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## Evaluation of disability status of dialysis patients with chronic renal failure

Mehtap Tan, Nuray Dayapoglu, Seda Karaman and Gülcan Bahçecioglu Turan  
Ataturk University, Turkey

**Introduction:** Disability is defined as a restriction or loss of ability to perform an activity within acceptable limits considered normal for individuals. Although the dialysis treatment has prolonged lifespan in patients with renal failure, various complications related to the treatment and illness have resulted in disability. For this reason, this study was conducted to determine the disability status of dialysis patients with chronic renal failure.

**Material & Method:** This study was conducted in the nephrology service and hemodialysis unit of a university hospital in Turkey and the study populations consisted of patients receiving treatment in these units. The sample of the study consisted of 92 voluntary patients, who were 18 years old or older and had no psychiatric problems. The patient information form and the brief disability questionnaire were used to collect the research data. Approval of ethics committee, institutional permission and the verbal consent of patients were obtained.

**Results:** The mean age of the patients participating in the study was  $52.16 \pm 17.02$  and 41.3% was in the 31-50 age group. Among the patients, 50% was female, 83.7% was married, 66.3% was living in the district, 79.3% had moderate income, 90.2% was unemployed, 64.9% was receiving hemodialysis treatment, and 46.7% was receiving dialysis treatment for 1-5 years. Among the patients included in the study, 28.3% had moderate disability, and 66.3% had severe disability. There was a significant relationship between disability, age, and place of residence of patients. Accordingly, the disability was found to be higher in patients older than 61 years and those living in the city center.

**Conclusions:** It was determined that in dialysis patients with chronic renal failure, the age and place of residence affect disability and that the majority of these patients had severe disability. According to these results, it is necessary to determine the characteristics of the patients and to plan appropriate nursing care in order to reduce their disability.

### Biography

Seda Karaman is working in Internal Medicine Nursing field. She is interested in Oncology, Alternative and Complementary Medicine and History of Nursing topics. She is currently working on Doctoral Thesis in Public Health Nursing from Ataturk University in Turkey.

sd.krmn@hotmail.com

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