

CHARACTERISTICS AND CLINICAL OUTCOMES OF US PEDIATRIC DIALYSIS PATIENTS AT A LARGE DIALYSIS PROVIDER

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Little is known about the characteristics and outcomes of pediatric dialysis patients (defined as ≤ 21 y/o). Although representing a very small fraction of all dialysis patients, these younger patients are particularly at risk for adverse outcomes, and many questions remain about the quality of care they receive. DaVita has over 500 pediatric patients throughout the US, and a robust information system that permits analysis of outcomes in this select population. This study was designed to characterize the demographics and selected clinical outcomes in this large cohort of pediatric dialysis patients. This is retrospective, administrative database analysis of 576 pediatric patients on dialysis ≥ 90 days as of July 2008. The pediatric patients represent 0.6% of DaVita's total patient population, with 482 pediatric patients on in-center dialysis (ICHD) and 94 on peritoneal dialysis (PD). Most pediatric ICHD patients were Caucasian males where as more pediatric PD patients were Hispanic females. Among pediatric ICHD patients, 66% had an AV fistula placed, 48% a CVC in place (21% with CVC as only access), and 13% a graft in place. We analyzed other outcomes by age categories, comparing results to adult data.

% of Patients Reaching Target for ICHD/PD	5-9 n=3/10 %	10-14 n=11/18 %	15-18 n=70/35 %	19-21 n=305/59 %	22+ n=92,911/ 8,698 %
Phosphorus	67/40	54/44	48/34	31/36	63/58
Corrected Calcium	0/20	45/44	60/60	61/64	71/62
Corrected CA x P product	67/40	73/72	48/49	39/44	69/66
Albumin	0/50	36/79	21/97	27/78	42/60
Calculated hematocrit	33/44	67/52	53/53	56/56	64/60
Kt/V	100/0	89/100	77/100	84/74	85/90

Whether differences in outcomes in pediatric compared to adult patients reflect treatment factors, medication adherence, or physiological differences remains to be determined in future studies.