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The necessity of early HBV vaccination in diabetic elderly patients with chronic kidney disease

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Objectives: Although Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection is known to increase the hepatic complications and overall mortality in patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD), HBV vaccination in clinical practice is neglected. Therefore, we tried to investigate the difference in the seroconversion rate after HBV vaccination according to the CKD stages, and to analyze the factors related to seroconversion in CKD patients.

Methods: A total of 227 CKD patients was enrolled in this study. Patients in stage 3 (n = 56) and 4 (n=61) were received the HBV vaccine as standardized schedule, consisting of 1 mL of the recombinant vaccine, at 0, 1, and 6 months. And the patients with stage 5 (n = 110) were received the same vaccine for doubling doses at 0, 1, 2, 6 months. Three months after each of the last vaccination, serum level of Anti-HBs was measured in all patients.

Results: The overall seroconversion rate after HBV vaccination in CKD patients was 64.7%, and there was no significant difference according to the CKD stage . In logistic regression analysis, age > 60 (odds ratio [OR] 3.21; p < 0.001), DM (OR 4.97; p=0.005), to be independent variables associated with a seroconversion. The seroconversion rate in CKD patients over 60 years of age with DM was lower than in CKD pateints under 60 years of age without DM (stage 3:37% vs. 89% , CKD stage 4:38% vs 87%, stage5: 57.1% vs 77.7%, p=0.03)

Conclusions: Our results showed that the overall serconversion rate after HBV vaccination is very low in CKD pateints and early HBV vaccination is necessary in CKD patients over 60 years of age and DM.