

Treatment Options for CKD Anemia

You or someone you care about may have been diagnosed with anemia as a result of chronic kidney disease, or CKD. This brochure will help you better understand some of the available guideline recommended treatment options for CKD anemia.

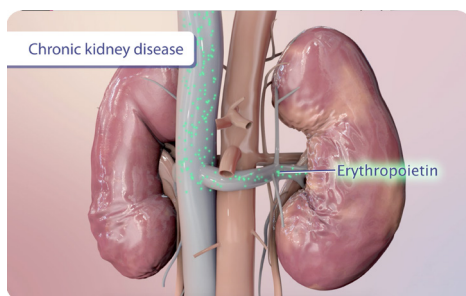
What is CKD Anemia?

Anemia means your blood might not have enough healthy red blood cells to deliver oxygen to the body.

Anemia can result from chronic kidney disease. Normally, the kidneys make a hormone, called erythropoietin. This hormone helps the bone marrow make new red blood cells.

When the kidneys are diseased or damaged, they don't make enough of this hormone. As a result, bone marrow doesn't make enough red blood cells, causing CKD anemia.

This means that organs and tissues may not work as well as they could.



Overview of Treatment Options for CKD Anemia

Treatment options for CKD anemia may include one or more of the following:

- An erythropoietin-stimulating agent, or ESA, helps your bone marrow make new red blood cells
- Your doctor may prescribe oral iron. This means pills taken by mouth
- You may receive intravenous iron therapy. In this procedure, iron is delivered intravenously to increase the amount of iron in your body
- For severe anemia, you may need a blood transfusion. This means you will be given red blood cells intravenously. It will quickly increase the amount of these substances in your blood

If you have questions about treatments for CKD anemia, or any medications you have been prescribed, talk to your doctor.

It is important to take your medications as directed, and report any side effects you have.

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The information in this handout has been created and peer reviewed by graduate-level medical illustrators, followed by reviews from medical subject experts, either physicians or PhDs on the Nucleus Medical Review Board, to ensure medical accuracy and audience level appropriateness.

The handout is intended to supplement the information you receive from your healthcare provider and should never be considered personal medical advice. Always contact your healthcare provider with health questions and concerns.