hematuria (he"mah-tu're-ah):blood (erythrocytes) in the urine.

EMATURIA, HEMOLYZED AND NON-HEMOLYZED, IS GENERALLY PRESUMED TO BE A PATHOLOGICAL FINDING SUGGESTIVE OF GENITOURINARY DISORDER OR RENAL DISEASE. HEMATURIA CAN ALSO BE ATTRIBUTED TO INGESTION OF CERTAIN MEDICATIONS, TRAUMA, METABOLIC DISORDER, PREGNANCY COMPLICATIONS OR PHYSIOLOGICAL PREDISPOSITION. FOLLOWING IS AN ABBREVIATED LIST OF CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH HEMATURIA:

Alport Syndrome

A HEREDITARY DISEASE OF THE KIDNEYS CAUSING BLOOD IN THE URINE, HEARING LOSS AND EYE PROBLEMS. EVENTUALLY, KIDNEY DIALYSIS OR TRANSPLANT MAY BE NECESSARY. ALPORT SYNDROME AFFECTS ABOUT ONE IN 5,000 AMERICANS, STRIKING MEN MORE OFTEN AND SEVERELY THAN WOMEN. THERE ARE SEVERAL VARIETIES OF THE SYNDROME, SOME OCCURRING IN CHILDHOOD AND OTHERS NOT CAUSING SYMPTOMS UNTIL MEN REACH THEIR 20S OR 30S. ALL VARIETIES OF THE SYNDROME ARE CHARACTERIZED BY KIDNEY DISEASE THAT USUALLY PROGRESSES TO CHRONIC KIDNEY FAILURE AND BY UREMIA.

Benign Persistent Hematuria

BENIGN RECURRENT HEMATURIA, PERSISTENT MICROSCOPIC HEMATURIA NEPHROLOGY; A HETEROGENEOUS CONDITION CHARACTERIZED BY MICROSCOPIC HEMATURIA.

Cystitis

INFLAMMATION OF THE URINARY BLADDER.

Hemorrhagic Thrombocythemia

A SYNDROME OF REPEATED SPONTANEOUS HEMORRHAGES, EITHER EXTERNAL OR INTO THE TISSUES, AND GREATLY INCREASED NUMBER OF CIRCULATING PLATELETS.

Kidney (or Bladder) Stones

SOLID ACCUMULATIONS OF MATERIAL THAT FORM IN THE TUBAL SYSTEM OF THE KIDNEY. SOMETIMES, WHEN DISSOLVED SUBSTANCES BECOME SOLID AGAIN, TINY CRYSTALS FORM IN THE URINE, MEET, AND CLING TOGETHER TO CREATE A LARGER SOLID MASS CALLED A KIDNEY STONE, OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH MODERATE TO SEVERE PAIN. OCCASIONALLY, PEOPLE ARE UNAWARE THAT THEY HAVE STONES IN THEIR KIDNEYS OR BLADDER. THESE STONES ARE SMALL ENOUGH TO ALLOW THE KIDNEY TO CONTINUE FUNCTIONING NORMALLY, NEVER CAUSING ANY PAIN. THESE ARE CALLED "SILENT STONES."

Kidney Cancer

KIDNEY CANCER IS A DISEASE IN WHICH THE CELLS IN CERTAIN TISSUES OF THE KIDNEY START TO GROW UNCONTROLLABLY AND FORM TUMORS. RENAL CELL CARCINOMA, WHICH OCCURS IN THE CELLS LINING THE KIDNEYS (EPITHELIAL CELLS), IS THE MOST COMMON TYPE OF KIDNEY CANCER. EIGHTY-FIVE PERCENT OF ALL KIDNEY TUMORS ARE RENAL CELL CARCINOMAS.

Medication or Supplementation

INGESTION OF CERTAIN MEDICATIONS (SUCH AS BLOOD THINNERS) OR VITAMINS, MINERALS OR SUPPLEMENTS (PARTICULARLY THOSE THAT CAN BE ABRASIVE TO THE URINARY TRACT) HAVE ALSO BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH HEMATURIA.

Miscarriage

THREATENED, IMPENDING, OR OCCURRING MISCARRIAGE IS FREQUENTLY ASSOCIATED WITH NON-HEMOLYZED HEMATURIA.

Nail-Patella Syndrome

Nail-patella syndrome, is a genetic disease of the connective tissue that produces defects in the fingernails, knee caps, AND KIDNEYS. ALSO KNOWN AS FONG DISEASE, HEREDITARY ONYCHO-OSTEODYSPLASIA (H.O.O.D.), ILIAC HORN DISEASE, AND TURNER-KIESER SYNDROME. PATIENTS WHO HAVE NAIL-PATELLA SYNDROME MAY SHOW A VARIETY OF PHYSICAL DEFECTS. THE HALLMARK FEATURES OF THIS SYNDROME ARE POORLY DEVELOPED FINGERNAILS, TOENAILS, AND PATELLAE (KNEECAPS). OTHER COMMON ABNORMALITIES INCLUDE ELBOW DEFORMITIES, ABNORMALLY SHAPED PELVIS BONE (HIP BONE), AND KIDNEY (RENAL) DISEASE.

Placental Pathology (During Pregnancy)

ABNORMAL PLACENTATION DURING PREGNANCY MAY RESULT IN NON-HEMOLYZED HEMATURIA. SOME PLACENTAL CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH HEMATURIA ARE UNHEALTHY IMPLANTATION SUCH AS PLACENTA PREVIA, PLACENTA ACCRETA, PLACENTA INCRETA, PLACENTA PERCRETA, AND PLACENTAL ABRUPTION.

Proteinuric Syndrome (Idiopathic Primary Renal Hematuric/Proteinuric Syndrome)

THIS SYNDROME INCLUDES A GROUP OF DISORDERS CHARACTERIZED BY BLOOD AND PROTEIN IN THE URINE AND BY DAMAGE TO THE KIDNEY GLOMERULI (FILTERING STRUCTURES) THAT MAY LEAD TO KIDNEY FAILURE. ALSO KNOWN AS BERGER'S DISEASE OR IGA NEPHROPATHY, ARISES WHEN INTERNAL KIDNEY STRUCTURES CALLED GLOMERULI BECOME INFLAMED AND INJURED. IT CAN OCCUR AT ANY AGE, BUT THE GREAT MAJORITY OF PATIENTS ARE 16-35 WHEN DIAGNOSED.

Pyelonephritis

INFECTION OF THE UPPER URINARY TRACT THAT INVOLVES THE SPREAD OF BACTERIA TO THE KIDNEY.

Trauma

RECENT TRAUMA TO THE URINARY TRACT, OR CONNECTIVE TISSUE SUPPORTING OR SURROUNDING THE URINARY TRACT MAY TEMPORARILY RESULT IN HEMATURIA. MORE RARELY, MUSCLE INJURY CAN CAUSE MYOGLOBIN TO APPEAR IN THE URINE WHICH ALSO CAUSES THE REAGENT PAD TO FALSELY INDICATE BLOOD

Urethritis

AN INFLAMMATION OF THE URETHRA, WHICH IS THE PASSAGEWAY THAT CONNECTS THE BLADDER WITH THE EXTERIOR OF THE BODY. NOTE: SOMETIMES CYSTITIS AND URETHRITIS ARE REFERRED TO COLLECTIVELY AS A LOWER URINARY TRACT INFECTION, OR UTI.