

Cardiovascular problems in dialysis patients: an overview

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Cardiovascular (CV) disease is the leading cause of mortality in patients with end-stage renal disease. The underlying cause of CV disease in dialysis patients is unclear but may be related to shared risk factors (e.g. diabetes mellitus, hypertension), chronic inflammation, massive changes in extracellular volume, anemia, vascular calcification, and alteration in cardiovascular dynamics during the dialysis treatments. This lecture will provide an overview of CV disease including heart failure, coronary artery disease, arrhythmia and sudden cardiac death in dialysis patients.