

*“...the ghosts of dead patients that haunt us do not ask why we did not employ the latest fad of clinical investigation. They ask us, why did you not test my urine?”*

*—Sir Robert Grieve Hutchison (1871–1960)*

# Case 1

32M

HTN

Recently started ACEi

Presents to A&E - Unwell/ Fever/swelling

AKI

Catheterised - urine dipstick- B4+,P3+

# Urine

- Quantity
- Gross examination
- Dipstick
- Microscopy

# Colour

- red
- brown/cola
- rarely -
  - white
  - green
  - black

# Colour

- red - spin it
  - supernatant clear
  - supernatant red

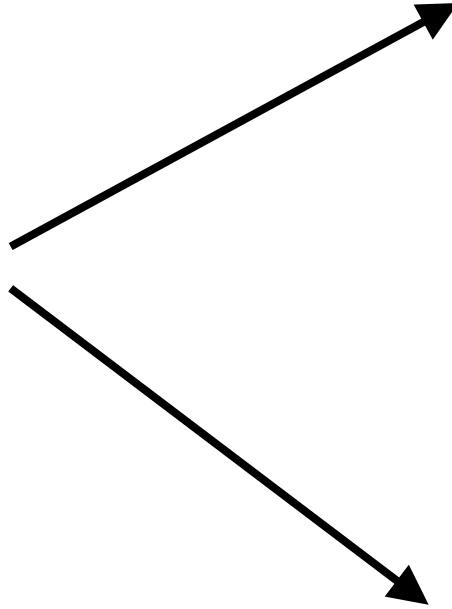
# Sediment

- Fresh sample
- Spin at 2500-3000rpm for 3-5 minutes
- No sudden brake





SPIN



# Case 2

45F

Rash, Joint pain, Fever x 2 mo

NSAIDs

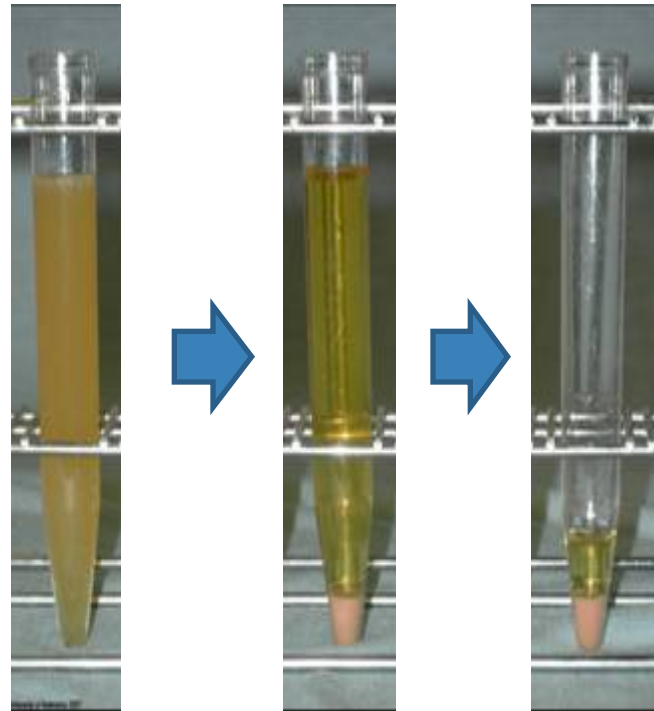
Creatinine 95

Urine dipstick - Blood ++, Protein +++

Microscopy

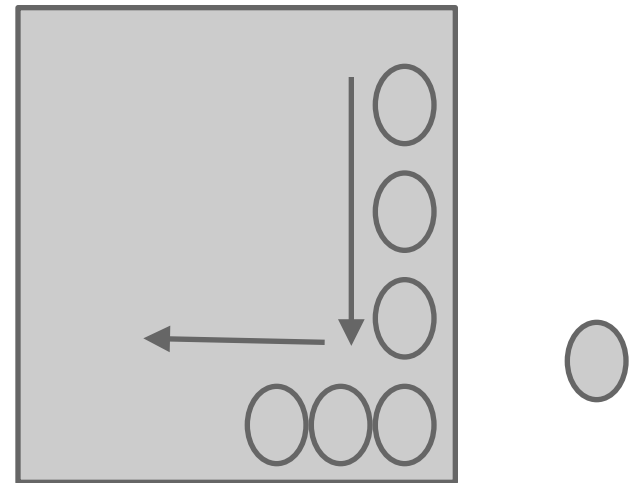
# How much

- Semi Quantitative
  - 12ml
  - use 1ml of spun sample
  - Resuspend



# Low power microscopy

- 100x magnification
- Scan slide for
  - casts
  - larger cells (epithelial)
  - fat globules





# Quality of imaging/ enhancement

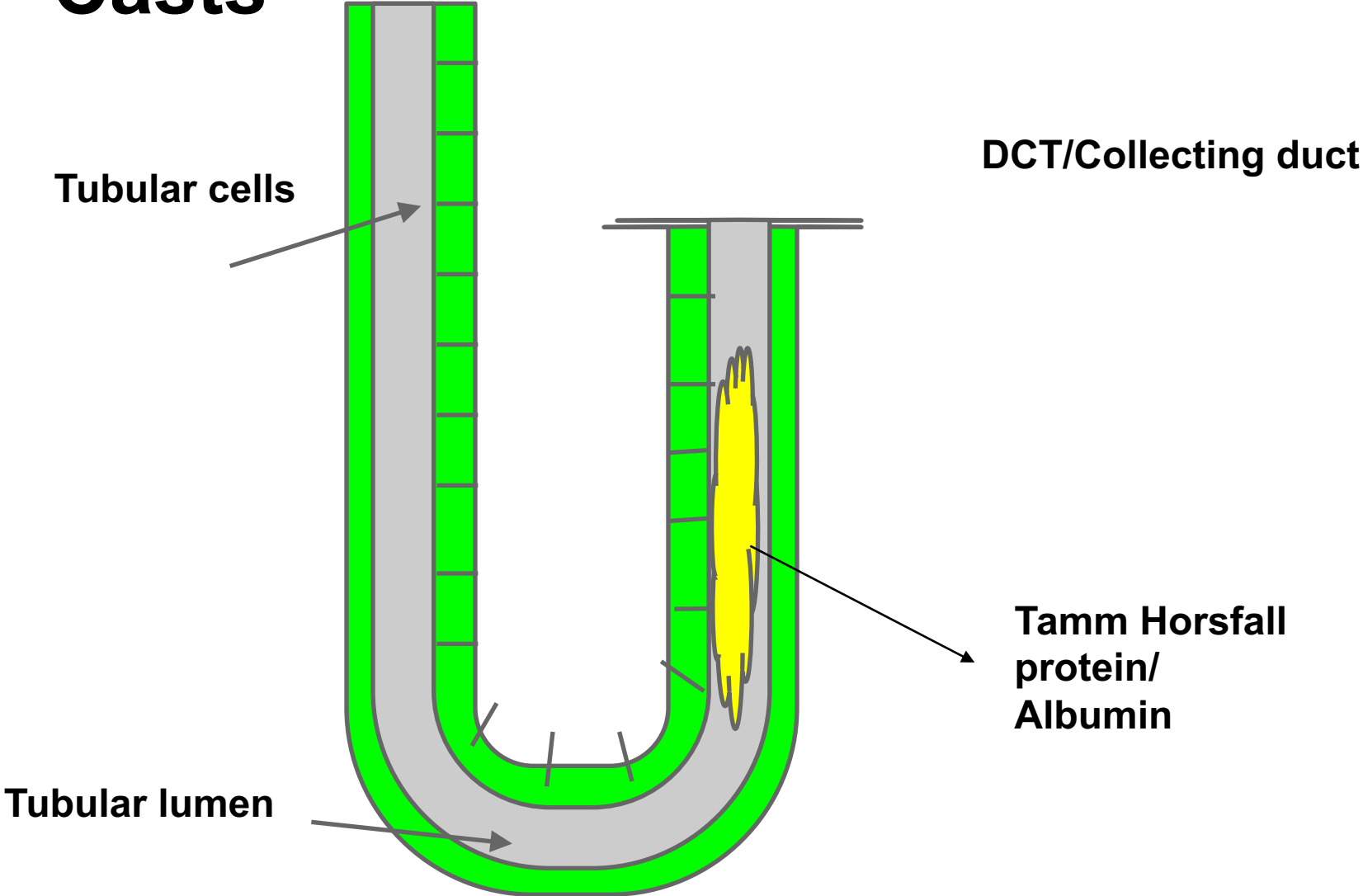
- Bright view microscopy
- Phase contrast microscopy
- Polarised microscopy
- Additives - acetic acid
- Staining



**Epithelial cells**



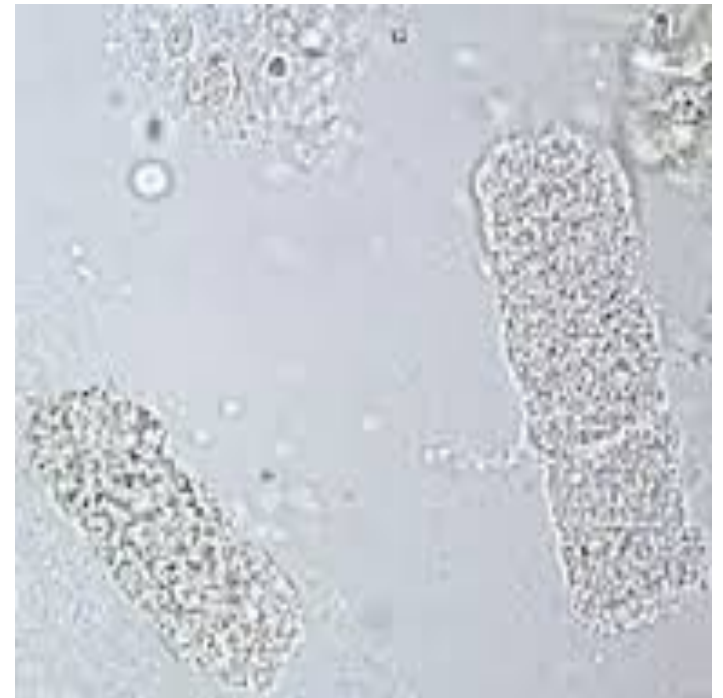
# Casts





**Hyaline casts**

**Granular casts**





## Red cell casts



### Others-

- White cell casts
- Bacterial casts
- Waxy casts
- Fatty casts
- Crystal and pigment casts

# Case 3

52 M

Painless visible haematuria

Urine dip - Blood 4+, Protein 3+

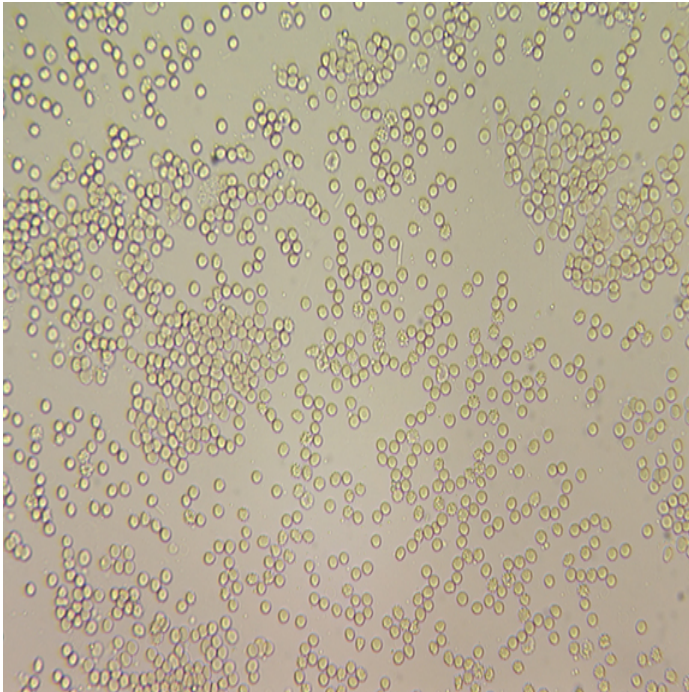
Sub-nephrotic proteinuria

Creatinine 165

# High power microscopy

- 400x magnification
- look for
  - RBC
  - WBC - (eosinophils)
  - Microorganisms- Yeast/Bacteria/(Trichomonads)
  - Crystals

# RBC

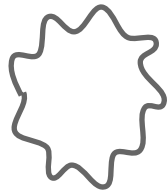
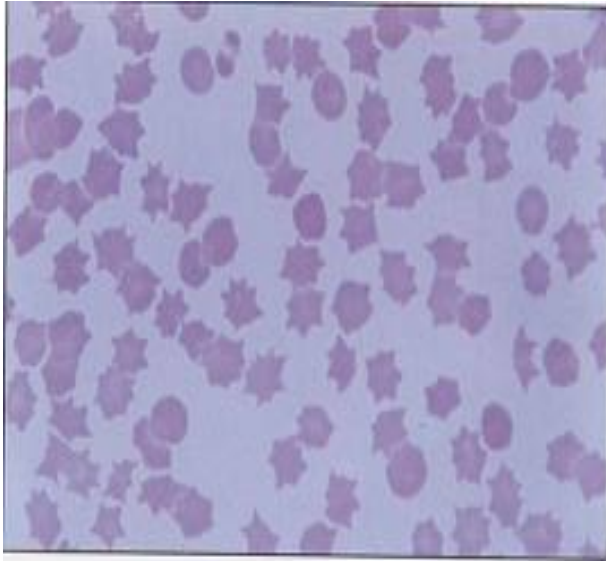


**Urological haematuria**

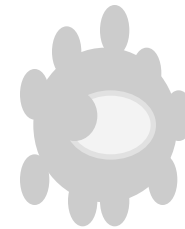


**Glomerular haematuria**

## Crenated RBC



## Dysmorphic RBC

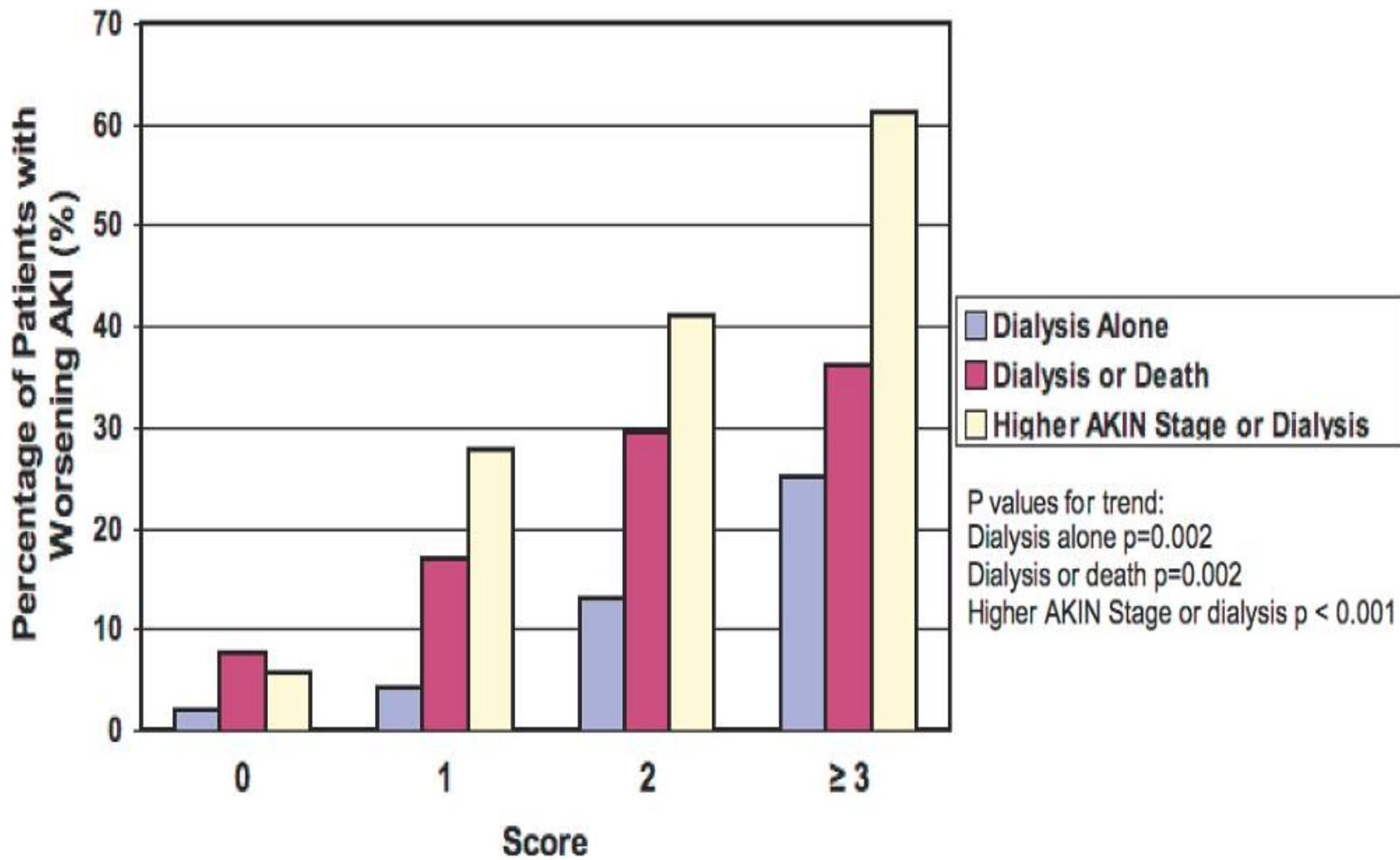


# Prognostic information from urine microscopy

Scoring system based on number of granular casts and RTE cells

RTE cells (per HPF)	Granular Casts (per LPF)		
	0 (0 Points)	1 to 5 (1 Point)	≥6 (2 Points)
0 (0 points)	0	1	2
1 to 5 (1 point)	1	2	3
≥6 (2 points)	2	3	4

Values denote total points awarded.



**Table 3. Studies evaluating urine microscopy and prognosis of AKI**

Study Year (Reference)	Population	Patients (n)	Scoring System	Outcomes	Findings
Chawla <i>et al.</i> , 2008 (16)	AKI on renal consult service	18	Grade 1–4 <sup>a</sup>	Renal nonrecovery	AUC, 0.79
Perazella <i>et al.</i> , 2010 (17)	AKI on renal consult service	197	Score 0 to $\geq 3^b$	Worsened AKI (increase in AKIN stage, RRT, or death)	AUC, 0.75 Score 1: RR, 3.4 Score 2: RR, 6.6 Score $\geq 3$ : RR, 7.3
Bagshaw <i>et al.</i> , 2011 (23)	ICU patients with AKI	83	Score 0 to $\geq 3^c$	A) Worsened AKI B) RRT/death	AUC, 0.85 Score 1–2: OR, 5.6 Score $\geq 3$ : OR, 8.0
Hall <i>et al.</i> , 2011 (24)	AKI $\geq$ stage 1	249	Score 0 to $\geq 3^b$	Worsened AKI (increase in AKIN stage, RRT, or death)	AUC, 0.66; NRI, 24% Score 1: RR, 1.6 Score 2: RR, 2.3 Score $\geq 3$ : RR, 3.5

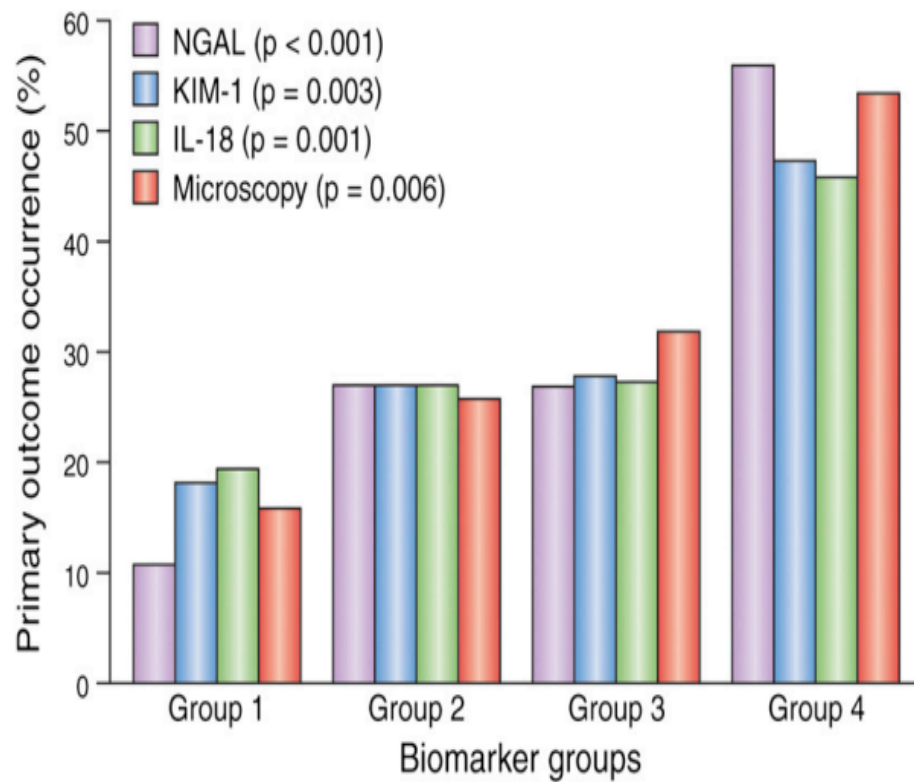


Figure 4. | Urine biomarker groups (neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin, IL-18, kidney injury molecule (KIM-1) in quartiles and urine microscopy score of 0, 1, 2,  $\geq 3$ ) and primary outcome occurrence (worsened AKI or in-hospital death) (24).



Epsom and St Helier  
University Hospitals  
NHS Trust



**Thank you**