What is CKD?
Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is the worsening of kidney function. Seventy percent of children with CKD have congenital (present at birth) abnormalities. These abnormalities are often associated with structural kidney diseases associated with polyuria (frequent urination) as well as polydipsia (drinking a lot).

What is the workup for CKD?
A thorough evaluation will be done to determine the degree of kidney problems. The evaluation will assess blood pressure, urinalysis, blood work and kidney ultrasound.

What are the stages of CKD?
Stage 1 is the stage of least concern and stage 5 indicates end-stage renal disease (ESRD). By stage 3 a child has lost approximately 50 percent of renal function and secondary complications occur (i.e. anemia, acidosis, elevated parathyroid level). These complications can be managed with medications prescribed by the doctor.

Will a kidney transplant be necessary?
Children with CKD often require a kidney transplant. Transplant decisions are made based on the child’s kidney function and degree of disease.

What is acute kidney injury (AKI)?
Acute kidney failure (acute kidney injury) indicates a sudden loss of kidney function. The workup for AKI will include blood work, observation of blood pressure, and potentially a renal biopsy and/or kidney ultrasound.

How is AKI managed?
Some children with AKI required temporary dialysis and others can be managed without dialysis. Long-term follow-up is important for all children with AKI. Children with significant AKI also have long-term CKD and need to be managed and followed by a pediatric nephrologist.

Is a special diet required for children with CKD?
Nutritional needs are based on the type of CKD. The pediatric nephrology dietician will recommend dietary planning options for children with CKD.

Location and Appointments
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Notes: