

# What's Next?

1

## Receiving Your Referral:

We will receive a new patient referral that includes details about your current kidney function and past medical history.

2

## Review Process:

Our team will review your referral and create a chart for you in our system. This process will be completed within 24 business hours.

3

## Scheduling Your Appointment:

Once your chart is set up, we will reach out to you to schedule an appointment with one of our nephrologists.

If you have any questions during this process, please feel free to contact us! We're here to help you every step of the way.



You're being referred to a nephrologist, a doctor who specializes in kidney care, for a closer look at your kidney health.



Nephrology Associates, Inc.

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### Bartlesville

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There are a few common reasons why this might be necessary, and we'll explain them:



#### **Changes in Kidney Function**

Your blood tests show that your kidneys aren't working as well as they should. The kidneys have a job to filter waste from the blood, and when they slow down, it can lead to problems like swelling, high blood pressure, or changes in your lab work. A nephrologist can help find out why this is happening and suggest treatments to protect your kidney function.

#### **Protein or Blood in Your Urine**

We've found protein or blood in your urine during testing, which can be a sign of kidney damage. A nephrologist will investigate the cause and offer specialized treatments to prevent further harm to your kidneys.

#### **Family History of Kidney Problems**

If you have a family history of kidney disease, certain kidney conditions can be inherited. A nephrologist can assess whether you're at risk and help with early monitoring and management.

#### **Diabetes and Its Impact on Your Kidneys**

If you have diabetes, your kidneys are at risk of damage over time. We want a nephrologist to look at your kidneys to make sure we're doing everything we can to prevent complications and keep them as healthy as possible.

#### **Electrolyte Imbalances**

*(Such as Potassium or Sodium Issues)*

Your blood tests may have shown abnormal levels of certain electrolytes, like potassium or sodium. These are important for the body's overall balance, and the kidneys help regulate them. A nephrologist can help find the right treatment if the kidneys aren't doing this job well.

#### **High Blood Pressure That's Hard to Control**

Your blood pressure has been difficult to control even with medications. The kidneys and blood pressure are closely linked, and a nephrologist can help adjust your treatment plan to better manage your blood pressure and protect your kidneys.

#### **Preparation for Dialysis or a Kidney Transplant**

If your kidney function is very low, you may need to start planning for dialysis or a kidney transplant. A nephrologist specializes in these treatments and can help guide you through the process if needed.

