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ON THE COVER This month we give tribute to the renes, or kidneys as we know them. The kidneys were once regarded as the seat of the soul or the place where our affections were stored. Because each kidney filters roughly 100 liters of blood per day and is responsible for cleansing our bodies, it is important to identify early stage damage to this fist-size organ. This goal is often accomplished through the use of the estimated glomerular filtration rate. This issue of Clinical Chemistry contains a perspective by Hostetter et al. on the clinical impact of reporting estimated glomerular filtration rates, plus an original article by Ristiniemi et al., who describe a dry-reagent double monoclonal assay for cystatin C, a nonglycosylated 13 kDa protein that has been purported to improve estimates of the glomerular filtration rate (see pages 1381 and 1424). © Image reproduced with permission from Getty Images/MedicalRF.com.

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