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Message from the CEO



William M. Harper IV, MD, FACS, CPI

We welcome you and appreciate the opportunity to provide you with medical services. The information in this newsletter is designed to educate you about our practice and conditions we treat. Each issue focuses on a different topic.

The Urology Center of Columbus specializes in erectile dysfunction, prostate diseases, kidney stones, cancer of the urinary tract, female and male urinary incontinence, female sexual dysfunction, and age management.

We are also actively involved in clinical research studies which gives our patients access to the newest and cutting edge drugs and medical devices under development. Our staff welcomes you to our practice and looks forward to serving your needs. Please let us know how we can help you.

-William M. Harper IV, MD, FACS, CPI

Announcements

We are hiring!

- Scribe (PT)
- Admin Asst (PT/FT)

Please send resumes to:
Human Resources
2100 North Ave
Columbus, GA 31904

Did you know we have a website?

Be sure to check us out online!



www.harperurology.com

Please look for us at the 2011 Free Healthcare Expo.

This event is open to the public and will take place on January 22, 2011 at the Columbus Trade Center. For more information please call (706) 321-6166

Health Topic: Kidney Stones

Kidney stones affect approximately 12 percent of men and 5 percent of women by age 70. Fortunately, treatment is available to effectively manage most stones. In addition, you can take steps to prevent kidney stones from coming back again.

How does a kidney stone form? A kidney stone can form when some of the substances naturally in your body such as calcium, oxalate, cystine, or uric acid are at high levels in the urine. Stones can also form if these substances are at normal levels.

The substances form crystals, which in the kidney can gradually increase in size, forming a kidney stone.

Typically, the stone will move through the urinary tract and is passed out of the body in the urine. A stone may cause pain if it becomes stuck and blocks the flow of urine. Large stones do not always pass on their own and sometimes require a procedure or surgery to remove them.

Symptoms may include:

- Pain is the most common symptom. Pain can range from mild and barely noticeable ache to discomfort so great it requires treatment in the hospital.
- Most people with kidney stones will have blood in the urine. The urine may be pink or reddish, or only visible with urine dipstick testing or microscopic examination
- Other: Nausea, vomiting, painful urination, and urgent need to urinate.

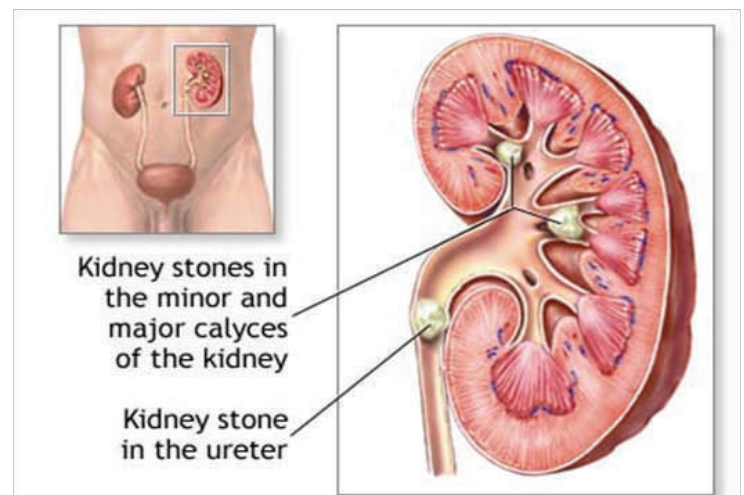
Kidney stones affect approximately 12% of men and 5% of women by age 70.

Tests That May be Performed:

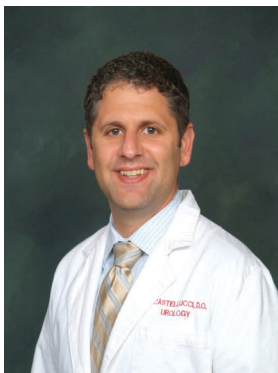
- **Computed tomography (CT) Scan:** A CT scan creates a three dimensional image of structures within the body. A particular type of CT scan (called noncontrast CT) is often recommended if kidney stones are suspected.
- **Ultrasound:** An ultrasound can also be used to detect kidney stones, although small stones or stones in the ureters may be missed. However, ultrasound is the procedure of choice for people who should avoid radiation, including pregnant women.

When to see a Doctor

Kidney stone treatment will vary depending on your symptoms and situation. There are times that your doctor may tell you that you can be treated with medications at home. If this does not work, you have an infection, or your stone is too large to pass on its own then there are other treatments that may need to be done.



Dr. Castellucci Answers your Questions



Sean A. Castellucci, DO

Q: Are female Urology problems different from men?

A: Females experience some of the same problems as men such as urinary tract infections, kidney stones, congenital urinary abnormalities, urologic malignancies, and primary kidney diseases. There are some urology problems unique to females due to the anatomic developmental differences between men and women.

Q: What are some common female Urology problems?

A: Some common female urology problems include urinary tract infections (UTIs), vaginitis, vulvitis, voiding dysfunction, urinary incontinence, pelvic prolapse, injuries to the urinary tract, interstitial cystitis, urethritis and pregnancy.

Q: How common are Urinary Tract Infections?

A: UTIs account for approximately 7 million visits to physicians' offices, and necessitate or complicate over 1 million hospital admissions in the United States annually. UTIs are more common in women than in men, except in the neonatal period.

Research Study for Nocturia: Frequent Nighttime Urination

The CoMFORT study is currently recruiting women, ages 18 and older, for a research study to determine the safety and effectiveness of an investigational treatment for nocturia. The study medication for the CoMFORT study is a fast dissolving formulation of an investigational medication for nocturia.

To qualify for the study you must at least meet the conditions listed below:

Volunteers must:

- Be female, age 18 or older
- At night, average 2 or more trips to the bathroom to urinate
- Not take diuretics or water pills

Qualified study participants will receive, at no cost:

Study-related physical and lab exams
Study treatment

Compensation for your time and travel may be provided.

For more information, please call

Veta Robinson LPN, CCRC
706-243-3673
research@harperurology.com



Vashti Miller, RN, MSN, ANP-BC

Welcome our New Nurse Practitioner, Vashti!

Vashti Miller, RN, MSN, ANP-BC, is originally from Nashville, TN. She obtained her Bachelors of Science in Nursing from Tennessee State University in May of 2008 and continued on to obtain her Masters of Science in Nursing as an Adult Nurse Practitioner from Vanderbilt University in August of 2009. She gained national board certification from the ANCC in January of 2010. Before joining UCC she worked as a nurse for the VA Hospital in Nashville, TN. She is a member of the American Nurses Association and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. We are glad to have her at Urology Center of Columbus!

Urology Center of Columbus, LLC

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Vision Statement

Urology Center of Columbus will be recognized as the premier regional provider of urologic care shaping the future for quality healthcare delivery, superior outcomes, patient satisfaction, innovation and community leadership.

Mission Statement

The Urology Center of Columbus is committed to providing quality healthcare to our patients through education, training, clinical research and support. Our organization is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of our patients by providing the most current diagnostic and therapeutic alternatives while counseling and treating our patients with care and respect. We will take an active community role in public health-care, education and leadership.



Please visit our website at www.harperurology.com!