

Advanced kidney disease may increase the likelihood of falling into poverty

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Likelihood of falling into poverty by CKD status at end of study *		
CKD status at end of study	Odds Ratio (95%CI)	p-value
CKD stage 3-5	referent	
In receipt of a kidney transplant	0.43 (0.27-0.69)	<0.001
On dialysis	0.86 (0.61-1.21)	0.39

*A multivariate logistic regression model stratified by country and adjusted for age, sex, black race, education level, number of adult and child dependents, baseline income, smoking, prior vascular disease, prior diabetes and CKD stage at baseline

Among patients with chronic kidney disease, more severe stages of disease were significant predictors of falling into poverty, as were black ethnicity, low educational attainment, single adult household, and low income. The findings will be presented at ASN Kidney Week Nov. 3-8, 2015 at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, CA. Credit: Morton

Advanced stages of chronic kidney disease (CKD) may cause considerable financial strains for patients and their families, according to a study that will be presented at ASN Kidney Week 2015 November 3-8 at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, CA.

The impact of CKD on a patient's [household income](#) is unclear. To determine whether CKD severity and side effects associated with the

disease and its treatment were associated with a fall into poverty, Rachael Morton, PhD (The University of Sydney, in Australia) and her colleagues examined information on individuals with moderate-to-severe CKD who were participating in the Study of Heart and Renal Protection (SHARP) and were followed for a median of 5 years.

Of the 2914 participants who were included in the analysis, 933 were in poverty at screening and a further 436 (22% of the remaining) moved into poverty by the end of the study. The researchers found that CKD severity, but not side effects, was a significant predictor of a fall into poverty. Participants who received kidney transplants were 52% less likely to fall into poverty. Black ethnicity, low educational attainment, single adult household, and low income at the start of the study were also linked with a fall into poverty.

"Patients in advanced stages of CKD are at an increased risk of falling into financial hardship," the authors concluded. "Kidney transplantation may have a role in reducing the risks of household [poverty](#) due to CKD."

More information: Study: "The Impact of Chronic Kidney Disease on Household Income: Does Health Affect Wealth?" (Abstract SA-PO729)

Provided by American Society of Nephrology

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