Mortality Predictability of Serum Prealbumin in Maintenance Hemodialysis Patients in a 5-Year Cohort
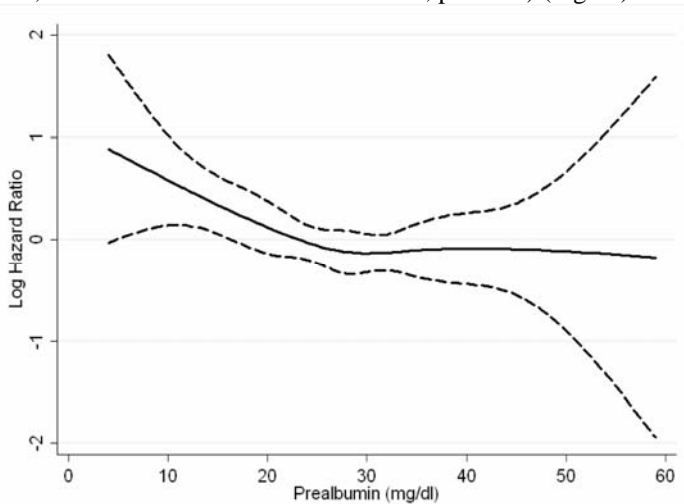
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Background: Serum prealbumin may be a better surrogate of malnutrition and wasting than albumin in maintenance hemodialysis (MHD) patients. We examined the robustness of survival predictability of prealbumin after controlling for serum albumin and inflammatory markers. **Methods**: Survival analyses were conducted in the 5-year (2001-06) cohort of the *Nutritional and Inflammatory Evaluation in Dialysis* (NIED) Study. **Results**: In 798 MHD patients, aged 54±15 yrs, serum prealbumin (28±9 mg/dL) was measured at baseline along with albumin (3.9±0.4), C-reactive protein (6±7 mg/L) and interleukin-6 (18±50 pg/ml). In fully adjusted model, each 10 mg/dL decrease in prealbumin was associated with 24% increased death risk (hazard ratio: 1.24, 95% confidence interval: 1.01-1.50, p=0.036) (Figure):

Conclusions: Mortality predictability of prealbumin persists after multivariate adjustment including for albumin and inflammation.