

CKD-MBD related publications in the ERA journals From January to July 2022

The ERA acknowledges the high clinical and scientific relevance of the CKD-MBD syndrome, reflected by several key publications in the journals of our society. We hereby summarize the content of several recent important papers, providing a link to their abstracts.

From January to July 2022, 21 CKD-MBD related articles, including editorial comments and experimental studies, have been published; 11 in *Nephrology Dialysis and Transplantation* and 10 in the *Clinical Kidney Journal* (some were previously commented on after publication in advanced form).

1) Again, many reports dealt with **vascular calcification (VC) and/or calciphylaxis**. N. Seyahi et al ([Clin Kidney J 15 \(1\): 101-108](#)) examined coronary artery calcification (CAC) progression and long-term cardiovascular outcomes in kidney transplant (KT) recipients. They found that CAC at baseline and CAC progression robustly predicted the risk of death and cardiovascular events in these patients. B. Van Berkel et al ([Clin Kidney J 15 \(2\): 295-302](#)) aimed to define the prevalence, progression and implications of breast artery calcification (BAC) in female patients with CKD across various stages [CKD G2–5D-5T]. The role of magnesium to prevent CKD-associated vascular calcification was reviewed by A.D. ter Braake et al ([Nephrol Dial Transplant 37 \(3\):421-429](#)), and experimental studies performed by NHJ Leenders et al ([Nephrol Dial Transplant 37 \(6\):1049-1058](#)) demonstrated that increased dietary magnesium only inhibited abdominal vascular calcification in an experimental animal model of CKD *in vivo*. G. Wasilewski et al ([Nephrol Dial Transplant 37 \(4\):652-662](#)) described that only the combination of high vitamin K₂ with phosphate binder treatment significantly attenuated VC in an experimental model of kidney failure with vitamin K deficiency,

E. Guillén-Olmos et al ([Clin Kidney 15 \(4\):663-671](#)) analyzed their local series of **calciphylaxis** in KT recipients (largest to date), emphasizing that calciphylaxis can still occur after KT, in many cases during the first year and in patients with a good renal function. An associated editorial on the epidemiology and pathogenesis of calciphylaxis in different patient populations, also discussing recent findings for its therapeutic management, was reported by M.A. Podestà et al ([Clin Kidney J 15 \(4\):611-614](#)). A successful treatment of calciphylaxis with vitamin K in a patient on haemodialysis was reported by Z. Wajih and R. Singer ([Clin Kidney J 15 \(2\):354-356](#)). S. Sinha et al ([Clin Kidney J 15 \(1\):136-144](#)) described the design of Phase 3 CALCIPHYX clinical trial which will examine the efficacy and safety of SNF472 in patients who have ulcerated calciphylaxis lesions.

2) Regarding **cardiovascular (CV) events**, M. Epstein and M. Freundlich ([Nephrol Dial Transplant 37 \(2\): 211-222](#)) reviewed the intersection between mineralocorticoid receptor activation and the FGF23-Klotho cascade, potentially promoting both renal and CV injury. H. Kim et al ([Clin Kidney J 15 \(1\):119-127](#)) reported that total hip- and femur neck-low bone mineral density was associated with coronary arterial calcification progression and incident major adverse CV events (after adjusting for total hip T-score) in patients with CKD G1-5. D.A. Jaques et al al ([Clin Kidney J 15 \(6\):1188-1195](#)) described the association between femoral neck-bone mineral density and both mortality and fracture risk in patients receiving renal replacement therapy. Smoking was also shown as a significant risk factor for any fracture requiring hospitalization in Japanese haemodialysis patients by M. Wakasugi et al ([Nephrol Dial Transplant 37 \(5\):950-959](#)). Wu P-S et al ([Nephrol Dial Transplant 37 \(6\):1162-1170](#)) showed that **osteoprotegerin** predicted CV events in haemodialysis patients, independently of cytokine activity, as opposed to other bone-associated proteins. Finally, osteocrin, another bone-derived humoral factor, was reported to exert a renoprotective role in ischemia-reperfusion injury in

an experimental mice model conducted by Y. Nishiguchi et al ([Nephrol Dial Transplant 37 \(3\):444-453](#)).

3) P. Ureña-Torres et al ([Nephrol Dial Transplant 37 \(4\):613-616](#)) commented on a report by M. Bozic et al ([Nephrol Dial Transplant 37 \(4\):663-672](#)) regarding the independent effects of hyperphosphatemia and secondary hyperparathyroidism (SHPT) on CKD progression and CV events. Clustering phosphate and iron-related markers and prognosis in dialysis patients were studied by H. Morooka et al ([Clin Kidney J 15 \(2\): 328-337](#)) using unsupervised machine learning methods. Authors found that the use of phosphate binders was associated with a lower risk of all-cause death in two clusters which were characterized by older age and a higher prevalence of diabetes mellitus, among other factors. The pharmacogenetic role of vitamin D-binding protein and vitamin D receptor polymorphisms in the treatment response of dialysis patients with SHPT was reviewed in a research letter by R. de Alarcón et al ([Nephrol Dial Transplant 37 \(4\):792-795](#)). A. Iyengar et al ([Nephrol Dial Transplant 37 \(2\):326-334](#)) reported that intensive treatment with oral cholecalciferol in children with CKD as daily, weekly or monthly regimens achieved similar calcidiol concentrations without toxicity. Both FGF-23 and klotho concentrations significantly increased. Children with glomerular disease required higher doses of colecalciferol. Finally, A.S. Shankar et al ([Nephrol Dial Transplant 37 \(1\):190-193](#)) described vitamin D metabolism in human kidney organoids.

4) Finally, abstracts and contents of the 59th ERA-EDTA Congress 2022 can be found in the [2022 Nephrol Dial Transplant Supplement # 3](#)

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Acknowledgement: Dr. Elisabeth Massó for her valuable assistance.