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Letter to the Editor RE: Spradling and Conti, Editorial Comment on: Nonrenal Systemic Arterial Calcifications Predicts the Formation of Kidney Stones by Stern et al. (From: Stern KL, Ward RD, Li J, et al. J Endourol 2019;33:1035; DOI: 10.1089/end.201...

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Letter to the Editor RE:
**Spradling and Conti, Editorial Comment on:
Nonrenal Systemic Arterial Calcifications Predicts
the Formation of Kidney Stones by Stern et al.**
(From: Stern KL, Ward RD, Li J, et al. J Endourol 2019;33:1035;
DOI: 10.1089/end.2019.0673)

Karen L. Stern, MD,^{1,*} Ryan D. Ward, MD,² Jianbo Li, PhD,³ Erick M. Remer, MD,^{2,4}
Marshall L. Stoller, MD,⁵ and Manoj Monga, MD¹

Dear Editor:

ALTHOUGH IT IS OFTEN assumed that the kidney donor population is healthier than the general population, there is no evidence to support this. In fact, a recent study suggests that in existing literature nondonors may be healthier than donors.¹ Therefore, our matching of cohorts based on age, gender, and BMI with data analysis, including hypertension, gives relatively unbiased results. Only a small portion of the kidney stone formers had diabetes, and although this is a limitation, the median age was only 43 years, so it is unlikely that diabetes in this small population had a significant impact on the systemic calcifications. Stone composition unfortunately was only available in a small cohort of the patient data and, therefore, was unable to be assessed in any meaningful way. The editorial comments are appreciated and open the door to additional research in the future.

Reference

1. Janki S, Steyerberg E, Hofman A, et al. Live kidney donation: Are concerns about long-term safety justified?—A methodological review. *Eur J Epidemiol* 2017;32:103–111.

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