



**SNS COLLEGE OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES**  
SNS Kalvi Nagar, Coimbatore - 35  
Affiliated to Dr MGR Medical University, Chennai



**DEPARTMENT OF CARDIOPULMONARY PERFUSION CARE**  
**TECHNOLOGY**

**COURSE NAME: PATHOLOGY II**

**II YEAR**

**UNIT III : PATHOLOGY OF KIDNEY**

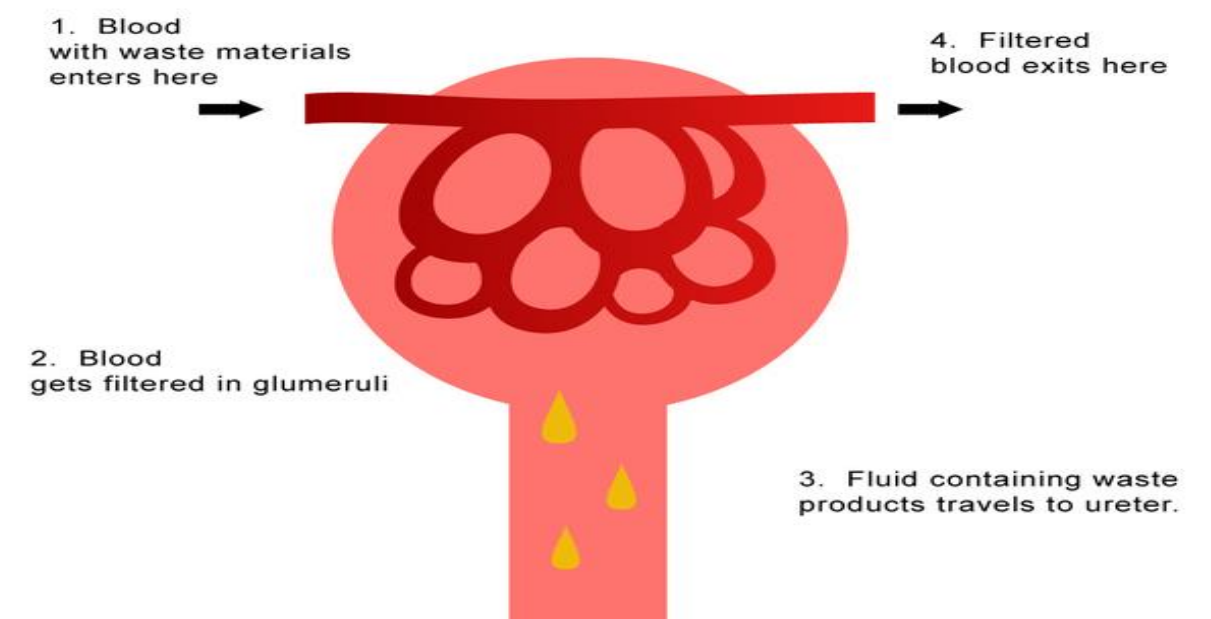
**TOPIC 5 : NEPHRITIC SYNDROME**



# Glomerulus

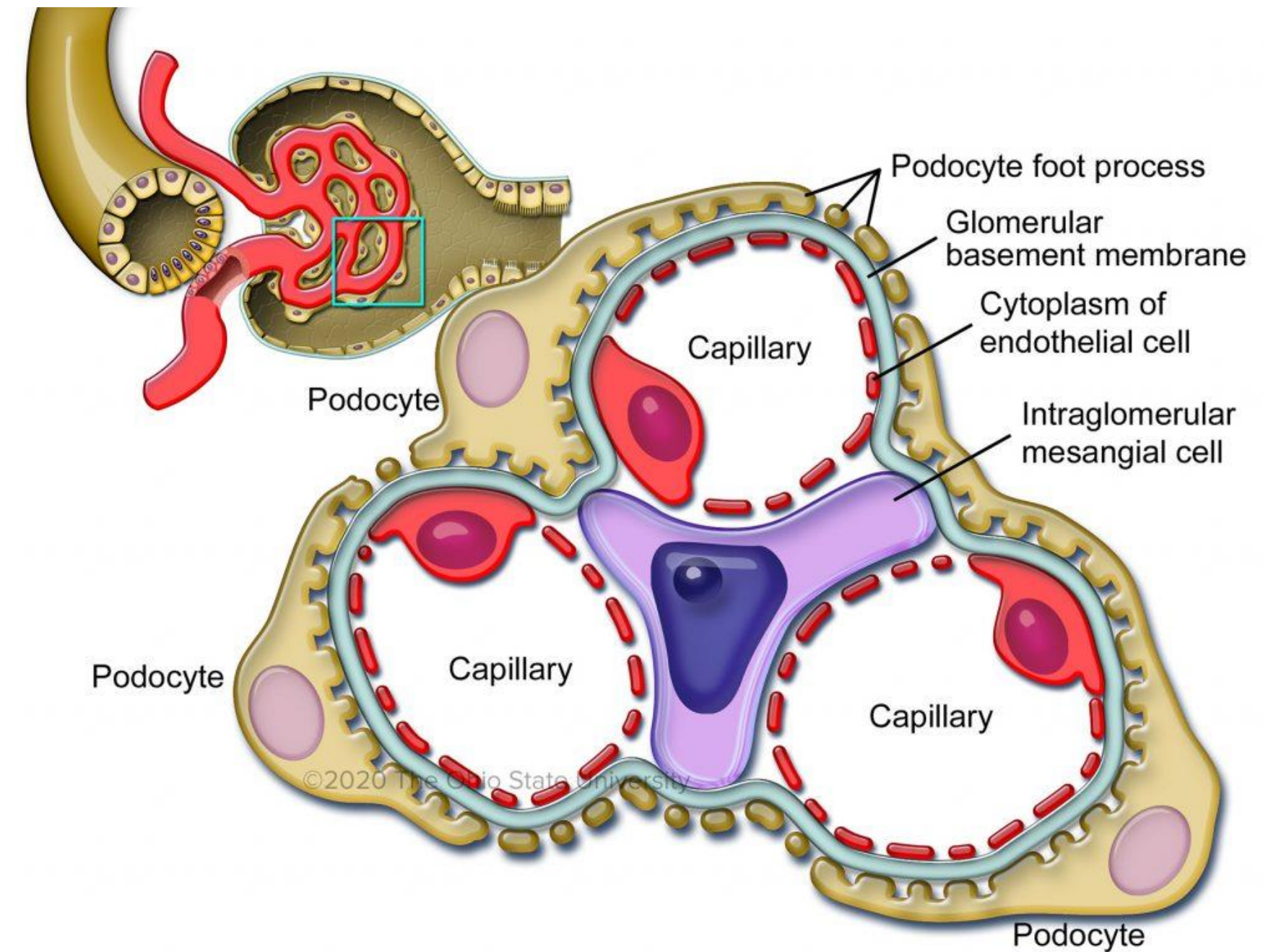


- The glomerulus is a **loop of capillaries twisted into a ball shape**, surrounded by the Bowman's capsule.
- The **glomerulus** filters the blood
- Approximately 1 million glomeruli, or filters, in each kidney.
- The glomerulus is **attached to the opening of a small fluid-collecting tube called a tubule**.
- The filtrate is captured by Bowman's capsule and directed to the proximal convoluted tubule.



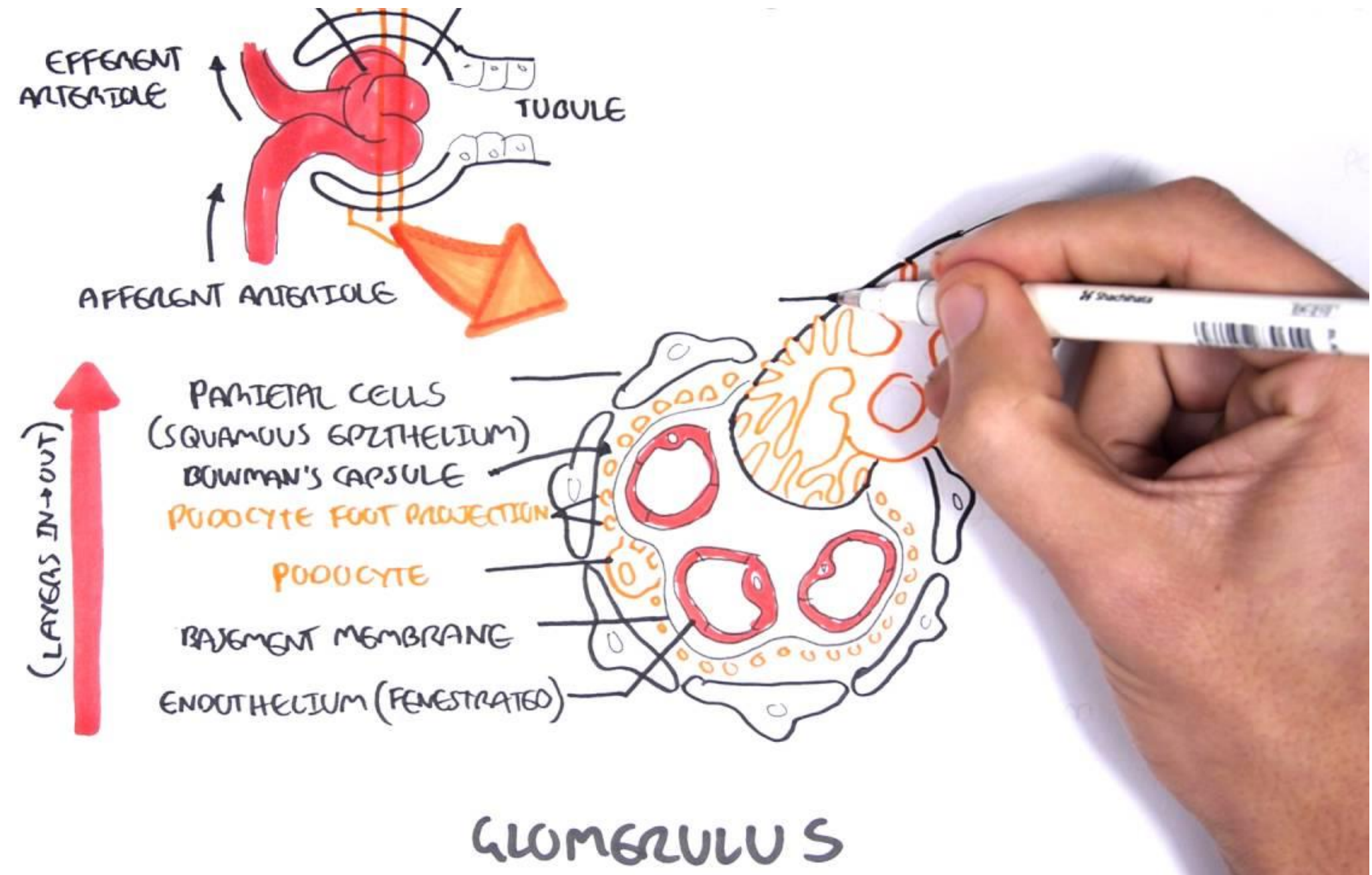
# Microscopic Structure of Glomerulus

- The outermost part of glomerular capsule is a **simple squamous epithelium**.
- It transitions over the glomerulus as uniquely shaped cells (**podocytes**) with finger-like arms that cover the glomerular capillaries.
- A **thin basement membrane** lies between the glomerular endothelium and the podocytes.

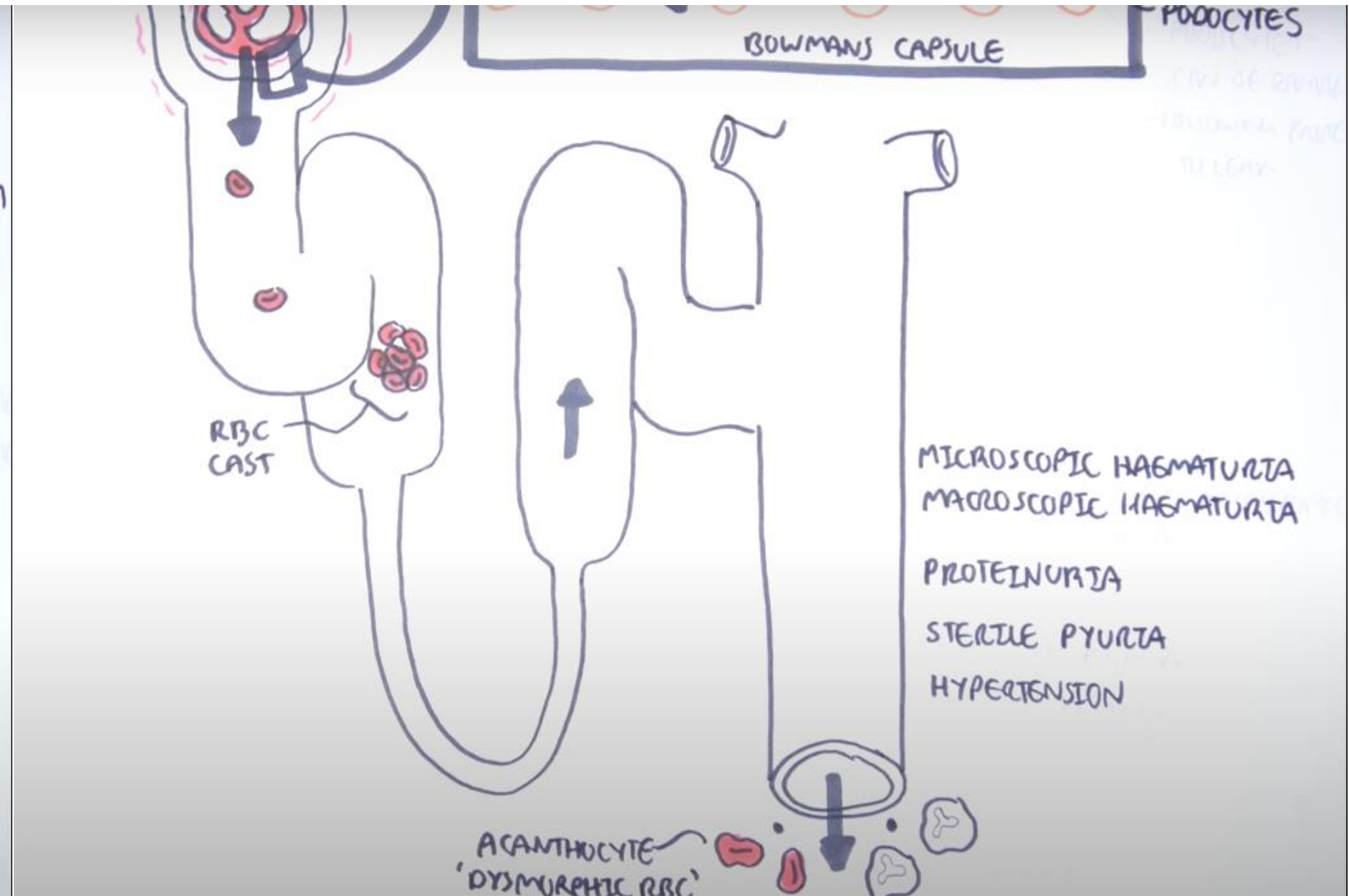
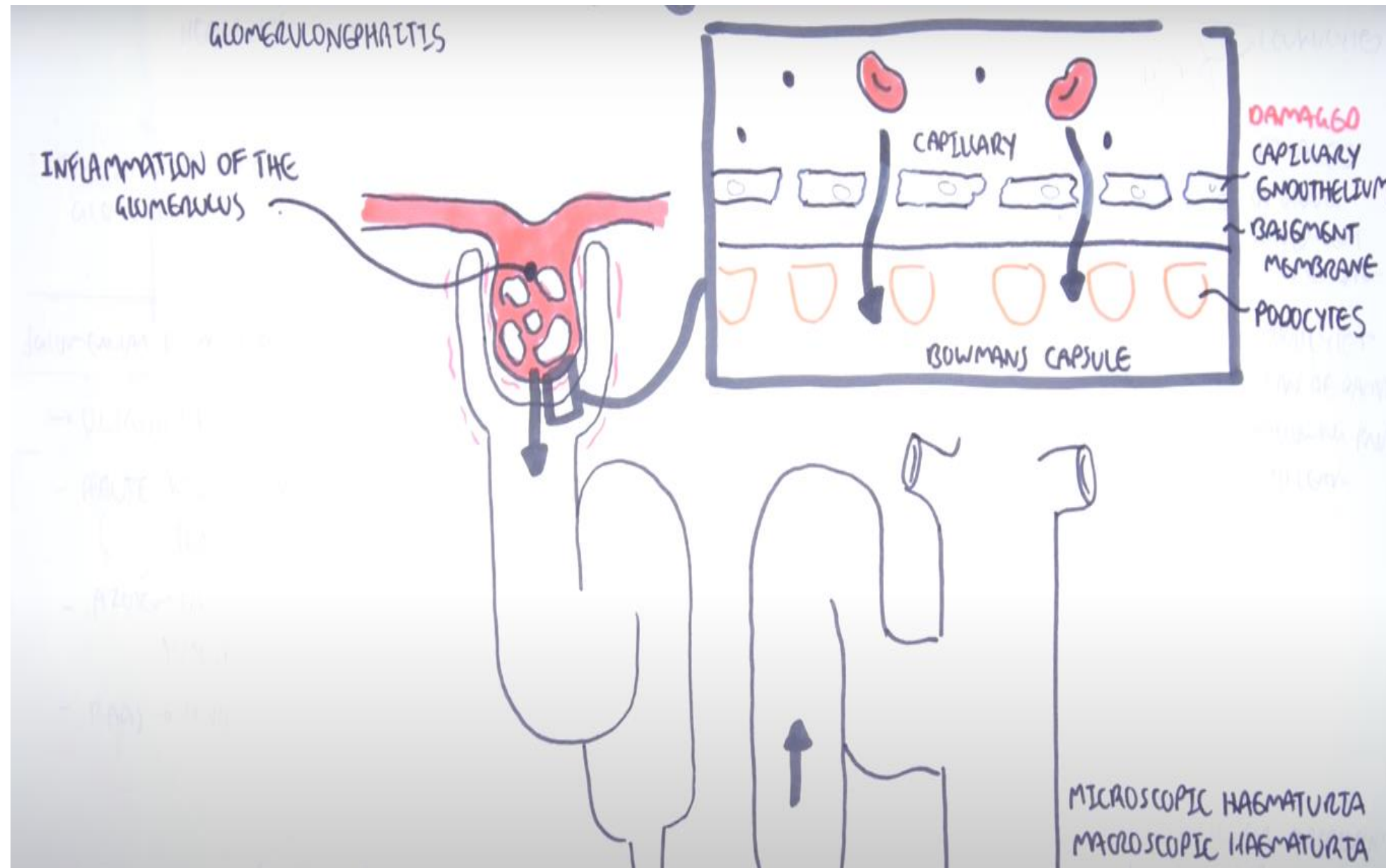


# Nephritic Syndrome

Nephritic syndrome is characterized by **inflammatory rupture of the glomerular capillaries**, with resultant bleeding into the urinary space; proteinuria and oedema may be present but usually are mild.



# Dysmorphic RBC





## Clinical Findings



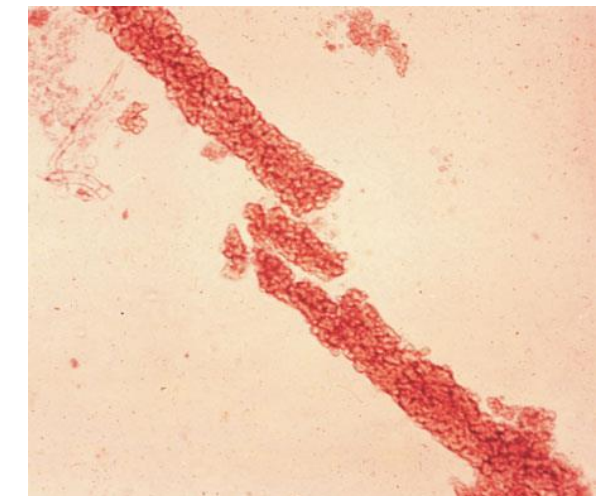
- Mild proteinuria.
- Mild edema.
- Oliguria.
- Azotemia (Increased urea and creatinine levels in blood due to decreased GFR)
- Hypertension (due to Fluid retention / increased renin secretion)
- Smoky brownish urine
- Hematuria -----> ***Results from leakage of dysmorphic RBC directly from glomerular capillaries into the Bowman space.***



## Clinical Findings



- Many of the RBC are aggregated into the shape of the renal tubules and embedded in a **proteinaceous matrix forming RBC casts** that can be observed in the urine.
- Proteinaceous is the one which cause these RBCs to adhere to each other.
- The hemodynamic changes caused by the rupture lead to a reduction in the glomerular filtration rate (GFR).
- **The RBC casts are a sign of a disease affecting the glomerulus**





# Pathogenesis



- Nephritic syndrome is an immune mediated disease and this immune reaction is usually an immune complex
- The immune complex
- Creates an inflammatory reaction
- Activation of the complement by the alternative pathway
- Accumulation of c3a & c5a ---→ chemotaxis of neutrophils
- Contribution of the damage which occurred in the blood vessels
- The blood vessels inside the glomerulus react to this contribution
- Mesangial& endothelial proliferation.





# Pathogenesis



Diffuse (rapid) proliferative glomerulonephritis can occur the following:

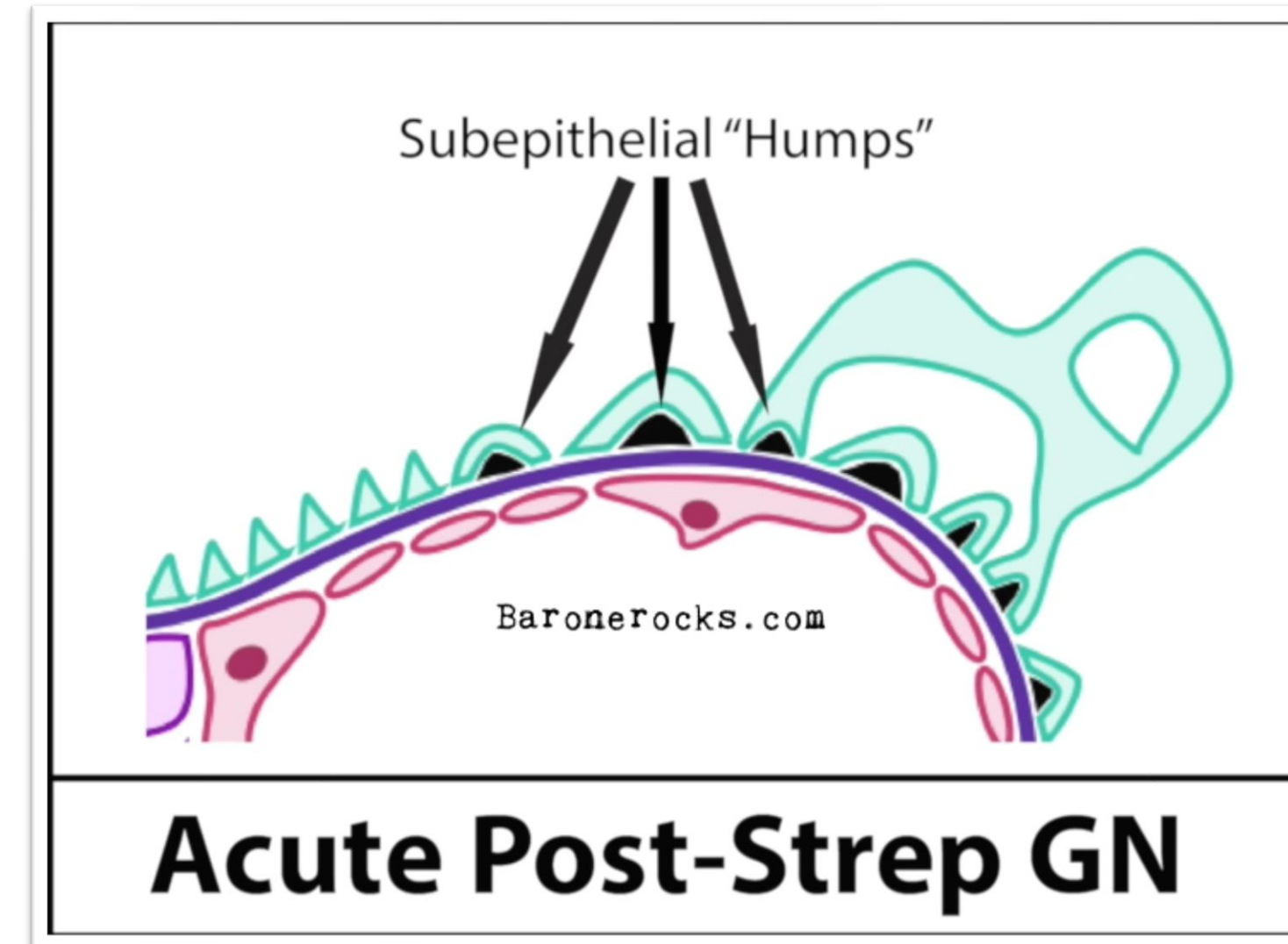
- Type 1 = Anti basement membrane anti bodies (Good pasture syndrome).
- Type 2 = Post infectious glomerulonephritis / SLE class 4.
- Type 3 = Wegener granulomatosis (Pauci-immune).



## Post streptococcal glomerulonephritis



- Also called **acute post infectious proliferative glomerulonephritis**.
- It is the prototype of the nephritic syndrome.
- It is immune complex disease with the **antigen being of streptococcal origin**.
- This disease is common in young people.



It's usually occurs 1-4 weeks following upper respiratory tract infection (mainly throat infection by group A  $\beta$ -hemolytic streptococci)



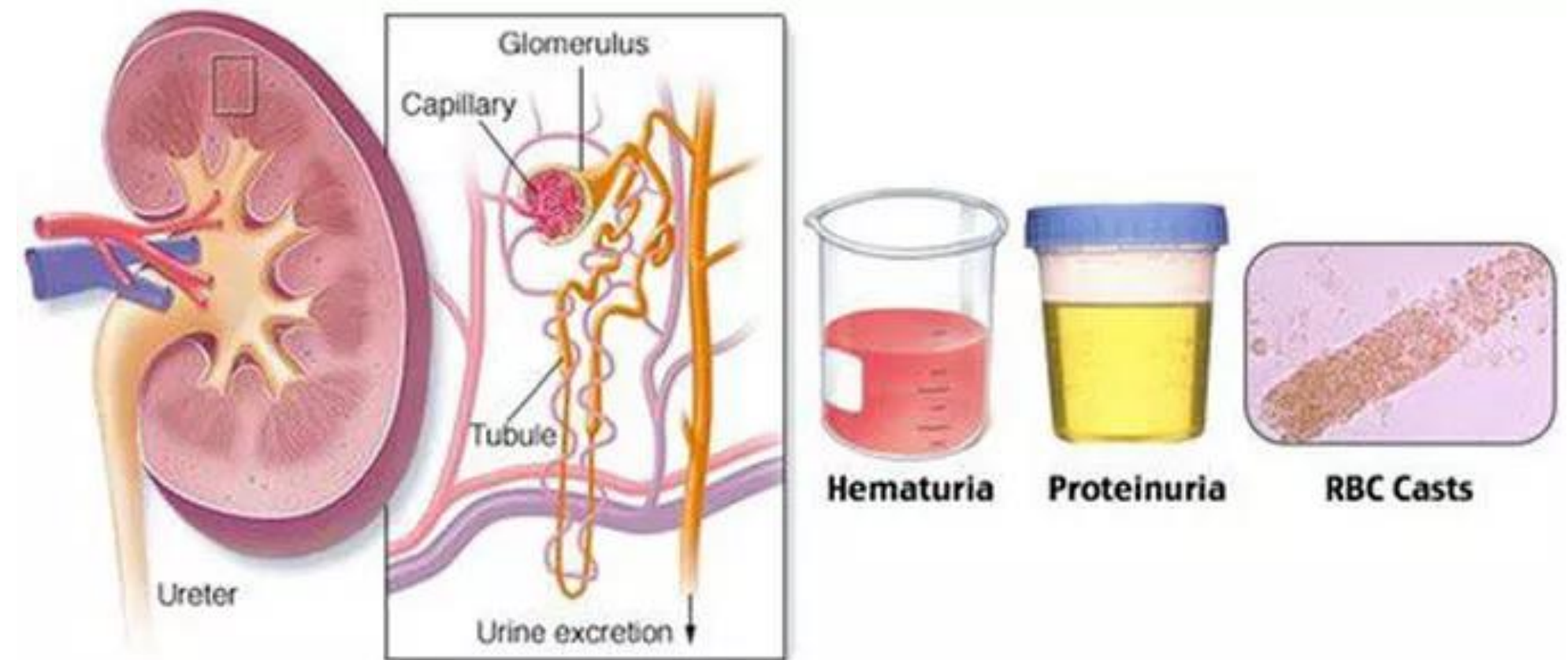
The child starts having edema



Changing in urine color



Development of nephritic syndrome.





## Reactions on kidney



- Innumerable punctuate **haemorrhages** on the surface of both kidneys.
- **Enlarged, Hyper-cellular, swollen, blood less glomeruli** with proliferation of mesangial and endothelial cells
- Characteristic electron-dense "**humps**" on the epithelial side of basement membrane
- **High power:** There are **RBCs & fibrin in the bowman's space** due to the inflammatory reaction that caused damage to the basement membrane and it is leaking protein, RBC & fibrin.
- **Immunofluorescence:** There are chunks of positive immune complexes containing **IgG**



# Alport syndrome (congenital/hereditary nephritis)



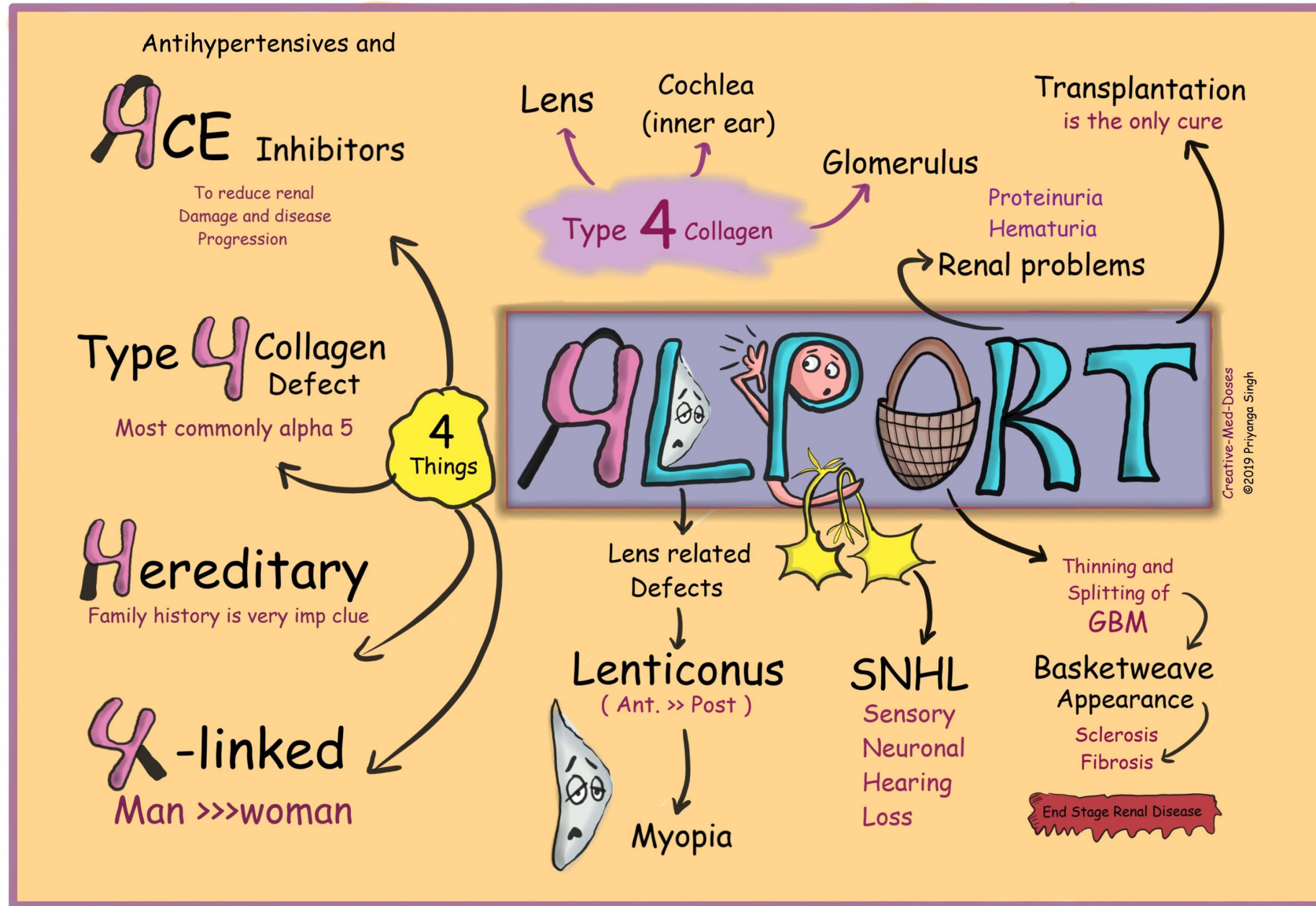
- It is a disease that usually affects children
- Split basement membrane due to hereditary nephritis

## **Pathogenesis:**

- Caused by mutations in gene encoding for certain protein chain ( $\alpha$ -5 chain)

## **Prognosis:**

- Often progressing to end stage renal disease by 30 years of age.

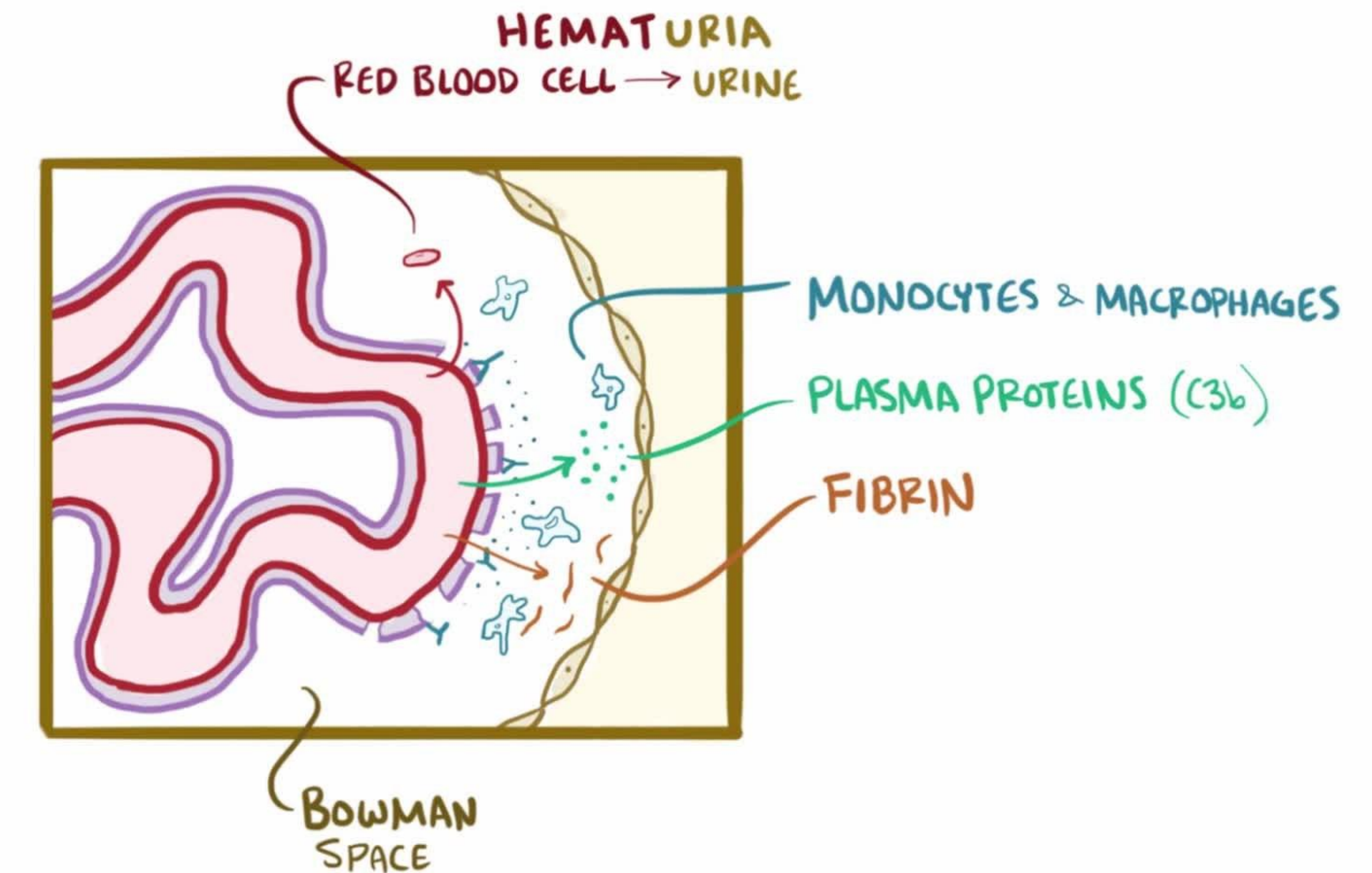




## Rapidly progressive (crescentic) glomerulonephritis (RPGN)



- The formation of crescents between the Bowman's capsule and the glomerular tuft
- This result from **deposition of fibrin** in the Bowman space and from proliferation of parietal epithelial cells of the Bowman capsule.
- This leads to rapid and progressive loss of renal function associated with **severe oliguria** and if untreated even death



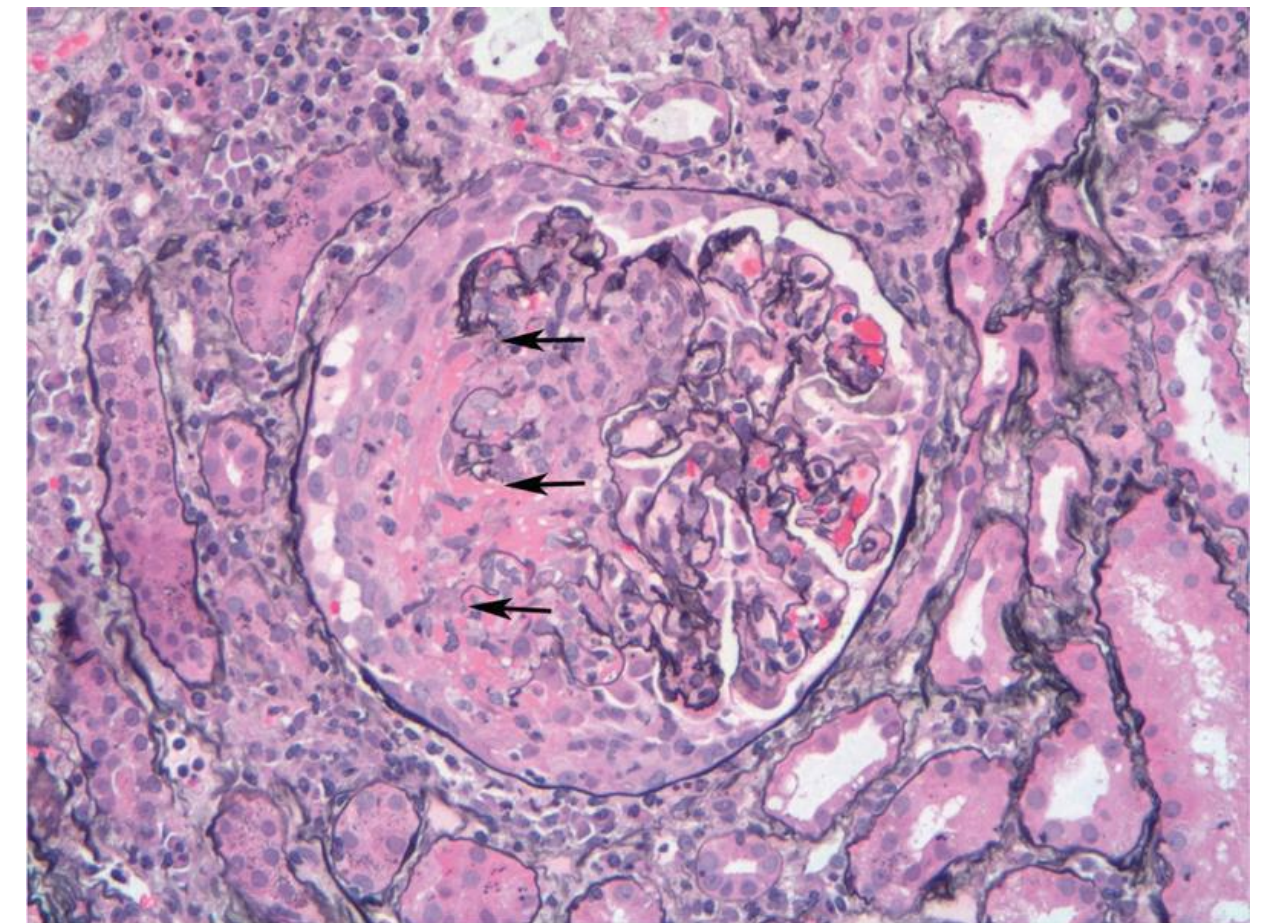


## **Etiology:**

- Post streptococcal infection
- Anti glomerular basement membrane antibodies (non-streptococcal)

## **Morphology:**

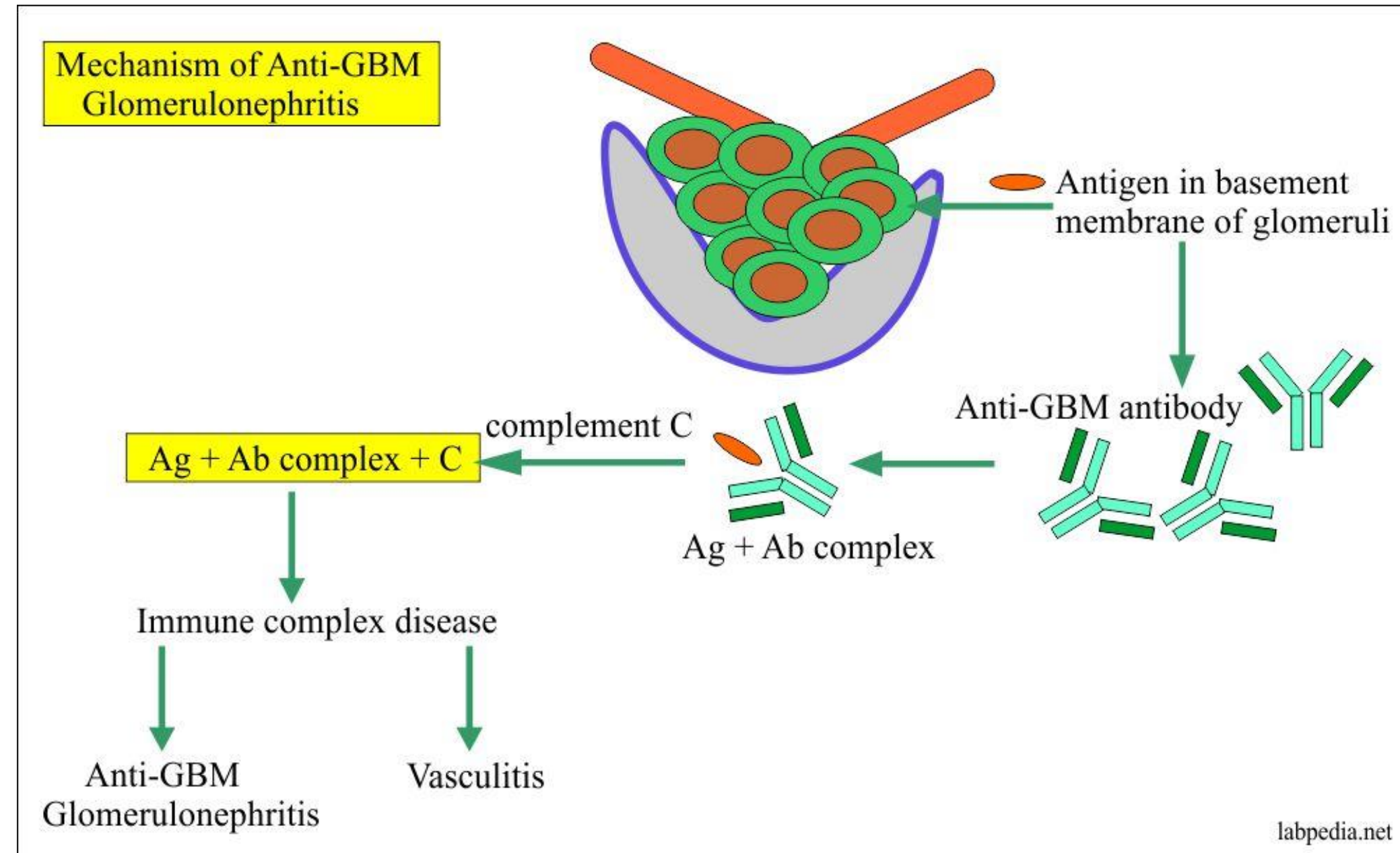
- Areas of necrosis with rupture of capillary loops
- Destruction of normal glomerular structures
- The adjacent crescent-shaped mass of proliferating cells
- Leukocytes filling the urinary space.



Kumar et al: Robbins Basic Pathology, 9e.  
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- Also called **Good pasture syndrome**
- It is caused by the formation of antibodies (**anti glomerular basement membrane antibodies**), which are directed against antigen in the glomerular and pulmonary alveolar basement membranes.





- It usually affects young males.
- It can be characterized by the **formation of crescent**. (The crescent consists of parietal epithelial cells with some inflammatory cells)

Proliferation will lead to **rupture of the basement membrane**

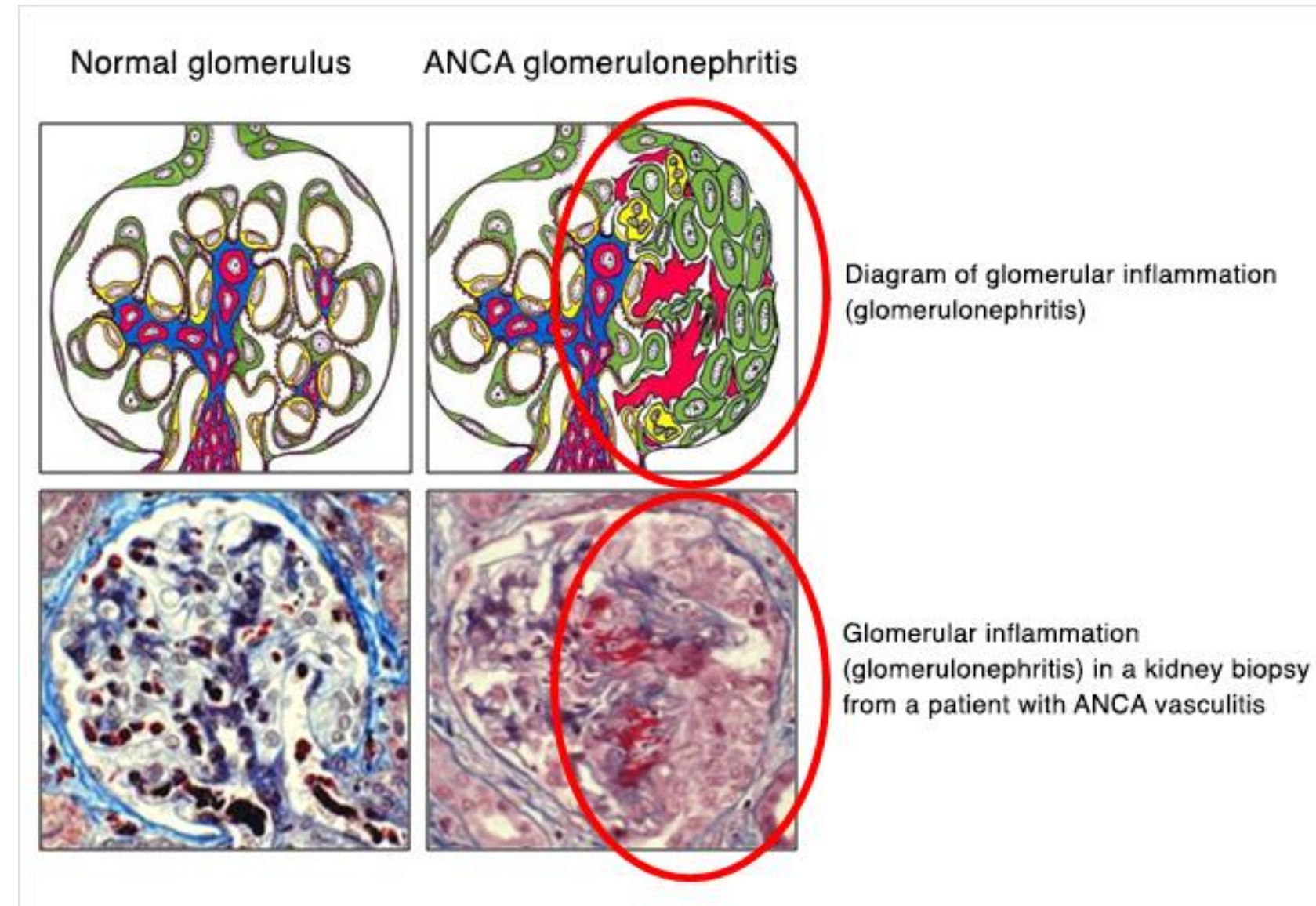
↓  
Rbc's & fibrin goes to bowman's space

↓  
Reactive proliferation of parietal cells

↓  
They will form the **crescent**

# Wagener granulomatosis

- Also called **Pauci-immune glomerulonephritis**
- It is an auto immune disease, that causes inflammation of blood vessels (vasculitis)
- It is caused by autoantibodies against **proteinase 3**
- **Granulomas and patchy necrosis** in arteries and veins
- Increased **Anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies (ANCA)** is seen.

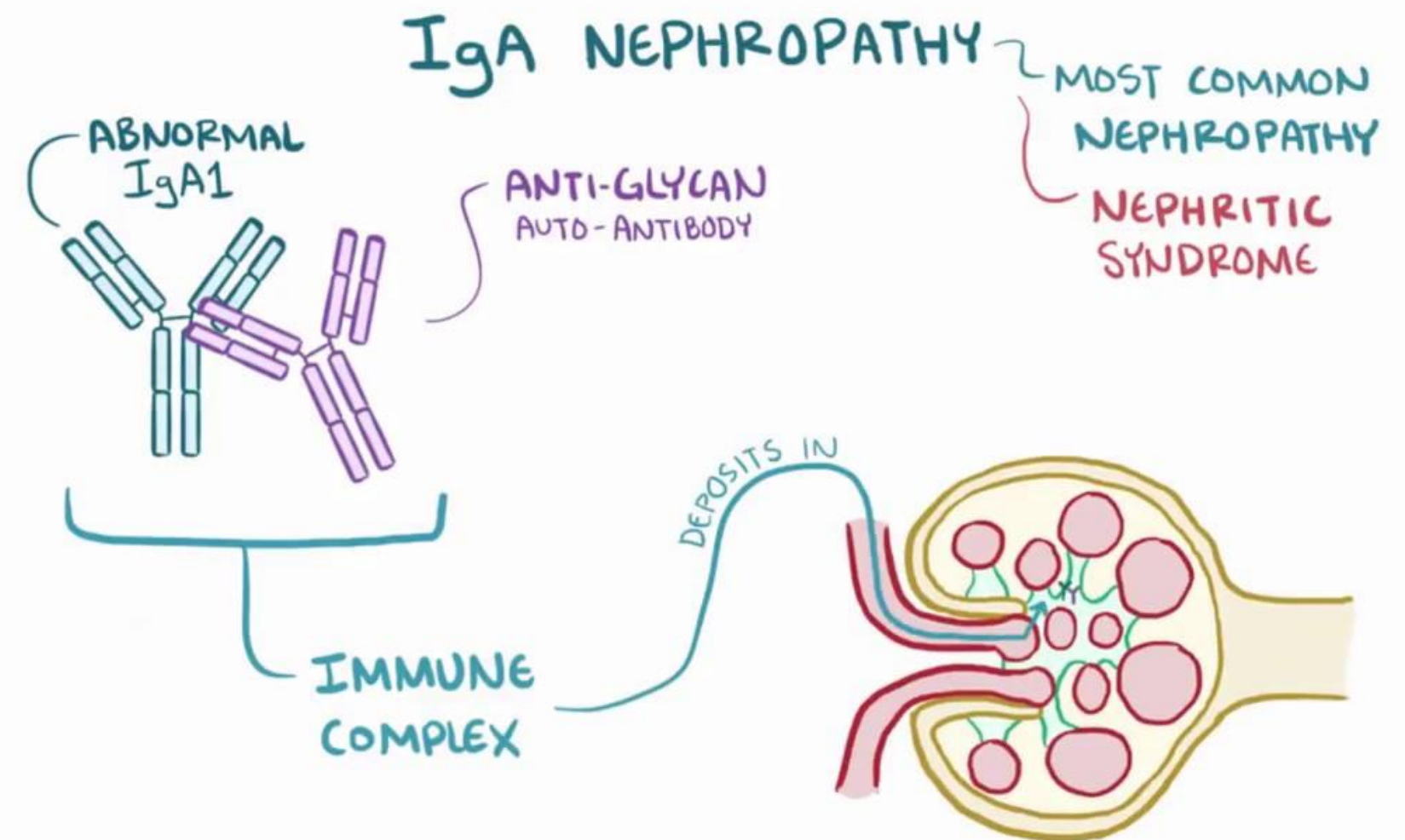




# IgA Nephropathy

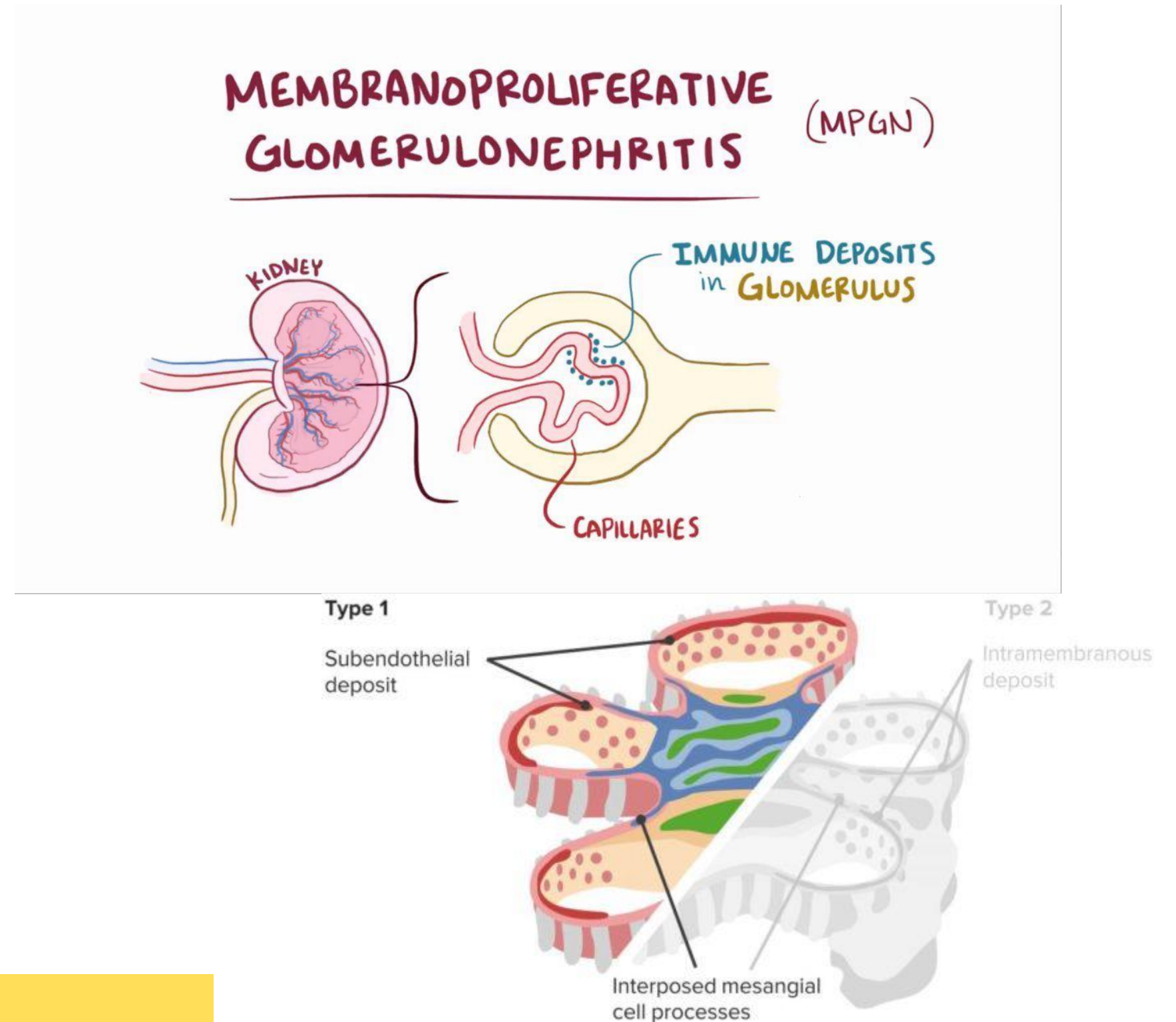


- Also called **Berger disease**
- It is **the most common cause of nephritis** in worldwide
- **IgA nephropathy** is characterized by benign **recurrent hematuria** in children (only microscopic hematuria), usually following an **infection**, lasting 12 days, and usually of **minimal clinical significance**.
- It is also characterized by over production of **IgA**



# Membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis

- Endocapillary proliferation, (endothelial cells are proliferated)
- **Clinical characteristics:** include slow progression to chronic renal disease.
- **Histological characteristics:** include both basement membrane thickening and cellular proliferation.
- There is **splitting in the glomerular basement membrane.**
- **It affects the endothelial & mesangial cells.**





# Investigations



- Arterial Blood Gases
- BUN
- Blood Chemistry
- Complete Blood count
- Kidney Biopsy
- Urinalysis





# Management



- Antibiotic Penicillin
- Corticosteroids and immunosuppressive drugs
- Dietary protein
- Sodium protein
- Loop diuretics and Anti-hypertensive to control hypertension



**THANK YOU**



References:

- Text book of Pathology Harsh Mohan
- Textbook of Pathology for Allied Health Sciences, Ramadas Nayak