

Organ cross talk in acute kidney injury

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Acute kidney injury (AKI) is a common complication to intensive care unit patients. However, the mortality of AKI is still high despite of remarkable advances in dialysis techniques. Moreover, the mortality of AKI combined with other organ dysfunction is higher than AKI alone or other organ dysfunction. Thus, unrecognized organ injury by AKI has big impact. Recent data from basic and clinical research have begun to elucidate complex organ interactions in AKI between kidney and distant organs, including heart, lung, brain, liver, and gut. This review aims to update the knowledge of organ cross talk in AKI, and focuses on potential therapeutic targets to improve patient outcomes of AKI-associated multiple organ dysfunction.