancer (breast, endometrial, thyroid, prostate), macrocephaly, benign skin tumors, intestinal hamarotomatous polyps, cerebellar gangliocytoma

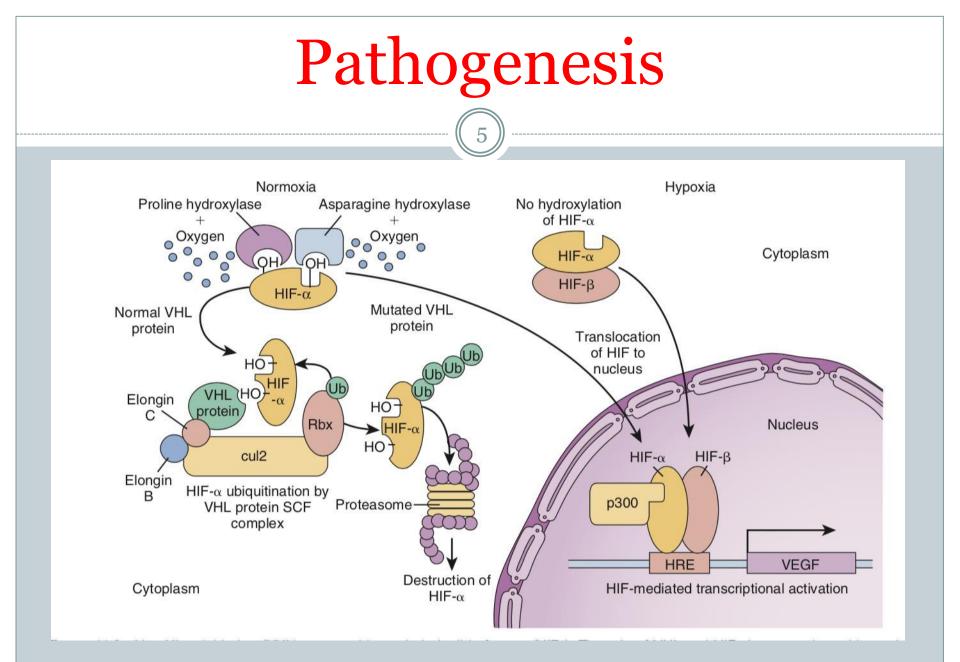
#### **Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (TSC)**

Gene: TSC1 (9q34); TSC (16p13)

Protein: Hamartin and tuberin

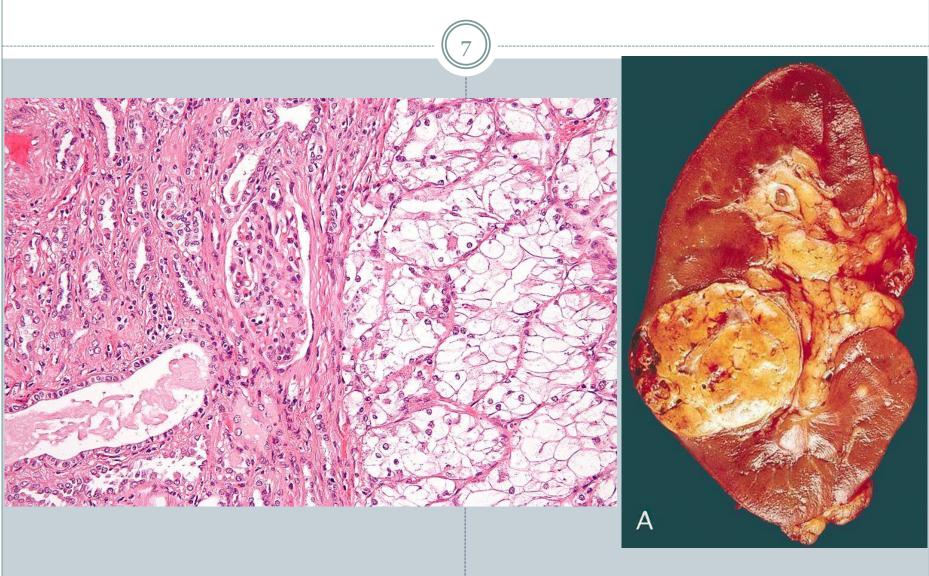
Phenotypic features: RCC, angiomyolipoma, renal cysts, subependymal giant cell astrocytomas, facial angiofibromas, ungula and periungual fibromas, hypomelanotic macule, cardiac rhabdomyomas, connective tissue nevus, forehead plaque

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#### Pathogenesis 6 Cul2 EI B EI C Nedd8 Rbx **pVHL** PHD Proteasomal degradation Hydroxylation Polyubiquitinylation 02 U UU OH OH HIFα HIFα $HIF\alpha$ HIFβ Glut1 Expression HRE of hypoxia-genes EPO Cell nucleus VEGF CA IX PDGFβ TGFα

# Clear cell RCC



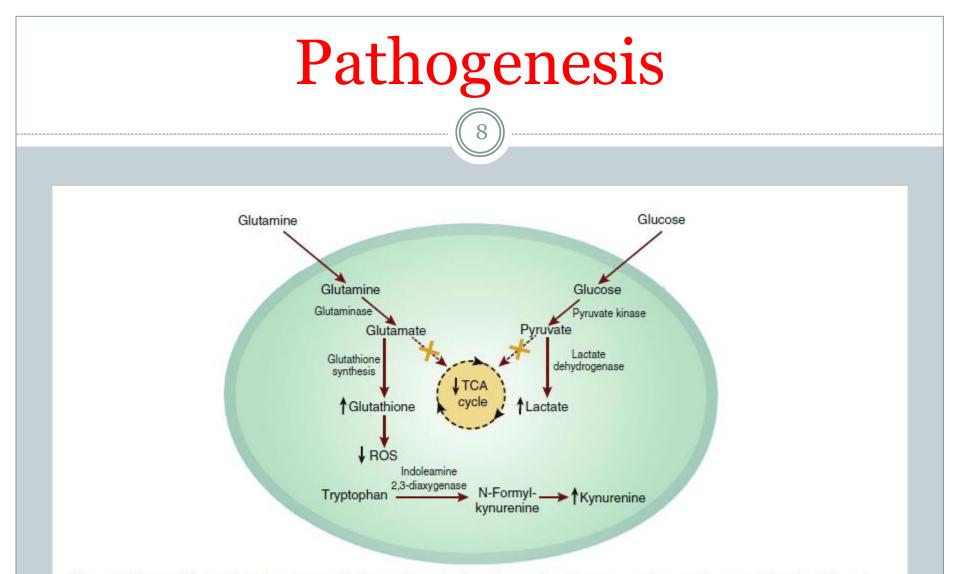


Figure 1 | Dysregulated metabolic pathways in clear cell renal cell carcinoma. Renal cancer cells increase glucose uptake, glycolysis, and lactate production, which results in decreased entry of pyruvate into the tricarboxylic acid (TCA) cycle. Cancer cells also have altered glutamine metabolism, which generates glutathione and reduces reactive oxygen species (ROS). Cancer cells also increase tryptophan metabolism, which causes increased levels of the kynurenine, an immunosuppressive metabolite. These pathways offer targets for renal cell carcinoma treatment.

- Mutations seen in the (PBRM1) gene, which is located on chromosome 3p21 near VHL, is the second major clear cell RCC gene mutation and occurs in approximately 30% to 40% of cases of sporadic RCC.
- A mutation in the BRCAassociated protein-1 (BAP1) gene, which is located at 3p, is also associated with RCC.

#### Clear cell RCC

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#### **Papillary RCC**

#### Hereditary papillary RCC (type 1 papillary)

## **Risk Factors**

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- Tobacco abuse (2- to 3fold )
- Obesity (1.8 fold in body mass index > 35 kg/m2)
- Hypertension
- Acquired renal cystic disease
- Diabetes mellitus:
- Excessive insulin levels
- Obesity-related inflammatory cytokines
- Insulin resistance

#### Table 2 | Nongenetic risk factors for renal cell carcinoma

Etiological Risk Factor Chronic end-stage renal disease on dialysis Obesity Smoking Hypertension Exposure to dry cleaning solvents Exposure to dry cleaning solvents Exposure to trichloroethylene Diuretics Radiation therapy Phenacetin Arsenic Cadmium Sickle cell trait and disease Nephrolithiasis Chronic hepatitis C infection

### Diagnosis and staging of renal cell carcinoma

- only 10% of patients manifest the classical triad of hematuria, flank pain, and a flank mass
- 25% to 35% of patients have their RCC discovered on imaging performed for an unrelated indication
- Other signs and symptoms :
- weight loss, HTN, night sweats, malaise, and the new onset of a varicocele

# Para neoplastic phenomena :

- Fever
- Anemia
- Hypercalcemia
- Erythrocytosis
- Elevation of liver enzymes not due to metastatic spread (Stauffer syndrome)
- Rarely Amyloid A amyloidosis
- Polyneuropathy

### Diagnosis of renal cell carcinoma

- CT scan with contrast
- MRI
- Sonography
- PET scan
- Biopsy:
- If the tumor is low-grade in nature or if the patient has significant comorbid conditions that increase the risk of a surgical intervention or a limited life expectancy
- Percutaneous kidney mass biopsy has a low complication rate (<5%) and a high diagnostic yield (>90%) with an extremely low risk of seeding malignant cells outside the primary tumor

### staging of renal cell carcinoma

Table 3 | Tumor, nodes, metastasis (TNM) staging for renal cell carcinoma

| Stage       | Definition                   | Subdivision                   |
|-------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Tumor stage |                              |                               |
| то          | No evidence of primary       |                               |
|             | tumor                        |                               |
| Т1          | <7 cm in greatest distance,  | 1a: <4 cm                     |
|             | confined to the kidney       | 1b: >4 cm and <7 cm           |
| T2          | >7 cm in greatest distance,  | 2a: >7 cm and <10 cm          |
|             | confined to the kidney       | 2b: >10 cm                    |
| T3          | Extends into major veins or  | 3a: Tumor extends into        |
|             | perinephric tissues but      | renal vein or invades         |
|             | not to adrenal gland or      | perirenal sinus fat           |
|             | beyond Gerota fascia         | 3b: Tumor extends into        |
|             |                              | the subdiaphragmatic          |
|             |                              | IVC<br>3c: Tumor extends into |
|             |                              | the                           |
|             |                              | supradiaphragmatic            |
|             |                              | IVC                           |
| T4          | Tumor invades beyond         | iii c                         |
|             | Gerota fascia and/or         |                               |
|             | contiguous extension into    |                               |
|             | ipsilateral adrenal gland    |                               |
| Regional    |                              |                               |
| lymph nodes |                              |                               |
| NO          | No regional lymph node       |                               |
|             | metastasis                   |                               |
| N1          | Metastasis to regional lymph |                               |
|             | nodes                        |                               |
| Distant     |                              |                               |
| metastases  |                              |                               |
| MO          | No distant metastasis        |                               |
| M1          | Distant metastasis           |                               |

### Sites and Frequencies of Metastases

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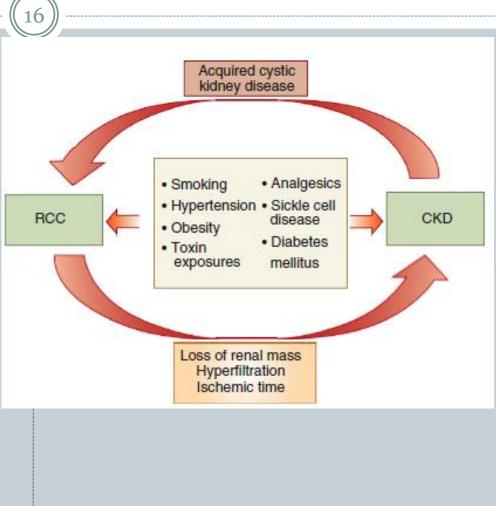
Table 41.3Sites and Frequencies of Metastasesin Renal Cell Carcinoma

| Site            | Incidence (%) |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Lung            | 50-60         |
| Lymph node      | 30-40         |
| Bone            | 30-40         |
| Liver           | 30-40         |
| Adrenal         | 20            |
| Opposite kidney | 10            |
| Brain           | 5             |

From McDougal WS, Garnick M: Clinical signs and symptoms of kidney cancer. In Vogelzang NJ, Scardino PT, Shipley WU, et al (editors): Comprehensive textbook of genitourinary oncology, Baltimore, 1996, Williams & Wilkins.

### Association of kidney disease with RCC

- 20% to 50% increased risk for all cancers both among patients with early-stage CKD and in those requiring dialysis
- 2- to 3-fold increased cancer risk (all cancers) in kidney transplant recipients
- The cancer risk increased by 29% with every 10 ml/min per 1.73 m2 eGFR decrease, with the greatest risk observed with an eGFR
  < 40 ml/min per 1.73 m</li>



### Association of kidney disease with RCC

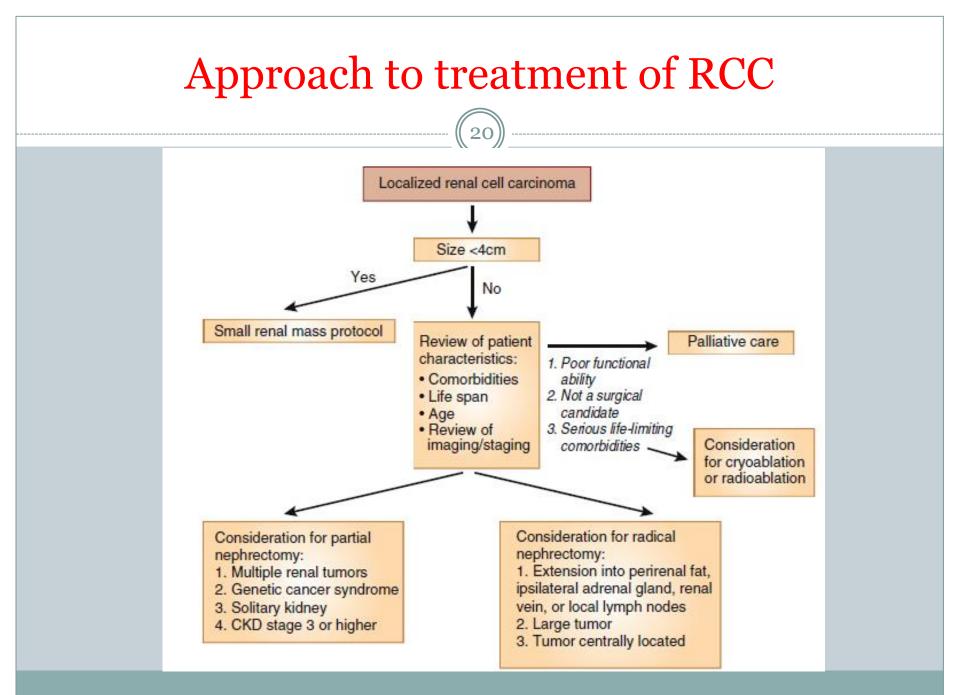
- In ESRD patients on dialysis, increased risk for renal parenchymal cancer is related to acquired renal cystic disease, which increases with time on dialysis. Importantly, most of these cancers are papillary rather than clear cell renal cell carcinomas
- CKD with analgesic nephropathy and aristolochic acid nephropathy was also associated with increased incidence of upper urinary tract urothelial carcinomas

### Kidney disease complicating

- Dramatic improvement in 5-year survival for T1 tumors
- CKD is present in approximately **25%** of RCC patients prior to receiving any nephrotoxic chemotherapy or undergoing nephrectomy, which significantly increases following surgery

### Approach to treatment of RCC

- The decision as to whether to proceed with a radical nephrectomy versus a partial nephrectomy is individualized and guided by the extent of disease, location of the cancer, and patient-specific factors such as comorbidities and age.
- Radical nephrectomy is generally indicated for those patients who have evidence of tumor involvement of the renal vein, adrenal vein, or perinephric fat
- For those patients with a single metastasis and a resectable, localized cancer, surgery focusing on removal of the primary tumor and metastasis (metastasectomy)



### Systemic Therapy

- Memorial Sloan Kettering risk criteria (good, intermediate, and poor risk) :
- Poor performance status
- High serum calcium
- High lactase dehydrogenase levels
- Anemia
- Short interval from diagnosis to treatment
- Front-line therapy for patients with good or intermediate risk metastatic clear cell renal cancer typically consists of either sunitinib or pazopanib (TKI)

### Systemic Therapy

- For much of the past decade, patients whose disease progressed on the initial TKI were subsequently managed with either the oral mTOR inhibitor (everolimus and temsirolimus) or another potent TKI, axitinib.
- Following the recent approvals of both cabozantinib and nivolumab, the management of patients whose disease has progressed on initial TKI has evolved
- The current therapeutic approach of **papillary renal cell** carcinoma is broadly similar to the management of clear cell renal cancer, albeit with poorer clinical outcomes.

### Systemic Therapy

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#### Table 5 | FDA-approved agents for advanced renal cell carcinoma

| Drug                    | Mechanism of action  | Nephrotoxicity                                      |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| High dose Interleukin-2 | Cytokine, promotes differentiation of T cells  | Prerenal AKI and ischemic ATI/ATN                   |
| Temsirolimus            | Parenterally administered inhibitor of mTORC1  | Increased serum Cr, rare ATI/ATN and glomerulopathy |
| Everolimus              | Oral inhibitor of mTORC1   | AKI, proteinuria                                    |
| Bevacizumab             | Recombinant humanized monoclonal antibody inhibitor<br>of VEGF A                           | Hypertension, proteinuria, TMA, AIN, other GNs      |
| Sorafenib               | Small molecule inhibitor of VEGFR, PDGFR and Raf family<br>kinases                         | Hypertension, proteinuria, AIN, MCD/FSGS, TMA       |
| Sunitinib               | Small molecule inhibitor of multiple receptor tyrosine<br>kinases including VEGR and PDGFR | Hypertension, proteinuria, AIN, MCD/FSGS, TMA       |
| Pazopanib               | Small molecule multi-targeted tyrosine kinase inhibitor                                    | HTN, proteinuria                                    |
| Axitinib                | Small molecule inhibitor of VEGFR 1-3, c-KIT and PDGFR                                     | HTN, proteinuria                                    |
| Lenvatinib              | Small molecule multi-targeted tyrosine kinase inhibitor                                    | Rare proteinuria, increased serum Cr                |
| Cabozantinib            | Small molecule inhibitor of c-Met, VEGFR2, AXL   | HTN, rare proteinuria and increased serum Cr        |
| Nivolumab               | Anti PD-1 antibody   | AIN (+/- granulomatous), MCD, IC-GN                 |

AIN, acute interstitial nephritis; ATI/ATN, acute tubular injury/necrosis; Cr, creatinine; FSGS, focal segmental glomerulosclerosis; HTN, hypertension; MCD, minimal change disease; mTORC1, mammalian target of rapamycin complex 1; PD1, programmed cell death 1 ligand; PDGFR, platelet-derived growth factor receptors; TMA, thrombotic microangiopathy; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor.

