

Answering Reviewers

Reviewer #1:

The authors have presented a scientific review of the various macro molecules in the urine in relation to urinary stone formation. The references are mostly based on studies in animal models. During the last fifty years, much has been discussed about macromolecules and their role in urinary stone formation. However, no tangible result has emerged for the benefit of the clinician treating urinary stone patients. This aspect may be discussed in the paper.

Answer

We agree completely with reviewer. This aspect has been discussed in the final statement

Reviewer #2:

The authors published a review entitled 'Urinary Proteins in stone formation'. Urinary proteins have been extensively discussed. I suggest correcting the page layout and font size.

Answer

We have corrected the page layout and font size.

Reviewer #3:

1. Better to change the title as the current one may be mistaken for proteinuria in nephrolithiasis and this is a different entity. It at least should include the term (Urinary matrix Proteins).

Answer

We agree completely with reviewer. We have changed the title for “ Kidney stone matrix proteins”

2. The terms need to be unified. The authors described the proteins as inhibitors of crystallization at the initial part of introduction and then as matrix proteins later. The description and function need to be stated clearly.

Answer

All of these proteins are inhibitors of crystallization of calcium oxalate and they are also matrix proteins. The description and function of these proteins are clearly stated in Table 1

3. Better to support with illustrations that support the actions and physiology.

Answer

We agree completely with reviewer. We have added a table supporting the actions and physiology of these proteins

4. I would love to know if nutritional habits have any effects on stone composition through the effect on these proteins and not the crystals. Any relation with Citrate or K or Mg intake?

Answer

Little is known if nutritional habits have any effects on these proteins