

**A SINGLE CENTER, RETROSPECTIVE STUDY TO
EVALUATE ERYTHROPOIETIC STIMULATING PROTEIN
USE AND CLINICAL OUTCOMES AMONG HOSPITALIZED
PATIENTS.**

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Hospitalizations are common among hemodialysis patients.
Following hospitalization a patient's hemoglobin value frequently falls
below established targets for up to 90 days following discharge. There
is a paucity of data regarding outcomes of patients treated with either
darbepoetin alpha or epoetin alpha during hospitalizations.

This is a retrospective case control study performed at a single
hospital. The study was designed to compare a patient's hemoglobin
following hospitalization in patients who received either Darbepoetin
or Epoetin alpha during their hospitalization. Study participants were
chronic hemodialysis patients who were admitted to The Johns
Hopkins Hospital.

	Epoetin Alpha	Darbepoetin	P
N	149	115	
Hgb 4 weeks Pre	10.5 (± 1.9)	10.8 (± 1.8)	0.5
Hgb 8 weeks Pre	10.4 (± 1.9)	11.02 (± 1.9)	0.03
Epoetin Alpha (U) 8 wks prior to Hospt.	158,920 (± 179,733)	149,726.3 (+ 213,937)	0.17
Hgb 4 weeks Post	10.27 (± 1.5)	10.4 (± 1.54)	0.7
Hgb 8 weeks Post	10.6 (± 1.7)	11.4 (± 3.1)	0.0099 *

Conclusion: Hospitalization was not associated with a significant
decrease in hemoglobin in either the group treated with epoetin alpha or
darbepoetin. Following discharge, patients who received darbepoetin
during their hospitalization had statistically higher hemoglobin values 8
weeks following discharge compared to patients receiving Epoetin
alpha.