Kidney Disease in the United States

- Approximately 20 million Americans have kidney disease.1
- Early kidney disease has no symptoms. If left undetected, it can progress to kidney failure, which requires dialysis or a transplant, with little or no warning.
- By the end of 2004, more than 136,000 people were living with a kidney transplant, and more than 335,000 were on dialysis.2
- Public and private spending to treat patients with kidney failure in the United States in 2004 was approximately $32.5 billion.2
- By 2030, more than 2 million people will be receiving treatment for kidney failure.3

Risk Factors

The main risk factors for kidney disease are:

- Diabetes
- High blood pressure
- A family history of kidney failure
- Cardiovascular disease

The most common causes of kidney failure are diabetes and high blood pressure, together accounting for almost 69 percent of new cases.3

Detection and Treatment

- Blood and urine tests are the only way to detect kidney disease.
- Kidney disease can be effectively treated if detected early. ACE (angiotensin-converting enzyme) inhibitors4,5,6,7 or ARBs8,9 (angiotensin receptor blockers) can prevent or slow progression of kidney disease to kidney failure.
- Intensive management of blood glucose is important for people with diabetes, especially if they have early stages of kidney disease.10

References

Kidney Disease in African Americans

- African Americans are nearly four times more likely than Caucasians to develop kidney failure, which requires dialysis or a kidney transplant.

- An NKDEP survey of African Americans found that only eight percent named kidney disease as a consequence of high blood pressure, and only 17 percent named kidney disease as a consequence of diabetes. Of those surveyed who had high blood pressure and diabetes, only 10 percent and 29 percent, respectively, identified kidney disease as a negative consequence of not treating their conditions.

- African Americans make up about 12 percent of the population but account for 32 percent of people with kidney failure.

- Among new patients whose kidney failure was caused by high blood pressure, more than half (51.2 percent) are African American.

- Among new patients whose kidney failure was caused by diabetes, almost one third (31.3 percent) are African American.

- African-American men ages 20 to 29 are 10 times more likely to develop kidney failure due to high blood pressure than Caucasian men in the same age group. African-American men ages 30 to 39 are about 14 times more likely to develop kidney failure due to high blood pressure than Caucasian men in the same age group.

Kidney Disease in the United States

- Approximately 20 million Americans have kidney disease.

- Early kidney disease has no symptoms. If left undetected, it can progress to kidney failure with little or no warning.

- By the end of 2003, more than 128,000 people were living with a kidney transplant, and almost 325,000 were on dialysis – a number that has nearly tripled since 1988.

- Public and private spending to treat patients with kidney failure in the United States in 2003 was $27.3 billion, up from around $22 billion in 2001.

- The most common causes of kidney failure are diabetes and high blood pressure, together accounting for about 70 percent of new cases.

- By 2030, more than 2 million people will be receiving treatment for kidney failure.

- Kidney disease can be effectively treated if detected early. ACE (angiotensin-converting enzyme) inhibitors or ARBs (angiotensin receptor blockers) can prevent or slow progression of kidney disease to kidney failure.

References


