



UNC
KIDNEY CENTER

Podcast Transcript:

Dr. Ron Falk

Anti-GBM

“Anti-GBM: Is it caused by inhaling chemicals?”

Patient I’ve heard that this disease is caused by inhaling chemicals. Is that right?

Dr Falk There are some reports, especially in some individuals with lung disease. The lung disease is best described as coughing up blood, and coughing up a lot of blood. The lung disease may be exacerbated by a number of factors. Inhaling chemicals, especially hydrocarbons, has been associated with Goodpasture’s Disease. So has cigarette smoking, so has being fluid overloaded, so has infections.

I don’t believe, however, that any of these conditions are regular contributors to Goodpasture’s Disease. In fact, we really don’t know why some patients get lung disease and kidney disease, and some patients get kidney disease alone. But when patients do have lung disease, and lung disease has started, a number of factors can make the disease process worse.