

# Admission of elderly chronic kidney disease patients to a haemodialysis unit

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## Introduction

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is a major and increasing problem among the aging population. As a consequence of aging of the haemodialysis population, new issues have emerged; management of an elderly haemodialysis patient includes the assessment of his/her functional and psychosocial abilities, such as mobility, sensory perception, family support, mental status, and special care service from our medical staff.

## Objectives

To analyse the number of the new CKD patients over 70 years (in following the elderly) undergoing haemodialysis in our clinic, as the quality of life is an important issue especially in elder haemodialysis patients.

## Methods

Between 2011 and 2016, we evaluated the number of new admissions to our unit, both in total and the proportion of the elderly to establish the increased requirements of nursing care.

## Results

During 2011 and 2016, the following numbers of patients were admitted to our clinic:

- 2011 - 35 patients, including 8 elderly (22.9%)
- 2012 - 19 patients, including 6 elderly (31.6%)
- 2013 - 14 patients, including 5 elderly (35.7%)
- 2014 - 24 patients, including 8 elderly (33.3%)
- 2015 - 20 patients, including 5 elderly (25.0%)
- 2016 - 49 patients, including 18 elderly (36.7%)

Overall, 50 (29.4%) of 170 patients admitted were elderly patients.

## Conclusion

The care service in our clinic has now been adapted to support the nursing care requirements of the increased proportion of elderly patients in order to provide increased support and improve their life expectancy. Despite the costs associated with haemodialysis, it is still a life-saving therapy.



Figure 1

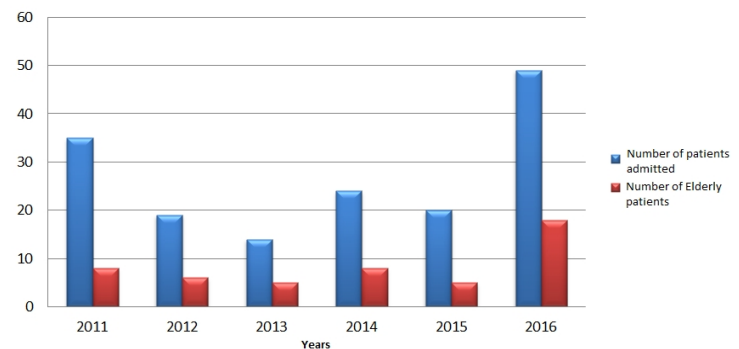


Figure 2: Admission to our unit between 2011 and 2016.