

Abstract Submission No.: A-0162

Optimal Early Systolic Blood Pressure and Renal Outcome of Sepsis-associated Acute Kidney Injury in Non-critically Ill Patients: A Retrospective Cohort Study

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Objectives : Sepsis-associated acute kidney damage (SA-AKI) is a common condition that can lead to various negative kidney consequences. There is a lack of sufficient evidence on the ideal early systolic blood pressure (BP) in non-critically ill patients to determine the most favorable renal outcome in patients with SA-AKI. This study aims to determine the optimal levels of systolic BP that result in the most favorable kidney outcomes in non-critically ill patients with SA-AKI.

Methods : A retrospective study in non-critically ill patients diagnosed SA-AKI between 2011 and 2020 was conducted. SA-AKI was defined as an increased in the sequential organ failure assessment (SOFA) score ≥ 2 in patients who met the KDIGO criteria for an AKI diagnosis. Patients categorized classified into 4 groups according to their mean systolic BP during the first 48 hours after SA-AKI diagnosis: ≤ 100 , 101-120, 121-140, and >140 mmHg. All patients were followed for 1 year. The primary outcome was a composite outcome of a $\geq 25\%$ eGFR reduction, long-term kidney replacement therapy, and all-cause mortality.

Results : 2,920 patients were screened and 476 non-critically ill patients with SA-AKI were included. The mean age was 68.4 ± 14.5 years, 54.8% were male, and serum creatinine level at time of SA-AKI diagnosis was 2.8 ± 1.8 mg/dL. Patients were diagnosed with AKI stages I, II, and III in 54.8%, 20.8%, and 24.4%, respectively. A composite outcome was observed in 255 patients (53.6%). Compared to those with mean SBP of 101-120 mmHg, the adjusted hazard ratio (95% confidence interval) for the primary outcome in patients with mean SBP of ≤ 100 mmHg, 121-140 mmHg, and >140 mmHg was 1.89 (1.31-2.73, $p < 0.01$), 1.04 (0.77-1.41, $p = 0.78$), and 1.12 (0.69-1.82, $p = 0.64$), respectively

Conclusions : In non-critically ill patients with SA-AKI, a mean systolic blood pressure of ≤ 100 mmHg within the initial 48 hours was associated with unfavorable composite kidney outcomes.