

# HEMOGLOBIN (Hb) LEVELS AMONG NON-DIALYSIS CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE (CKD) PATIENTS TREATED WITH ERYTHROPOIESIS-STIMULATING AGENTS (ESAs)

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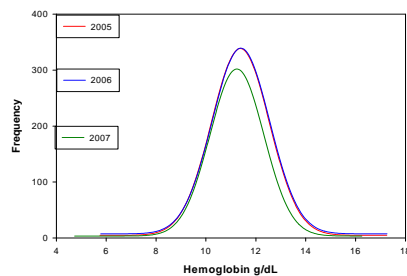
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This study seeks to describe trends in achieved Hb levels among ESA-treated CKD patients in US nephrology clinics preceding and following recent ESA labeling changes.

We used data collected on a random sample of CKD patients selected from US nephrology clinics between 2005 and 2007. Each site investigator randomly selected 6 CKD patients and abstracted from the medical chart demographic information, laboratory data, and medication use recorded during the most recent clinic visit. We characterized patients according to recent ESA use, achieved Hb levels, and CKD stage. We present the distribution of Hb levels over time in patients who reported ESA use.

We identified 10,232 patients with CKD between 2005 and 2007, and of those, 5810 (57%) were receiving an ESA. Among those receiving an ESA, the mean±SD age was 69.3±13.9yrs, 54% were female, 63% were white; distribution of CKD stages was 34%, 45% and 15% (stages 3, 4 and 5). The Hb distributions for ESA treated patients over time are shown below. From 2005 to 2007, the mean Hb decreased over time from 11.3±1.3 to 11.1±1.2 g/dL,

Distribution of hemoglobin in ESA-exposed persons 2005-2007



Hemoglobin levels among non-dialysis CKD patients receiving ESA therapy in US nephrology clinics fell to nearly 11 g/dL following recent label changes.