How to Monitor and Manage Acute Changes in Kidney Function Related to RAASi

1. Assess creatinine before initiation or change in RAASi dose

2. Check creatinine (together with potassium and electrolytes) 2-4 weeks after

3. If creatinine increases, assess magnitude and manage

Note: increase in serum creatinine can be a result of a haemodynamic RAASi effect

Creatinine increases <50% from baseline (as long as and eGFR remains >20ml/min)

- Acceptable, no changes in RAASi needed if kidney function stabilizes
- Further assess creatinine as part of the long-term monitoring

Creatinine increases between 50 to 100% (as long as eGFR remains >20ml/min)

- Reduce dose to half or temporary withhold RAASi
- Exclude reversible causes (refer to info on page 2)
- Reassess kidney function after 2-4 weeks
  - If improvement, increase dose or re-introduce at half dose (check creatinine again in 2-4 weeks)

Creatinine increases more than 100%

- Temporarily withhold RAASi
- Exclude reversible causes (refer to info on page 2)
- Reassess kidney function in 2-4 weeks
  - If improvement, re-attempt the doses (check creatinine in 2-4 weeks)

Note: Keep in mind that discontinuation and reducing doses of RAASi can worsen outcomes in HF and CKD

- In the management of HF as a primary indication for RAASi, a more aggressive approach is preferred if kidney function is preserved
- In advanced CKD, a more conservative approach may be necessary
Causes for worsening kidney function

**Pre-renal**
- Volume depletion (gastro-intestinal losses, excessive diuretic use inadequate intake)
- Renal venous congestion due to volume overload
- Deterioration of LV function

**Renal**
- Nephrotoxic medications
- Drugs that alter glomerular hemodynamic
  - Interstitial nephritis
  - Glomerular disease
- Urinary tract Infection, sepsis

**Post-renal**
- Urinary obstruction
  - Ascites

Evaluation and clinical assessment

- Volume status evaluation (skin turgor, blood pressure, lung auscultation, jugular venous pressure, edema)
- Concurrent or new medications (NSAIDS/Antibiotics/SGLT2i/MRAs)

Lab and Imaging evaluation

- Echocardiogram and renal ultrasound +/- renal Doppler
- Urinalysis
- Kidney biopsy
- Midstream urine, kidney ultrasound

For funding and support information, see: https://www.theisn.org/initiatives/toolkits/raasi-toolkit/#Support