INTRODUCTION

Uraemia is a term that has been for more than a century to discribe a number of observation that arise from failure of kidney function. The increased amount of blood urea was amongest the early discribtion of uraemia syndrome and the symptoms of chronic renal failure were long attributed to it. Recent knowledge concerning renal physiology has shown that impairment of renal function is usually associated with other complex biochemical changes that occur in the body.

These changes and the increased amounts of urea in the blood may be responsible for the clinical features of uraemia. These changes include disturbances in hydrogen ion concentration, abnormalities in water and of metabolism.

Chronic renal failure and its effect on hearing has become more obvious. This is because treatment of renal disease has become more efficient and hence life for the renal disease patient more prolonged. However the multiple effects of renal dysfunction on the auditory system has not been adequately or fully determined and deserves further study. This study was undertaken to study the incidence of sensorineural hearing loss in uraemic patients.

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