

LCA and Kidney Health

A Physician's Checklist

LCA is sometimes associated with Senior Loken Syndrome (SLS) or Alport Syndrome (AS), both of which affect the kidneys. Below are possible tests to check kidney function in LCA patients:

Ultrasound

- ▶ Look for cysts (SLS is associated with polycystic kidney disease and medullary cystic renal disease)
- ▶ Look for thickening of kidney filtration tissue (AS)

Blood

- ▶ Increased blood creatinine level (SLS)
- ▶ Increased blood urea nitrogen (SLS)
- ▶ Low blood sodium levels (SLS, called hyponatremia caused by renal salt wasting)
- ▶ Low bicarbonate levels (<24 mmol/l) (SLS, metabolic acidosis)
- ▶ Increased eosinophils (eosinophil granulocytes) (SLS, tubulointerstitial nephropathy)
- ▶ Low red blood cell count (SLS, anemia)
- ▶ Check blood phosphate level (AS)
- ▶ Check blood calcium level (AS)

Urine

- ▶ Protein (kidney failure is often accompanied by abnormal appearance of protein in the urine, called proteinuria)
- ▶ Increased eosinophils (eosinophil granulocytes) (SLS, tubulointerstitial nephropathy)
- ▶ Inability to concentrate urine (SLS)
- ▶ Unusual urine color (AS)
- ▶ Blood in urine (AS, hematuria)

Other Signs

- ▶ Excessive liquid intake (polydipsia)
- ▶ Production of large volume of urine (polyuria)
- ▶ Urinary incontinence/inability to hold urine (enuresis)

