

appearance. Susie tells her nurse that she has been really tired lately and her headaches have returned.

Assessment

What concerns you most based on the scenario?

Susie's kidney status may be deteriorating based on the history and examination. See the defining characteristics of CKD listed earlier.

What immediate steps should be taken to further evaluate Susie's kidney status?

Check CBC, electrolyte status, and kidney function tests.

Document weight, height, and blood pressure; compare to previous visit.

Evaluate patient adherence to medication and dietary recommendations.

The following laboratory results have returned from Susie's blood work:

CBC: Hemoglobin, 9.1; hematocrit (Hct), 27; white blood count (WBC), 8,500; platelets, normal

Urinalysis: Elevated protein

Electrolytes and kidney function: Potassium, 5.9; sodium, 138; phosphate, 6.0; calcium, 9.1; magnesium, 2.5; blood urea nitrogen (BUN), 25; serum creatinine, 1.8