Survival outcomes of prevalent dialysis patients in Zimbabwe: The DIAZ project

ISN INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF NEPHROLOGY

DIAZ Project
Prospective observational cohort

Public or private facilities in Zimbabwe (Feb 2018)

Adult patients receiving dialysis
- HD (n= 357)
- DP (n= 25)

Custom-designed questionnaire (Feb 2018) (n= 367)

Follow-up questionnaires
3, 6, 12 and 24 months to determine survival and dialysis status

Mean age: 53.1

Male: 65.7%

Dialysis vintage: 1.7 yrs

Hypertension: 88.6%

Diabetes: 37.9%

137 (37.3%) died within the 24-month follow-up period

81.5% 1-year survival

58.7% 2-year survival

Lower mortality	Higher mortality	
0.66* Dialysis vintage >2yrs	1.60* HIV positive status	1.46* Known diabetes

*Hazard ratio

Conclusion: Survival of prevalent dialysis patients in Zimbabwe is broadly similar to other dialysis cohorts in SSA but remains significantly lower than in high-income settings. The high HIV prevalence appears to play a part in this mortality. The paradoxical greater survival of patients with a longer dialysis history may be related to greater access to medical and financial support.

Dahwa R. et al, 2025
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