

## Benign cystic nephroma

A 6-month-old female presented with a palpable mass on the left side of her abdomen. Ultrasound and computed tomography suggested benign cystic nephroma. Nephrectomy was performed, and histology confirmed a diagnosis of benign cystic nephroma (*Figure 1*).

Benign cystic nephroma, or multilocular cyst of the kidney, is an uncommon, benign neoplasm, with unknown aetiology (Okada et al, 2003). It is seen in both children and adults and consists of well-demarcated, non-communicating, fluid-filled cysts divided by fibrous stroma. There are often multiple cysts, which may or may not communicate with the renal pelvis. Treatment is by surgical excision, nephron-sparing where possible (Ferrer and McKenna, 1994), and the prognosis is very good, with no requirement for chemotherapy. [BJHM](#)

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Ferrer FA, McKenna PH (1994) Partial nephrectomy in a metachronous multilocular cyst of the kidney (cystic nephroma). *J Urol* **151**: 1358–60

Okada T, Yoshida H, Matsunaga T et al (2003) Nephron-sparing surgery for multilocular cyst of the kidney in a child. *J Paediatr Surg* **38**: 1689–92

**Figure 1.** Nephrectomy specimen demonstrating a well-circumscribed, multicystic lesion replacing one pole of the kidney. The features are those of a benign cystic nephroma.

