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Theme : Rehabilitation, Quality of Life and Survival

Comparisons of Peritoneal Dialysis and Hemodialysis in Elder Patients: A Japanese Multi-center Study.

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(a) Background: In Japan, 96.5% of patients are treated with hemodialysis (HD) and only 3.5% are treated with peritoneal (PD). In these recent years, indications of renal replacement therapies have been extended to extremely elder patients, and necessities for PD therapy have been increased to satisfy their happy home life. However, there are few studies concerning about the outcome of PD compared with HD especially in elder patients in Japan.

(b) Objectives: In order to clarify which is favorable PD or HD for elder CKD patients, we compared the outcome in each modality.

(c) Methods: Clinical features, comorbidities and outcomes in 489 HD patients and 421 PD patients were compared using the database of the Japanese Society for Elderly Patients on Peritoneal Dialysis. Comorbidities were determined with Charlson Comorbidity Index Scoring System (CCI). Patients' survival curves were determined by Kaplan-Meier survival analyses.

(d) Results: The mean age of PD patients was higher than HD patients (76.4 yrs vs. 74.9 yrs.). Body weight and BMI were significantly higher in HD patients, and CCI scores were slightly higher in PD but not significant. Serum urea nitrogen and serum creatinine were higher in HD, but creatinine clearances estimated by the Cockcroft equation showed almost the same value. One and 2 years patient's survival rate were approximately 80 %, 65% in PD, and 72%, 62% respectively.

(e) Conclusion: Peritoneal dialysis is a good modality for extremely elder patients. However, we should set up adequate therapeutic prescriptions in order to keep them active and well nourished to get better clinical outcome.