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Session Name : Nephrology Board Review Course 1

Session Topic : -

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GN: Advances in Lupus Nephritis Management: Insights from the KDIGO 2024 Guidelines

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Lupus nephritis (LN) is a major contributor to morbidity and mortality in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). The KDIGO 2024 Guidelines introduce major updates in the diagnosis, treatment, and monitoring of LN, reflecting recent advances in clinical evidence. Key changes include expanded options for initial therapy, such as belimumab-based combinations and calcineurin inhibitor regimens, updated definitions of treatment response, and glucocorticoid-sparing strategies. The guidelines also recommend a prolonged duration of maintenance immunosuppression for at least 36 months and introduce new approaches for managing refractory disease, including the use of novel biologic agents like rituximab. Special considerations are provided for pregnancy, pediatric patients, and those with thrombotic microangiopathy. Updated indications for kidney biopsy and tailored treatment approaches based on individual risk stratification are also emphasized. Importantly, the guidelines adopt a more patient-centered approach, aiming to improve long-term renal outcomes while balancing efficacy and safety. This lecture will offer a focused and practical summary of the KDIGO 2024 recommendations, providing clinicians with clear guidance to optimize lupus nephritis management in daily practice.

Keywords: lupus nephritis, SLE, KDIGO, treatment, summary