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**Idiopathic sudden sensorineural hearing loss in dialysis patients**

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**Objectives:** Although sudden sensorineural hearing loss (SSNHL) affects chronic kidney disease (CKD) patients more frequently than non-CKD patients, few reports have described SSNHL in dialysis patients. We aimed to review the characteristics of SSNHL in chronic dialysis patients and evaluate the efficacy and safety of steroid treatment.

**Methods:** We retrospectively reviewed records of dialysis patients diagnosed with idiopathic SSNHL at Asan Medical Center between January 2000 and December 2014. Audiometry analyses were performed before and 2 weeks and 2 months after treatment onset.

**Results:** Twenty-two patients (11 men, 11 women; mean age: 49.9 ± 11.7 years) were included; 16 (72%) and 6 (28%) had undergone hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis, respectively for a median of 49.2 ± 41.4 (1–144) months. End-stage renal disease was most frequently caused by diabetic nephropathy (11 cases), chronic glomerulonephritis (1 case), unknown factors (7 cases). Common accompanying symptoms included tinnitus (68.2%), ear fullness (45.5%), and vertigo (27.3%). The mean pure tone audiometry threshold at the initial presentation was 82.6 ± 22.4 dB. At 2 months post steroid treatment, 4 (18.2%), 4 (18.2%), and 6 (27.3%) patients exhibited a complete, partial, or slight recovery, respectively; 8 patients (36.3%) showed no improvement.

**Conclusions:** Although we could not identify the specific cause of SSNHL in this population, our relatively large case series elucidates the precise clinical features of SSNHL in this population and demonstrates the outcomes of steroid treatment.

Treatment of enrolled patients