



UNC
KIDNEY CENTER

Podcast Transcript:

Dr. Ron Falk

FSGS

“FSGS: The different types”

Patient: I've heard that there are different types or variants of this disease. Could you tell me about them?

Dr. Falk: FSGS is a pathological word choice. The pathologist sees focally and segmentally scarred glomeruli. There are many pathological variants of focal sclerosis, that is, they look somewhat different to the pathologist when he or she looks at the tissue under the microscope. What is important is that some of these variants result in a very rapid progression of the disease, while other pathological types of FSGS portend a much better outcome. That is, that the disease process gets better either by itself or with minimal therapy or with glucocorticoids. But some of these diseases that are described as focal and segmental sclerosis, especially the collapsing variant, result in a very aggressive disease with rapid loss of kidney function.