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COVID-19 in peritoneal dialysis patients in Indian patients

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Objectives: The impact of COVID-19 on patients with chronic kidney disease is poorly understood. Given the co morbidity and immunosuppressed state of these patients, mortality could be higher than that in the general population, especially in patients on dialysis therapy.

Methods: Describe the clinical manifestations and outcomes of SARS-CoV-2 infection in peritoneal dialysis patients. This is a retrospective study including peritoneal dialysis patients in a Indian center; data and clinical characteristics of patients on peritoneal dialysis who have been infected with the new corona virus between January 2020 and December 2021 were collected.

Results: Among 100 patients on peritoneal dialysis, 50% had COVID-19 infection during this period. The average age was 50 ranging from 18 to 82 years old. Sex ratio was at 2.4. As for initial nephropathy, it was diabetic in 40%, vascular in 20%, interstitial in 10%, lupus in 10% and undetermined in 10% of cases. Severe forms were noted in 57% of cases with a mortality rate among infected patients of 20%.

Conclusions: Mortality due to COVID-19 seems to be increased in peritoneal dialysis patients and special measures must be applied to prevent the transmission of the virus and limit its damage in this vulnerable population.