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Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) is a non-organ specific autoimmune disease in which the primary autoantigen has been a subject of debate despite detection of antibodies to several nuclear antigens. Contrary to previously held belief that SLE and, by extension, lupus nephritis is an immune complex disease mediated by DNA-AntiDNA complexes, it is becoming increasingly clear that nucleosomes and possibly complement factor Clq are the major players in the pathogenesis of these entities. This review article looks at the structure, source and possible pathogenetic role of nucleosomes and anti-nucleosome specific antibodies in lupus nephritis. Additionally, the possible role of Clq and anti-Clq antibodies in the pathogenesis of lupus nephritis is considered.