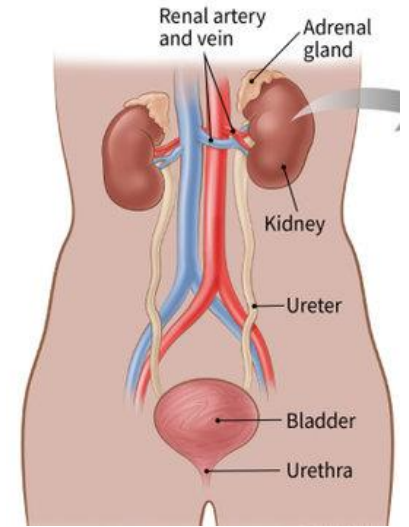


Kidney Cancer

- ❖ Kidneys are small bean shaped organs located in the upper back wall of the abdomen. These organs remove excess salt, water and waste products by filtering the blood coming in from the renal arteries, turning it into urine. The kidneys also help to control blood pressure and create a hormone (erythropoietin) that stimulates the bone marrow to make more red blood cells
- ❖ A person is able to function with one kidney, and dialysis is used if both kidneys do not function



<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/kidney-cancer/about/what-is-kidney-cancer.html>

Types of Kidney Cancer:

- Renal Cell Carcinoma (most common type in adults)
 - Clear Cell Carcinoma (most common form)
 - Non-Clear Cell Carcinoma
- Transitional Cell Carcinoma, Wilms Tumor, Renal Sarcoma

Symptoms include:

- Blood in the urine, persistent back or side pain, loss of appetite, unexplained weight loss, fatigue, fever, night sweats, anemia

Risk Factors include:

- Older age, smoking, obesity, high blood pressure, advanced kidney disease, familial history of kidney cancer, workplace exposure to certain chemicals, specific genetically inherited conditions

Diagnostic Testing includes:

- Blood and urine testing
- Imaging including Ultrasound, CT scan, MRI scan
- Biopsy of the kidney mass

Treatment (depending on staging of disease):

- Cryoablation or radiofrequency ablation – freezing/burning the cancer cells
- Nephrectomy – removing completely or partially the affected kidney
- Immunotherapy, Chemotherapy
- Radiation therapy

Resources include American Cancer Society and the National Kidney Foundation, please see for further information