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KIDNEY AWARENESS RESOURCES & EDUCATION

WHAT IS CKD

About 37 million American adults have chronic kidney disease (CKD) and most don't even know it. CKD includes conditions that damage your kidneys. The word "chronic" refers to the gradual, but lasting, loss of kidney function over time. Healthy kidneys remove the waste that your body naturally produces out of your blood. With unhealthy kidneys, you are unable to filter waste and excess fluid from your blood as well as you should.

CKD is not the same as kidney failure. CKD refers to all five stages of kidney disease, from mild loss of kidney function at stage 1 to complete kidney failure at stage 5.



The stages of kidney disease is based on how well your kidneys are able to remove waste and excess fluid from your blood. In the early stages of kidney disease, many people don't have any symptoms.