



# NEWS

**European Renal Association -  
European Dialysis and Transplant Association**

## **NDT Study shows: Infant Mortality Rate for Babies of on-Dialysis Mothers is high**

*4 August 2014*

Today, an important study on the risks of pregnancy on dialysis has been published in "Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation" (NDT), one of the world's leading nephrology journals.

The Italian study has analyzed pregnancy outcomes in the dialysis population and compared it to the outcomes of kidney transplant recipients and of the general population. Among the evaluation criteria were the incidence of live birth, week of birth and birth weight. The study showed that having a baby while on dialysis is rare, but not impossible, although infant mortality rate is significantly higher: Women on dialysis have a tenfold higher risk of delivering a still-born than women who had received a kidney transplantation before getting pregnant – and even these transplanted women had a significantly lower probability of delivering a live-born baby than the healthy controls. Also the birth-weight of the babies of on-dialysis mothers was significantly lower.

Prof. Carmine Zoccali, NDT Editor-in-Chief, comments: "Pregnancy on dialysis is possible, but involves higher risks for the newborn. Women on dialysis who want to become pregnant should be informed about it. If they are still young and listed for transplantation, it might be worth postponing the pregnancy until after the transplant when the kidney function is sufficient and stable".

### **About ERA-EDTA**

With more than 6,600 members, the ERA-EDTA ("European Renal Association – European Dialysis and Transplant Association") is one of the biggest nephrology associations worldwide and one of the most important and prestigious European Medical Associations. It supports basic and clinical research in the fields of clinical nephrology, dialysis, renal transplantation and related subjects. The ERA-EDTA supports a number of studies as well as research groups and has founded a special "Fellowship Programme" for young investigators as well as grant programmes. In order to involve young nephrologists in all activities of the ERA-EDTA the Council decided to create a Young Nephrologists' Platform (YNP). Besides, it has established various research networks and different working groups to promote the collaboration of nephrologists with other medical disciplines (e.g. cardiology, immunology). Furthermore, a "European Renal Best Practice" (ERBP) advisory board has been established by the ERA-EDTA to draw up and publish guidelines and position statements. Another important goal of the ERA-EDTA is education: several series of CME-courses as well as the annual congress offer an attractive scientific programme to cover the need of continuous medical education for doctors



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working in the fields of nephrology, dialysis and transplantation. The association's journals, NDT (Nephrology, Dialysis, Transplantation) and CKJ (Clinical Kidney Journal), are currently the leading nephrology journals in Europe. The ERA-EDTA Registry is a large epidemiologic database comparing countries by assessing nephrology practice throughout Europe. Finally, ERA-EDTA is member of the European Kidney Health Alliance (EKHA), a consortium of renal societies that actively interacts with the European Parliament. For more information please visit [www.era-edta.org](http://www.era-edta.org)