C3 Glomerulopathy (C3G)

Overview
C3G stands for complement 3 glomerulopathy, a very rare and chronic disease that causes the kidneys to not work properly. The C3 refers to a key blood protein that plays an important role in your immune system. The G stands for glomerulopathy, or damage to the filtering units of the kidney. Physician experts believe that when complement proteins like C3, which are part of your immune system, are not well-controlled, it results in damage to the kidneys’ filtering units (glomeruli).

What is the “complement system”?
- It is a group of proteins that help, or complement, your immune system to fight bacteria and viruses.
- If the complement system becomes overactive, the C3 complement proteins are broken down and trapped in the kidneys.
- The trapped C3 causes a series of reactions that damage your glomeruli (filtering units in the kidney).

There are three forms of C3 Glomerulopathy:
1. Dense Deposit Disease (DDD)
2. C3 Glomerulonephritis (C3GN)
3. IC (Immune Complex)-MPGN

Symptoms:
- Low level of C3 in blood
- Blood in urine (hematuria)
- Protein in urine (proteinuria)
- Drusen (yellow-colored deposits in eye)
- High-blood pressure (hypertension)
- Swelling in many areas of body (edema)
- Dark and/or foamy urine
- Elevated creatinine in blood

Learn more at www.nephcure.org or call 1-866-NEPHCURE
Treating Your Disease

SHORT-TERM GOALS
The short-term goal of treatment is to stop protein from spilling completely (remission) or lower the amount of protein lost in the urine as much as possible.

LONG-TERM GOALS
The long-term goals of treatment include preventing relapses of protein in the urine and preventing the deterioration of kidney function.

There are currently no FDA-approved treatment options for C3G. Standard first-line treatments for C3G are blood pressure medications, like lisinopril and ibesartan, and immunosuppressants, like steroids and mycophenolate mofetil (MMF or Cellcept).

How to Live With Your Disease

1. Following a low-salt diet and taking prescribed medications from your nephrologist may help improve your kidneys’ function and your C3G symptoms.
2. Finding a nephrologist that specializes in C3G that you trust is very important to your long-term health.
3. Learn about your disease, treatment options, and clinical trials in order to better advocate for yourself.
4. NephCure Kidney International can help you connect with other patients and find support to manage your disease.

NephCure Kidney International is working every day to leverage support to find better treatments and a cure for rare, protein-spilling kidney diseases.

PLEASE VISIT NEPHCURE.ORG TO LEARN MORE ABOUT C3G AND NEPHROTIC SYNDROME.