

Difference Between Urology and Nephrology

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Perspective

Received: 18-Jan-2022, Manuscript No. jmahs-22-51029; **Editor assigned:** 20- Jan-2022, Pre QC No. jmahs-22-51029 (PQ); **Reviewed:** 03- Feb-2022, QC No. jmahs-22-51029; **Accepted:** 07- Feb -2022, Manuscript No. jmahs-22-51029 (A); **Published:** 14-Feb-2022, DOI: 10.4172/ 2319-9865.11.1.002.

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INTRODUCTION

Urology is a branch of science that focuses on diseases of the urinary tract in both male and female reproductive system (kidneys, ureters, bladder and urethra). Nephrology is a branch of internal medicine that specialises in the treatment of kidney problems. You have two kidneys in your body. They're on either side of spine, underneath ribs. The kidneys are responsible for eliminating waste and excess fluid from the bloodstream, among other things.

Urology, commonly known as genitourinary surgery, is a specialty of medicine that focuses on the surgical and medical illnesses of the male and female urinary tract systems, as well as the male reproductive organs. The kidneys, adrenal glands, ureters, urine bladder, urethra, and male reproductive systems all fall within the urology umbrella (testes, epididymis, vas deferens, seminal vesicles, prostate, and penis).

The urinary and reproductive systems are interconnected, and abnormalities with one can lead to problems with the other. As a result, genitourinary diseases encompass a wide range of disorders that are treated in urology. Urology includes medical (non-surgical) diseases like urinary tract infections and benign prostatic hyperplasia with surgical disorders including bladder or prostate cancer, kidney stones, congenital anomalies, traumatic damage, and stress disorders.

Microsurgical and laparoscopic surgery, laser-assisted operations, and other scope-guided treatments are all examples of urological methods. Urologists are trained in open and minimally invasive surgical procedures, including the use of real-time ultrasound guidance, fiber-optic endoscopic equipment, and a variety of lasers to treat a variety of benign and malignant disorders. Urology is linked to cancer, nephrology, gynecology, andrology, pediatric surgery, colorectal surgery, gastroenterology, and endocrinology, and urologists frequently work with these specialists.

The study of the kidneys, specifically normal kidney function (renal physiology) and kidney disease (renal pathophysiology), the preservation of kidney health, and the treatment of kidney disease, ranging from diet and medication to renal replacement therapy, is a specialty of adult internal medicine and paediatric medicine (dialysis and kidney transplantation). The adjective "renal" comes from French or Late Latin and means "pertaining to the kidneys." While some experts believe that "renal" and "nephro" should be replaced with "kidney" in scientific writings such as "kidney medicine" (instead of nephrology) or "kidney replacement therapy," others have argued that the terms "renal" and "nephro" should be used as appropriate in "nephrology" and "renal replacement therapy," respectively.

CONCLUSION

Urology and nephrology have some overlap when it comes to treating kidney-related illnesses. Because certain disorders require care from both specialties, urologists and nephrologists seldom work together in a medical practice. Despite their similarities, there are considerable differences between the two professions. One of the key differences between nephrology and urology is that urologists specialise in illnesses and abnormalities of the urinary system. The kidneys are part of this, but they also know about other parts of the body, such as the male reproductive system. Nephrologists, on the other hand, concentrate on illnesses that impair the function of the kidneys rather than organs or systems unrelated to the kidneys.

One of the basic differences between nephrology and urology is that urologists focus on diseases and anomalies of the urine system.