

INFO Bulletin

To: Physicians and Nurse Practitioners referring through Central Intake

Published By: Waterloo Wellington Diabetes Central Intake (WWDCI)

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Re: ***UPDATED*** At-risk renal disease criteria and referral options

With the release of the **KDIGO** and **2025 Diabetes Canada CKD guidelines**, WWDCI will screen all incoming referrals for renal disease risk. If a patient meets at-risk criteria, the referrer will receive a message via Ocean or fax recommending a **Specialist Only referral** for a nephrology/HTN consult to support prevention. The initiative began in **September 2025** for **Cambridge/North Dumfries** and will expand across the **Waterloo Wellington region starting April 1, 2026**. This is a renal function preservation initiative with the goal of identifying patients at risk for renal disease and **does not replace** the Ontario Renal Network (ORN) referral for very high-risk renal patients (see ORN referral criteria below to refer directly if your patient is eligible). The updated Kidney Wise Toolkit and ORN referral form is available at: <https://www.ontariorenalnetwork.ca/en/kidney-care-resources/clinical-tools/primary-care-tools/kidneywise/toolkit>

****Updated At-Risk Renal Initiative Criteria used by WWDCI and Ontario Renal Network Referral Criteria****

At-Risk Renal Initiative Criteria	Ontario Renal Network Referral Criteria
Diagnosis of T1D, T2D, Prediabetes with a UACR: <ul style="list-style-type: none">≥ 2.0 mg/mmol on 2 occasions (at least 3 months apart) within 12-month period20 - 60 mg/mmol on 1 occasion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">UACR > 30 mg/mmol in people without diabetesUACR > 60 mg/mmol with diabetes on at least 2-3 occasions
Any two of the following risk factors: <ul style="list-style-type: none">eGFR 30-89 mmol/L (CKD G2-3)5-year Kidney Failure Risk Equation (KFRE) score: ≥ 3%Diabetic Retinopathy (non-proliferative, proliferative, diabetic macular edema)HypertensionObesity (BMI >30)Obstructive Sleep ApneaCardiovascular Disease (ischemic heart disease, heart failure, TIA/stroke, peripheral artery disease)Family history of kidney failure requiring dialysis and/or kidney transplant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">eGFR < 30 mg/mmol on 2 occasions, at least 3 months aparteGFR < 45 mg/mmol with decline ≥ 5 mg/mmol within 6 months (must have 2nd eGFR result within 2-4 weeks to confirm persistent decline)5-year Kidney Failure Risk Equation (KFRE) score: ≥ 5%Resistant or suspected secondary hypertensionSuspected glomerulonephritis/renal vasculitis based on hematuriaClinically important electrolyte disorderMetabolic work-up for recurrent renal stones

The WWDCI new process for the renal function preservation initiative:

- Ocean eMessage or fax to referrers from WWDCI indicating patient meets at-risk renal criteria
- If in agreement, complete a **new** WWDCI referral including recent lab work, check the box requesting Nephrologist/HTN Clinic consult and ensure your billing number is provided. If completing referral via fax, please indicate on the paper referral form "specialist only referral"
- The referral will be sent for a nephrology/HTN consult closest to the patient's home address, in an equitable rotation to participating specialists
- WWDCI will send a triage report indicating the name of the Diabetes Education Program and Specialist(s) the patient has been referred to
- You will continue to receive Diabetes Education Program Booked Appointment notification by fax or ocean

If you have any questions, please contact WWDCI at 519-947-1000, option 2 or wwdci@langsg.org. Thank you for your continued support to improve access to care and the health of the people of Waterloo Wellington region.

Sincerely,

Waterloo Wellington Diabetes Central Intake