



Shaping Tomorrow's Nephrology: Insight-Driven Kidney Care

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Predicting Disease Activity in Childhood Nephrotic Syndrome

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Objectives : Childhood nephrotic syndrome (NS) follows a relapsing and remitting course, making timely assessment of disease activity clinically important. However, reliable biomarkers remain limited. This study was designed to explore two complementary approaches, anti-nephrin antibody measurement and proteomic profiling, to identify candidate biomarkers in pediatric NS.

Methods : Serum and plasma samples were obtained from children with NS during relapse and remission and are being biobanked. Anti-nephrin antibody levels are being measured using a previously reported sandwich ELISA. Independently, high-throughput proteomic analysis using SomaScan has been established, with planned differential expression and longitudinal analyses of paired samples. This study is supported by the Korean Nephrology Research Foundation.

Results : Patient enrollment, sample collection, and biobanking have been completed. Laboratory assays, including antibody measurement and proteomic profiling, are currently in progress. Initial implementation confirms technical feasibility and sample integrity for downstream analyses.

Conclusions : This pilot study establishes a framework for biomarker discovery in childhood NS. Ongoing analyses will identify candidate markers associated with disease activity and relapse. The findings may contribute to improved risk stratification and disease monitoring in pediatric NS.