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An audit on neurological complications in chronic kidney disease in a tertiary hospital in Sri Lanka

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Objectives: This study was aimed to evaluate the neurological complications in patients with chronic kidney disease on regular follow up at a tertiary hospital in Sri Lanka.

Methods: A descriptive study was conducted where all patients with chronic kidney disease on regular follow up at the Teaching Hospital Jaffna were assessed for neurological complications. Data was collected from the medical records and by interviewing the patients. The audit was carried out from 01.07.2014 to 15.08.2014.

Results: During the study period there was a total of 79 patients with chronic kidney disease. Mean age was 63.78 ± 11.64 years. 54.4% (43/79) were female and 45.6% (36/79) were male. 46.8% were CKD grade 5 while 24.1% were CKD grade 4 and 25.3% were CKD grade 3. 24/79 (30.4%) had central nervous system complications and 83.5% (66/79) had peripheral nervous system complications. Of the central nervous system complications 4/79 (5.1%) had encephalopathy; 7/79 (8.9%) had delirium; 10/79 (12.7%) had dementia; 4/79 (5.1%) had ischaemic stroke and 5/79 (6.3%) had restless leg syndrome. None had intracerebral haemorrhage, subdural haemorrhage, osmotic myelinosis, opportunistic infections or CNS neoplasms. Of the peripheral nervous system complications 57/79 (72.2%) had peripheral polyneuropathy while 30/79 (38%) had myopathy.

Conclusions: Peripheral nervous system complications was seen in more than 80% of patients with chronic kidney disease. Peripheral neuropathy was the commonest neurological complication and myopathy was the second commonest complication.