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The Effect of Statins on Mortality of Patients With Chronic Kidney Disease

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Objectives: The role of statins in chronic kidney disease (CKD) has been extensively evaluated, but it remains controversial in specific population such as dialysis-dependent CKD. This study examined the effect of statins on mortality in CKD patients using two large databases.

Methods: In data from the Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership Common Data Model (OMOP-CDM) from two hospitals, CKD was defined as an estimated glomerular filtration rate < 60 mL/min/1.73m^2; we compared survival between patients with or without statin treatment. As a sensitivity analysis, the results were validated with the Korea National Health Insurance (KNHI) claims database.

Results: In the analysis of CDM datasets, statin users showed significantly lower risks of all-cause and cardiovascular mortality in both hospitals, compared to non-users. Similar results were observed in CKD patients from the KNHI claims database. Lower mortality in the statin group was consistently evident in all subgroup analyses, including patients on dialysis and low-risk young patients.

Conclusions: In conclusion, we found that statins were associated with lower mortality in CKD patients, regardless of dialysis status or other risk factors.