

**171** Gunathilake, N; De Mel, T; De Mel, WCP; **Sheriff, MHR**; Dharmadasa, K  
The value of the use of renal function indices in distinguishing prerenal failure  
from established acute oliguric renal failure; Abstract Sri Lanka Medical  
Association - Centenary Congress 1987\_40pp

Abstract :In a search for simple and reliable measurements to evaluate the  
common clinical dilemma of acute oliguric renal failure, 35 patients admitted to  
the University Medical Unit, Colombo, were prospectively studied. A table of  
indices formulated from blood and urinary; urea creatinine and sodium were used,  
based on similar studies done previously-i.e. a) Anderson et. al, New England  
Journal of Medicine 1977. b) Sporn, Lancetremere and Papper, New England  
Journal of Medicine 1962. c) Jones and weil, The American Journal of Medicine,  
1971. d) Handa and Morin, Canad Med Assn J, 1967. These values were used to  
distinguish prerenal from established acute renal failure, and the clinical were  
compared with the biochemical findings. The objective of this study was to help  
diagnose early, potentially reversible conditions to prevent permanent structural  
damage to the kidneys. Except in three patients the indices compared well with the  
clinical findings. The two most useful values in decision making were, the  
fractional Excretion of Sodium (FEna) and the Renal Failure Index (RFI). We  
concluded that these simple tests in the absence of osmometry were very useful in  
delineating the pathogenesis of this common medical emergency.