

## Quick Tips - Internal Medicine

### Staging chronic kidney disease

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A four-tier staging system has been developed by the International Renal Interest Society.

The staging system is based on creatinine levels, and patients should be substaged based on blood pressure and proteinuria (UP:C). Creatinine should be measured on two separate occasions in a stable patient, and patients should have a blood pressure and a UP:C assessed 2-3 times over a 2-3 month period. Patients with recent and acute changes in kidney function are not candidates for staging.

Stage 1 and 2 dogs and cats that are not proteinuric or hypertensive tend to have fairly stable, slowly progressive disease and are rarely symptomatic for their disease. Stage 3 patients are considered to have spontaneously progressive disease, but clinical signs of uremia are usually managed with medical therapy. Stage 4 disease is synonymous with kidney failure.

Additional helpful information is available at the website [www.iris-kidney.com](http://www.iris-kidney.com). If you would like to discuss advanced medical management of chronic kidney disease or have any questions, please feel free to call.

CKD	CREATININE (mg/dL)		SUBSTAGE	BLOOD PRESSURE (mmHg)	SUBSTAGE	URINE P:Cr	
	DOGS	CATS		DOGS and CATS		DOGS	CATS
Stage 1	< 1.4	< 1.6	Minimal Risk	< 150/95	Proteinuric	> 0.5	> 0.4
Stage 2	1.4 – 2.0	1.6 – 2.8	Low Risk	150/95 – 159/99	Borderline	0.2 – 0.5	0.2 – 0.4
Stage 3	2.1 – 5.0	2.9 – 5.0	Moderate Risk	160/100 – 179/119	Non-Proteinuric	< 0.2	< 0.2
Stage 4	> 5.0	> 5.0	Severe Risk	> 180/120			

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