

CRITICAL REVIEWS IN ORAL BIOLOGY & MEDICINE

Oral and Dental Aspects of Chronic Renal Failure

R. Proctor^{1,2}, N. Kumar¹, A. Stein³,
D. Moles⁴, and S. Porter^{1*}

¹Oral Medicine, Division of Maxillofacial Diagnostic, Medical & Surgical Sciences, Eastman Dental Institute for Oral Health Care Sciences, UCL, University of London, 256, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8LD, UK; ²Community Dental Department, Coventry NHS Primary Care Trust, Abbey View, 271 London Road, Coventry, West Midlands CV3 4AR, UK; ³Department of Nephrology, University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust, Coventry, West Midlands CV2 2DX, UK; and ⁴Health Services Research, Eastman Dental Institute for Oral Health Care Sciences, UCL, University of London, 256, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8LD, UK; *corresponding author, S.Porter@eastman.ucl.ac.uk

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ABSTRACT

The present article reviews, in detail, the current knowledge of the oral and dental aspects of chronic renal failure (CRF). Worldwide, increasing numbers of persons have CRF; thus, oral health care staffs are increasingly likely to provide care for patients with such disease. Chronic renal failure can give rise to a wide spectrum of oral manifestations, affecting the hard or soft tissues of the mouth. The majority of affected individuals have disease that does not complicate oral health care; nevertheless, the dental management of such individuals does require that the clinician understand the multiple systems that can be affected. The clinician should also consider the adverse side-effects of drug therapy and appropriate prescribing, in view of compromised renal clearance.

KEY WORDS: chronic, dental, oral, renal.

(I) INTRODUCTION

The incidence of chronic renal failure (CRF) continues to rise worldwide (Ansell and Feest, 2002; McDonald and Russ, 2002; US Renal Data System, 2002), and, as a consequence, increasing numbers of individuals with such disease will probably continue to require oral health care. CRF and its treatment have systemic and oral manifestations. There are few detailed reports of the oral and dental disease manifestations, and of the relevant treatment needs of patients with CRF. Likewise, there are no systematic reviews of the treatment of oral disease in patients with CRF. The present report reviews current information—published in peer-reviewed journals or available from relevant nationally (e.g., within the US or UK) or internationally recognized sources—on the oral and dental aspects of renal disease, highlighting the variable impact of CRF upon the mouth, and provides guidance for the dental treatment of patients with CRF.

(II) CHRONIC RENAL FAILURE

Chronic renal failure (CRF) is defined as a progressive decline in renal function associated with a reduced glomerular filtration rate (GFR, as measured clinically by the creatinine clearance rate). The most common causes are diabetes mellitus, glomerulonephritis, and chronic hypertension. In older individuals, the most commonly diagnosed causes of CRF are renovascular disease and diabetes mellitus, although other causes include polycystic kidney disease and pyelonephritis (Ansell and Feest, 2002; McDonald and Russ, 2002; US Renal Data System, 2002).

(III) EPIDEMIOLOGY

Data on the epidemiology of CRF are available in many countries, although different sampling techniques are used in each country, and units in some regions (e.g., the UK) are not obliged to report patient figures. The reported incidence of CRF is 337, 90, 107 and 95 *per* million population (pmp) in the USA, Australia, New Zealand, and the UK, respectively. The incidence increases with age, and males are more commonly affected than females. Incidence also varies with ethnicity. For example, in the USA, Caucasians and Black Americans have higher incidences than Asians and Native Americans. However, in the UK, the incidence of CRF is higher in Asians and Afro-Caribbeans than in Caucasians (Roderick *et al.*, 1994).

The death rate is 178, 189, 217, and 209 *per* 1000 patient years (pyr) in the USA, Australia, New Zealand, and the UK, respectively (Table 1). These figures suggest that the USA has a lower death rate than the UK, but the USA data do not include deaths in the first 90 days following the onset of chronic renal failure. However, the UK death rate at 1 year and 90 days (188/1000 pyr) is comparable with that in the USA. There are only slight differences in the death rates between genders. Ethnicity also affects death rate: In the USA, it is lowest in Asians (130/1000 pyr) and highest in Caucasians (193/1000 pyr).

Survival rates vary with ethnic origin and the underlying cause of renal failure. In the USA, for example, the five-year survival rate

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for Caucasians is lower than that for Black Americans (34.7% compared with 46.8%). The prognosis for individuals with diabetes mellitus and/or hypertension is worse than that for individuals with glomerulonephritis (30.9% and 36.5%, compared with 59.9%). A comparison of these figures with the five-year survival rate (62%) for all cancers in the USA highlights the poor prognosis for individuals with chronic renal failure (US Renal Data System, 2002).

The most common cause of death is cardiac failure, followed by infection and malignancy (Ansell and Feest, 2002; McDonald and Russ, 2002; US Renal Data System, 2002). Diabetes mellitus and hypertension greatly increase this risk (Santiago and Chanzan, 1989).

(IV) CLINICAL FEATURES

The clinical signs and symptoms of renal failure are collectively termed 'uremia'. CRF affects most body systems, and the clinical

features are dependent upon the stage of renal failure and the systems involved. For example, early features are typically nocturia, polyuria, and anorexia. Tables 2 and 3 outline the signs, symptoms, and clinical features of CRF (Stein and Wild, 2002).

(V) TREATMENT OF CHRONIC RENAL FAILURE

The treatment of CRF includes dietary changes, correction of systemic complications, and dialysis or renal graft receipt.

Dietary and fluid restrictions may be required to accommodate the reduced excretory capacity of the kidneys. Acidosis and increased levels of potassium can be treated by reducing dietary intake of potassium-rich foods, such as bananas, and sodium restriction can aid the control of hypertension. It is sometimes necessary to reduce protein consumption to minimize nitrogenous waste products. Despite this treatment, most patients progress to end-stage renal failure (ESRF), requiring dialysis or transplantation.

(a) Dialysis

There are two types of dialysis: hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis (PD). In each case, the patient's blood is separated from the dialysis fluid (dialysate) by a membrane which allows water and toxins, but not blood cells, to pass out of the blood. In PD, the peritoneal membrane acts as the filter, whereas, in hemodialysis, the membrane is within the dialysis machine. Individuals commonly commence with PD and may progress to hemodialysis if renal function deteriorates further.

Most affected patients receive hemodialysis for up to 4 hrs, 2 or 3 times each week (Ansell and Feest, 2002). Arteriovenous fistulae in the arm are required for regular vascular access *via* wide-bore needles. The fistula is usually fashioned from a native vein; however, it is sometimes necessary to use animal or synthetic grafts if the local anatomy is unsuitable (Werner and Saad, 1999). Hemodialysis increases the risk of viral transmission (such as HIV and hepatitis B and C; Pol, 1995) and is costly.

In comparison of the cost-effectiveness of hemodialysis and PD, one finds that the latter has less initial cost, but the long-term cost of the two techniques is similar. Although the two techniques are equally effective and appropriate for most patients, it is common, at least in the UK, to begin with PD, since the veins will be available should the technique fail and hemodialysis become necessary (Stein and Wild, 2002).

For PD to take place, a catheter is placed into the peritoneum through which the dialysis fluid is exchanged. Continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (CAPD) requires 4 exchanges of approximately 2 liters throughout the day. An alternative method is automated peritoneal dialysis (APD), in which the dialysis fluid exchanges are carried out automatically by machine, during the hours of sleep (for 8-10 hrs).

Table 1. International Epidemiology of Chronic Renal Failure: Some Reported Incidence and Death Rates

Country	Patient Group	Incidence/Million Population	Death/1000 Patient-years
Australia	Dialysis		157
	All	90	189
New Zealand	All	107	217
	Dialysis		192
	Maori		239
	Pacific Islander		283
UK	All		94.9
	All, 1st 90 days		306
	Male, 1st 90 days		323
	Female 1st 90 days		279
	All, 1 yr + 90 days		188.3
	Male, 1 yr + 90 days		185
	Female, 1 yr + 90 days		192
	All	337	177.6
USA	Male	368	169.6
	Female	307	187.3
	White	269	192.6
	Black	777	157.1
	Native American	501	155.8
	Asian	281	130.4

Table 2. Signs and Symptoms of Chronic Renal Disease

Signs	Symptoms
Pallor due to anemia	Pruritus
Increased photosensitive pigmentation	Lethargy
Brown discoloration of the nails	Anorexia, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
Scratch marks due to pruritus	Poor concentration
Signs of fluid overload	'Restless' legs
Hypertension	Leg cramps
Pericardial frictional rub, pericardial effusion	Ankle edema
Flow murmurs	Dyspnea
Bruising due to platelet abnormality	Insomnia
Confusion, coma, fits (severe uremia)	Loss of libido
Renal osteodystrophy (see Table 6)	Feeling cold

(b) Renal Transplantation

Renal allografts may be cadaveric or from living donors, either related or non-related (although those from living relatives give rise to the best prognosis). Cadaveric organs are allocated on the basis of HLA tissue-typing, ABO compatibility, and the age and size of the donor and recipient.

In the UK, during 2001, 1743 (29.6 per million population) kidney transplant operations were performed (http://www.uktransplant.org.uk/statistics/transplant_activity/, http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/pop2001/united_kingdom.asp). These consisted of 1385 cadaveric and 358 living donor renal transplants. The majority (263) of the living donors were relatives. The one-year success rate is presently 86% for cadaveric- and 95% for living-donor-transplanted kidneys (www.uktransplant.org.uk/). The principal cause of allograft failure is rejection, although adverse drug side-effects may also be a contributing factor.

Immunosuppressant therapy is required to minimize the risk of allograft rejection. Commonly used agents are prednisolone, azathioprine, cyclosporin, and, more recently, tacrolimus. Cyclosporin has been associated with potentially serious side-effects, including nephrotoxicity (Grinyo and Cruzado, 2004), hepatotoxicity, neurotoxicity, hypertrichosis, and diabetes mellitus (Ota and Bradley, 1983; Svirsky and Saravia, 1989; Pirsch *et al.*, 1997; Al-Zayer *et al.*, 2001). Tacrolimus has adverse side-effects similar to those of cyclosporin, such as nephrotoxicity and neurotoxicity (Mihatsch *et al.*, 1998); however, diabetes is a more frequent complication (Zuckermann *et al.*, 2003) and occurs in up to 37% of patients receiving tacrolimus (McDonald and Russ, 2002). Hypertension and cytomegalovirus infection are less common with tacrolimus than with cyclosporin therapy. In addition to immunosuppressants, recipients of renal allografts require an array of medications, some of which can give rise to oral side-effects (see below).

(VI) ORAL MANIFESTATIONS OF CHRONIC RENAL FAILURE AND RELATED THERAPIES

(a) Gingival Enlargement

Gingival enlargement secondary to drug therapy is the most-reported oral manifestation of renal disease. It can be induced by cyclosporin and/or calcium channel blockers. It principally affects the labial interdental papillae, although it can become extensive, involving the gingival margins and lingual and palatal surfaces (Somacarrera *et al.*, 1994; Kennedy and Linden 2000).

(i) Cyclosporin-induced Gingival Enlargement

The prevalence of gingival enlargement in

individuals taking cyclosporin is unclear, and reportedly has a wide range—from 6 to 85% (Seymour *et al.*, 1987; Slavin and Taylor, 1987; Pan *et al.*, 1992; Pernu *et al.*, 1992; King *et al.*, 1993; Thomason *et al.*, 1993; Allman *et al.*, 1994; Somacarrera *et al.*, 1994). It can be evident within 3 mos of the initiation of cyclosporin therapy (Savage *et al.*, 1987; Thomason *et al.*, 1996). Children and adolescents may be more prone to this drug-induced gingival enlargement than adults. If oral hygiene is poor, older individuals are also prone to gingival enlargement (Seymour and Smith, 1991).

Improvement in oral hygiene and professional cleaning results in a reduction in cyclosporin-associated gingival enlargement (Thomason *et al.*, 1993, 1996; Somacarrera *et al.*, 1994; Fu *et al.*, 1997). However, this may be due to reduction in plaque-related inflammation rather than any drug-associated gingival enlargement (Seymour and Smith, 1991). There are conflicting reports on the association between gingival enlargement and cyclosporin dose (Porter and Scully, 1994), but the extent of the gingival enlargement does not seem to be related to the function of the allograft (Thomas *et al.*, 2001).

Regular clinical monitoring of cyclosporin-related gingival

Table 3. Clinical Features of Chronic Renal Disease

System	Features
Hematological	Anemia (due to low erythropoietin) Platelet dysfunction Impaired cell-mediated immunity
Cardiovascular	Left ventricular hypertrophy (secondary to anemia and/or hypertension) Cardiac failure Hypertension Pericarditis Progressive arteriosclerosis Cardiac arrhythmias (due to hyperkalemia)
Neurological	Confusion, paranoia, apathy Convulsions Coma Peripheral neuropathy Twitching and fasciculation
Gastrointestinal	Xerostomia Oral malodor Sialosis Anorexia Hiccups Vomiting Gastrointestinal bleeding Constipation (due to perilesional dialysis)
Dermatological	Esophagitis, gastritis, duodenitis, and peptic ulceration (in late CRF) Pruritus Cutaneous and nail hyperpigmentation 'Uremic'?
Respiratory	Infection Hyperventilation (Kusmaul's respiration—secondary to acidosis) Pulmonary edema (secondary to left-sided cardiac failure)
Endocrine	Thyroid dysfunction Reduced growth hormone secretion Amenorrhea, oligomenorrhea Increased luteinizing hormone and follicle-stimulatory hormone Reduced female libido Male sexual dysfunction (due to reduced testosterone)

enlargement is essential, since squamous cell carcinoma (Varga and Tyldesley, 1991) and Kaposi's sarcoma have been reported within such gingival lesions (Qunibi *et al.*, 1988; Farge, 1993).

(ii) Calcium Channel-blocker-induced Gingival Enlargement

Calcium channel blockers are prescribed to renal allograft recipients to reduce hypertension and cyclosporin-induced nephrotoxicity (Morales *et al.*, 1994). There are many reports of nifedipine, amlodipine (Seymour *et al.*, 1994; Ellis *et al.*, 1999), diltiazem (Colvard *et al.*, 1986; Giustiniani *et al.*, 1987; Bowman *et al.*, 1988; King *et al.*, 1993), verapamil (Cucchi *et al.*, 1985; Pernu *et al.*, 1989), oxidipine, felodipine, and nitrendipine (Hassell and Hefti, 1991; Rees and Levine, 1995) causing this gingival enlargement. The reported prevalence of nifedipine-induced gingival enlargement is variable and occurs in 10-83% of treated patients (Seymour *et al.*, 1987; Barclay *et al.*, 1992; Ellis *et al.*, 1999). There are no data on the frequency of gingival enlargement with the other calcium channel blockers.

The presence of dental plaque may predispose to nifedipine-induced gingival enlargement (Nishikawa *et al.*, 1991), but is not essential to its development (Morisaki *et al.*, 1993). The dose or duration of treatment is not related to the prevalence of gingival enlargement (Barclay *et al.*, 1992; Ellis *et al.*, 1993). Some studies have reported a reduction in gingival enlargement following a change to an alternative calcium channel blocker (Lederman *et al.*, 1984; Cebeci *et al.*, 1996), but these drugs can still cause some gingival enlargement (Westbrook *et al.*, 1997).

(iii) Combined Cyclosporin and Calcium Channel-blocker Therapy

There may be an increased incidence (Thomason *et al.*, 1995, 1996; Margiotta *et al.*, 1996; McKaig *et al.*, 2002) and severity (King *et al.*, 1993, 1994; Thomason *et al.*, 1993, 1995, 1996; O'Valle *et al.*, 1995; Margiotta *et al.*, 1996; McKaig *et al.*, 2002) of gingival enlargement when cyclosporin and nifedipine are prescribed together. In contrast, the combination of verapamil with cyclosporin does not seem to increase the frequency or severity of drug-induced gingival enlargement significantly (Cebeci *et al.*, 1996).

(iv) Tacrolimus

Tacrolimus has been reported both to cause (Adams and Famili, 1991; Spencer *et al.*, 1997) and to lessen (Asante-Korang *et al.*, 1996; Cox and Freese, 1996) gingival enlargement, although, in a recent study of children with renal allografts, while 41% of those receiving cyclosporin had gingival enlargement, the majority of those receiving tacrolimus did not have this problem (Sheehy *et al.*, 2000). Cyclosporin-associated gingival enlargement may reduce or

resolve when cyclosporin is replaced by tacrolimus (Dodd, 1997; Bader *et al.*, 1998; Busque *et al.*, 1998; Hernandez *et al.*, 1998, 2000; James *et al.*, 2000; Kennedy and Linden, 2000).

(v) Other Gingival Changes

The gingivae in individuals with CRF can be pale due to anemia (Lohr and Schwab, 1991; London and Drueke, 1997), with possible loss of the demarcation of the mucogingival junction (Buckley *et al.*, 1986), and when there is platelet dysfunction, the gingivae may bleed easily (Opatry, 1997).

(b) Oral Hygiene and Periodontal Disease

The oral hygiene of individuals receiving hemodialysis can be poor. For example, only 15% of 45 individuals receiving hemodialysis from 4 centers in Virginia, USA, had a good standard of oral hygiene (Naugle *et al.*, 1998). Deposits of calculus may be increased (Epstein *et al.*, 1980; Jaffe *et al.*, 1986; Gavalda *et al.*, 1999).

There is no good evidence of an increased risk of periodontitis (Brown *et al.*, 1989; Thorstensson *et al.*, 1996; Naugle *et al.*, 1998), although premature tooth loss has been reported (Locsey *et al.*, 1986). Localized suppurative osteomyelitis, secondary to periodontitis, was observed in one individual receiving hemodialysis (Tomaselli *et al.*, 1993).

(c) Xerostomia

Symptoms of xerostomia can arise in many individuals receiving hemodialysis (Eigner *et al.*, 1986; Gavalda *et al.*, 1999; Kho *et al.*, 1999; Kao *et al.*, 2000; Klassen and Krasko, 2002). Possible causes include restricted fluid intake, side-effects of drug therapy, and/or mouth-breathing. Long-term xerostomia may predispose to caries and gingival inflammation and can give rise to difficulties with speech, denture retention, mastication, dysphagia, sore mouth, and loss of taste (Porter *et al.*, 2004).

It also predisposes to caries and infections such as candidosis and acute suppurative sialadenitis (Porter *et al.*, 2004).

(d) Oral Malodor/Bad Taste

Uremic patients may have an ammonia-like oral odor (Eigner *et al.*, 1986; Kho *et al.*, 1999), which also occurs in about one-third of individuals receiving hemodialysis (Kho *et al.*, 1999). Chronic renal failure can give rise to altered taste sensation, and some patients complain of an unpleasant and/or metallic taste (Levy, 1988), or a sensation of an enlarged tongue (Levy, 1988; Ray, 1989; Kho *et al.*, 1999).

(e) Mucosal Lesions

A wide range of oral mucosal lesions, particularly white patches and/or ulceration, has been described in individuals receiving dialysis and allografts (Table 4). In particular, lichen-planus-like disease (sometimes termed lichenoid disease) can arise, sometimes, but not always, as a consequence of the associated drug therapy (*e.g.*, diuretics, beta-blockers) (Chau *et al.*, 1984; Hogan *et al.*, 1985; Markitziu *et al.*, 1986; Torrelo *et al.*, 1990). Similarly, oral hairy leukoplakia can occur secondary to drug-related immunosuppression (Greenspan and Greenspan, 1989; King *et al.*, 1993, 1994), although clinically and histopathologically similar lesions lacking Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) have been observed with uremia (McCreary *et al.*, 1997). Of note, this latter lesion may resolve with correction of the uremia.

Table 4. Oral Mucosal Lesions Reported in Chronic Renal Disease

White patch	Macules/nodules
Erythematous patch	Fibro-epithelial polyps
Ulceration	Geographic tongue
Lichen planus	Black hairy tongue
Oral hairy leukoplakia	Papilloma
Uremic stomatitis	Pyogenic granuloma

Uremic stomatitis may manifest as white, red, or grey areas of the oral mucosa. The erythempultaceous form consists of grey pseudomembrane overlying painful erythema patches, while an ulcerative form is red with a 'pultaceous' covering (Levy, 1988; Ross and Salisbury, 1994). There are no good histological descriptions of uremic stomatitis; thus, it is difficult to define the cause of this unusual oral mucosal change. It has been suggested, but never definitively demonstrated, that uremic stomatitis may be due to chemically based trauma from elevated levels of nitrogenous compounds (Larato, 1975; De Rossi and Glick, 1996; McCreary *et al.*, 1997).

In some instances, the mucosal surface may become erythematous or ulcerate (King *et al.*, 1994; Kho *et al.*, 1999; Klassen and Krasko, 2002). Oral mucosal macules and nodules have also been described in 14% of individuals receiving hemodialysis (Klassen and Krasko, 2002). Other lesions that can occur intra-orally in allograft recipients are listed in Table 4 (King *et al.*, 1994).

(f) Oral Malignancy

The risk of oral squamous cell carcinoma in patients receiving hemodialysis is generally similar to that of otherwise healthy individuals in the general population (Lee and Gisser, 1978; Bradford *et al.*, 1990), although there have been reports suggesting that therapy following renal transplantation predisposes to epithelial dysplasia and carcinoma of the lip (Regev *et al.*, 1992; Thomas *et al.*, 1993). Perhaps unsurprisingly, Kaposi's sarcoma (KS) can occur in the mouths of immunosuppressed renal transplant recipients (Farge, 1993). There have been reports of squamous cell carcinoma (Varga and Tyldesley, 1991) and KS (Qunibi *et al.*, 1988) arising within areas of cyclosporin-induced gingival enlargement. Any increased risk of oral malignancy in CRF probably reflects the effects of iatrogenic immunosuppression, which increases liability to virally associated tumors, such as Kaposi's sarcoma or non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. The inconsistent association between oral epithelial dysplasia and oral squamous cell carcinoma is in accord with the low risk of such disease in individuals with other, more significant, immunosuppressed states—for example, HIV disease.

(g) Oral Infections

(i) Candidosis

Angular cheilitis has been described in up to 4% of hemodialysis and renal allograft recipients (King *et al.*, 1994; Klassen and Krasko, 2002). Other oral candidal lesions—such as pseudomembranous (1.9%), erythematous (3.8%), and chronic atrophic candidosis (3.8%)—have been reported in allograft recipients (King *et al.*, 1994). These figures may underestimate the increased susceptibility of immunosuppressed allograft recipients to fungal infection, since systemic anti-fungal agents are commonly prescribed prophylactically (Quirk *et al.*, 1995).

(ii) Viral Infection

Prior to the availability of appropriate anti-viral drugs (*e.g.*, acyclovir, gancyclovir, and valacyclovir), about 50% of renal allograft recipients, who were seropositive for herpes simplex, experienced recurrent, severe, and prolonged HSV infections (Korsager *et al.*, 1975; Armstrong *et al.*, 1976;

Naraqi *et al.*, 1977). However, in recent years, the use of effective anti-herpetic regimes has significantly reduced the frequency of such infection (Kletzmayer *et al.*, 2000; Ljungman, 2001; McGavin and Goa, 2001; Squifflet and Legendre, 2002). Long-standing post-allograft immunosuppression may predispose subjects to human herpesvirus 8 (HHV-8) and associated Kaposi's sarcoma (Leao *et al.*, 2000).

(h) Dental Anomalies

Delayed eruption of permanent teeth has been reported in children with CRF (Woodhead *et al.*, 1982; Koppang *et al.*, 1984; Sampson and Meister, 1984; Wolff *et al.*, 1985; Carl, 1987; Levy, 1988; Jaffe *et al.*, 1990). Enamel hypoplasia of the primary and permanent teeth (Wolff *et al.*, 1985; Kho *et al.*, 1999; Koch *et al.*, 1999; Al Nowaiser *et al.*, 2003), with or without brown discoloration (Bottomley *et al.*, 1972; Woodhead *et al.*, 1982; Wolff *et al.*, 1985; Eigner *et al.*, 1986; Carl, 1987; Levy, 1988), can also occur.

Narrowing or calcification of the pulp chamber of teeth of adults with chronic renal disease can occur (Kelly *et al.*, 1980; Spolnik *et al.*, 1981; Wysocki *et al.*, 1983; Nasstrom *et al.*, 1985, 1993; Galili *et al.*, 1991; Nasstrom, 1996; Ganibegovic, 2000). The exact cause of this dental change is not known. Renal allograft recipients have significantly more narrowing of the pulp chamber than those receiving hemodialysis (Nasstrom *et al.*, 1985). There is no consistent association between corticosteroid therapy and narrowing of the pulp chamber (Galili *et al.*, 1991).

Increased (Locsey *et al.*, 1986) and decreased rates of dental caries (Woodhead *et al.*, 1982; Sampson and Meister, 1984; Wolff *et al.*, 1985; Jaffe *et al.*, 1986; Levy, 1988; Klassen and Krasko, 2002; Al Nowaiser *et al.*, 2003) have been observed in groups of patients with CRF. However, there is no evidence of a significantly increased risk of caries in patients with CRF. Although patients may have xerostomia, there would seem to be no increased risk of cervical caries, as might be expected (Porter *et al.*, 2004).

Non-carious tooth tissue loss is more prevalent in individuals with CRF than in the general population (Levy, 1988). This may be due to nausea (Levy, 1988), esophageal regurgitation, or induced vomiting in bulimia nervosa (if a patient finds the restricted diet unpleasant) (Levy, 1988; Klassen and Krasko, 2002).

(i) Bone Lesions

A wide range of bony anomalies can arise in chronic renal disease. These reflect a variety of defects of calcium metabolism, including: loss of hydroxylation of 1-hydroxycholecalciferol to active vitamin D (1,25-dihydroxycholecalciferol); decreased hydrogen ion excretion (and resultant acidosis); hyperphosphatemia; hypocalcemia and resultant secondary hyperparathyroidism; and finally, interference in phosphate biochemistry by dialysis (Nadimi *et al.*, 1993).

Secondary hyperparathyroidism affects up to 92% of patients receiving hemodialysis (Massry and Ritz, 1978). Hyperparathyroidism may present as a maxillary brown tumor (Okada *et al.*, 2000), enlargement of the skeletal bases (Nadimi *et al.*, 1993; Phelps *et al.*, 1994; Michiwaki *et al.*, 1996; Damm *et al.*, 1997; Vigneswaran, 2001), or tooth mobility (Carmichael *et al.*, 1995).

Table 5. Orofacial Features of Renal Osteodystrophy—Bony Features

Bone demineralization
Decreased trabeculation
Decreased thickness of cortical bone
Ground-glass appearance of bone
Metastatic soft-tissue calcifications
Radiolucent fibrocystic lesions
Radiolucent giant cell lesions
Lytic areas of bone
Jaw fracture (due to trauma or during surgery)
Abnormal bone healing after extraction

Table 6. Orofacial Features of Renal Osteodystrophy—Tooth and Periodontium

Delayed eruption
Enamel hypoplasia
Loss of the lamina dura
Widening of the periodontal ligament
Severe periodontal destruction
Tooth mobility
Drifting
Pulp calcifications
Pulp narrowing

Orofacial features of renal osteodystrophy due to hyperparathyroidism are listed in Tables 5 and 6 (Sampson and Meister, 1984; Loesey *et al.*, 1986; Carl, 1987; Levy, 1988; Molpus *et al.*, 1991; Nadimi *et al.*, 1993; Michiwaki *et al.*, 1996; Damm *et al.*, 1997; Ganiibegovic, 2000; Okada *et al.*, 2000; Klassen and Krasko, 2002).

Table 7. Drugs Commonly Used in Dentistry That May Have Implications for Patients with Renal Disease

Drug	Caution
Antibiotics	
Amoxicillin, ampicillin	Reduce dose, rash more common
Erythromycin	Maximum 1.5 g daily (ototoxicity) Increases plasma-tacrolimus concentration Increases plasma-cyclosporin concentration
Tetracyclines	Avoid—use doxycycline or minocycline if necessary (avoid excessive doses) Doxycycline increases plasma-cyclosporin concentration
Cefalexin, cefradine	Reduce dose
Probenecid	Avoid (ineffective, increased toxicity)
Antifungals	
Amphotericin	Use only if no alternative Cyclosporin, tacrolimus: increases risk of nephrotoxicity
Fluconazole	Usual initial dose then halve subsequent doses Increases plasma-cyclosporin concentration Increases plasma-tacrolimus concentration
Miconazole	Increases plasma-cyclosporin concentration
Antivirals	
Acyclovir	Reduce dose
Analgesics	
Aspirin	Avoid (sodium, water retention; deterioration in renal function; risk of gastric hemorrhage)
Ibuprofen, diflunisal	Avoid if possible/use lowest effective dose, monitor renal function (sodium, water retention; deterioration in renal function) Cyclosporin, tacrolimus: increases risk of nephrotoxicity
Dihydrocodeine, pethidine	Reduce dose/avoid (increased and prolonged effect, increased cerebral sensitivity)
Other drugs	
Carbamazepine	Caution Reduces plasma-cyclosporin concentration
Nitrazepam, temazepam	Start with small doses (increased cerebral sensitivity)
Povidone-iodine	Avoid regular application to inflamed or broken mucosa
Ephedrine	Avoid (CNS toxicity)

(VII) DENTAL MANAGEMENT OF PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC RENAL FAILURE

Untreated dental infection in immunosuppressed individuals can potentially contribute to morbidity and transplant rejection (Greenberg and Cohen, 1977). Thus, there is a need for detailed

assessment and provision of good dental care following the diagnosis of CRF. Regular clinical review is important for the early identification of oral complications of renal disease (Bottomley *et al.*, 1972; Naylor *et al.*, 1988). Regular, non-surgical, periodontal treatment is indicated (Bottomley *et al.*, 1972; Potter and Wilson, 1979; Naugle *et al.*, 1998). However, several studies have found that individuals receiving dialysis have unmet restorative dental need (Potter and Wilson, 1979; Naugle *et al.*, 1998). In addition, despite sometimes having high levels of dental need, the attendance by affected patients for dental care is no better than that of those without renal disease (King and Thornhill, 1996; Naugle *et al.*, 1998; Klassen and Krasko, 2002).

It has been recommended that patients requiring a renal transplant have a detailed oral assessment and treatment prior to surgery (Kirkpatrick and Morton, 1971; Sowell, 1982; Eigner *et al.*, 1986; Naylor and Fredericks, 1996; Ferguson and Whyman, 1998), perhaps highlighting a need for appropriately trained oral health professionals to collaborate with renal physicians. The dental examination should be timed appropriately to allow any necessary dental treatment to be carried out in a planned manner (Klassen and Krasko, 2002). Most transplant centers worldwide have a dental check in their pre-transplant protocol (Yamalik *et al.*, 1993).

However, Klassen and Krasko (2002) found that pre-transplant oral care was not meticulous. There is no evidence that poor oral hygiene or consequent dental disease significantly affects the morbidity or mortality associated with CRD. Nevertheless, there have been very occasional reports of the severe local and systemic spread of odontogenic infection in renal transplant recipients (Reyna *et al.*, 1982; Wilson *et al.*, 1982).

There may be a bleeding tendency in hemodialysis recipients, due to anti-coagulants or platelet dysfunction, but its effects can be minimized if dental treatment is carried out on the day following dialysis (Stewart, 1967; Dobkin *et al.*, 1978; Precious *et al.*, 1981; Sowell, 1982; Mannucci *et al.*, 1983; Buckley *et al.*, 1986; Eschbach and Adamson, 1989; Jameson and Wiegmann, 1990; De Rossi and Glick, 1996; Naylor and Fredericks, 1996). This is a practical solution, since the patients will still be in the hospital.

To minimize the risk of adrenal crisis in individuals who have taken large doses of corticosteroid (10 mg prednisolone daily or equivalent during the preceding 3 mos) and undergoing major surgical procedures (such as extraction of more than one tooth), appropriate corticosteroid cover should be administered (Seymour *et al.*, 1994). In the past, large doses were used (up to 200 mg hydrocortisone), but more recent guidelines have recommended lower physiological doses (25 mg intravenous hydrocortisone pre-operatively) (Nicholson *et al.*, 1998).

Impaired renal function can result in high blood levels of drugs or their metabolites (Perneger *et al.*, 1994); thus, it may be necessary to reduce the dosage of many drugs or use alternative agents (Bennett *et al.*, 1983). Potential medication complications are listed in Table 7 (British National Formulary, 2002).

Infective endocarditis, affecting previously healthy cardiac tissue, has been reported in individuals on hemodialysis (Leonard *et al.*, 1973). In countries such as the USA and New Zealand, bacteremia-producing antibiotic prophylaxis prior to dental procedures is recommended for individuals receiving renal dialysis and allografts, since there is a risk of infective endocarditis or infection of the vascular access site (Levy, 1988; Hay *et al.*, 1992; Hall *et al.*, 1994; Naylor and Fredericks, 1996; Werner and Saad, 1999). The British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (BSAC) guidelines (Simmons, 1993) do not recommend antibiotic prophylaxis for individuals with renal disease who require dental procedures that are likely to give rise to a bacteremia. Klassen and Krasko (2002) have stressed that good oral health lowers the risk of oral infection, and, therefore, the risk of septicemia, endocarditis, or endarteritis at the site of vascular dialysis access. There is, thus, no simple answer to the need for antibiotic prophylaxis for the bacteremia-producing dental procedures in patients with chronic renal disease. Nevertheless, there are instances when antibiotic prophylaxis may be important—for example, mitral valve prolapse and mitral valve regurgitation are common in patients with polycystic kidney disease type 1 (Lumiaho *et al.*, 2001).

The ideal management of drug-induced gingival enlargement is to substitute another drug (Khoht and Schneider, 1997), but this may not always be possible. Meticulous oral hygiene (Daley *et al.*, 1986; Hassell and Hefti, 1991; Nishikawa *et al.*, 1991; Seymour and Smith, 1991; Hancock and Swan, 1992; Somacarrera *et al.*, 1996, 1997; Hall, 1997; Westbrook *et al.*, 1997; Bader *et al.*, 1998; Oettinger-Barak *et al.*, 2000) can lessen any plaque-related gingival disease, but there may still be some drug-associated gingival

enlargement. Single case reports have advocated the use of antimicrobial agents (Nash and Zaltzman, 1998; Wirmsberger *et al.*, 1998) such as metronidazole (Wong *et al.*, 1994) to lessen the gingival enlargement, but metronidazole may also increase the cyclosporin concentration and the potential for nephrotoxicity (Seymour *et al.*, 1997). Scalpel or laser excision of the gingival enlargement is necessary if the excess gingival tissue is unsightly and/or interferes with mastication, speech, or oral care (Khoht and Schneider, 1997). Recurrence is common, especially when the oral hygiene is inadequate (Seymour *et al.*, 1994; Hall, 1997), highlighting the need for long-term effective plaque control and consideration of additional anti-plaque measures such as topical chlorhexidine gluconate or triclosan preparations.

CONCLUSION

The prevalence of chronic renal failure (CRF) is increasing worldwide. Oral and systemic complications can occur as a result of CRF or its treatment. In recent years, the pattern of oral manifestations has changed, principally as a consequence of the adverse oral side-effects of drug therapy and immunosuppressant drugs. The incidence of gingival enlargement may fall as tacrolimus (and related agents) is used in place of cyclosporin. The dental management of patients with CRF is complicated by some systemic consequences of CRF, in particular, anemia, liability to bleeding, and cardiovascular or endocrine disease, but with the use of well-supervised treatment protocols, the dental management of individuals with chronic renal failure can be effective and safe.

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