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## **The association between transferrin saturation and all-cause mortality in chronic kidney disease**

**Eunmi Jo**<sup>1</sup>, Hyo Jin Kim<sup>2</sup>, Eun Young Seong<sup>2</sup>, Sang Heon Song<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Internal Medicine-Nephrology, Pusan National University Hospital, Korea, Republic of

<sup>2</sup>Department of Internal Medicine-Nephrology, Pusan National University School of Medicine, Korea, Republic of

**Objectives:** This study aimed to evaluate the association between transferrin saturation (TSAT) and all-cause mortality in patients with non-dialysis chronic kidney disease (CKD).

**Methods:** We analyzed 2,169 subjects from a CKD cohort whose TSAT levels were evaluated at enrollment. Subjects were categorized into quintiles according to TSAT. The primary outcome was all-cause mortality during the follow-up period. Cox proportional hazards models with adjustments were used to analyze the association between TSAT and mortality.

**Results:** The mean subject's age was  $53.7 \pm 12.2$  years and the estimated glomerular filtration rate was  $53.0 \pm 30.7$  ml/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>. During the follow-up period of  $66.9 \pm 26.8$  months, 137 (6.4%) subjects died. There were many dead subjects in the 1<sup>st</sup> quintile TSAT group (TSAT min, max: 2.9-21.8 %, n = 44 (10.2%);  $P = 0.004$ ). After adjustment, the 2<sup>nd</sup> (Hazard ratio [HR]: 0.55; 95% confidence interval [CI]: 0.32-0.96;  $P = 0.035$ ), 3<sup>rd</sup> (HR: 0.39; 95% CI: 0.20-0.75;  $P = 0.005$ ), and 4<sup>th</sup> (HR: 0.38; 95% CI: 0.17-0.86;  $P = 0.020$ ) quintiles concerning TSAT showed significantly decreased all-cause mortality compared to the 1<sup>st</sup> quintile group. The 5<sup>th</sup> quintile TSAT group (TSAT min, max: 40.3-99.6%) was not significantly different in all-cause mortality compared to the 1<sup>st</sup> quintile group.

**Conclusions:** The 2nd, 3rd, and 4th quintile TSAT groups showed significantly decreased mortality compared to the 1st quintile TSAT group. Proper control of TSAT is important in CKD patients.