Renal disease and chronic renal failure in dental practice

Abstract

Patients with renal diseases are increasingly common in dental practice. This is due to advances in medicine, and the increasing life expectancy of western populations. Chronic renal failure is a serious condition that general dental practitioners may see in their practice. This article discusses the functions of the kidney, and the causes and medical management of chronic renal failure, as well as considerations in the dental management of these patients. Common complications such as infection and bleeding are discussed. General recommendations are made, based on current evidence with respect to prescribing of medications.

J.J. Fitzpatrick M.H. Wilson N.S. McArdle L.F.A. Stassen Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Dublin Dental Hospital

Address for correspondence: John Fitzpatrick Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Dublin Dental Hospital Lincoln Place Dublin 2. Email: johnjfitzpatrick@gmail.com