

Hemodialysis Patients with COVID-19 in Lebanon (Sixth Report)

Date: 19th October 2020

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Background

Lebanon has ~4100 patients on chronic hemodialysis, distributed as follows:

• Beirut: ~762 patients

Mount Lebanon: ~1562 patients

North: ~860 patients
South: ~616 patients
Begaa: ~402 patients

Cases of SARS-CoV-2 in Lebanese hemodialysis units

Up to October 19, 2020, 43 out of 80 hemodialysis units experienced cases of COVID-19 among their dialysis patients.

A total of 133 dialysis patients were diagnosed with SARS-CoV-2 infection across Lebanon and distributed as follows: 46 cases in Mount-Lebanon, 54 cases in the North, 19 cases in Beirut, 5 cases in Begaa and 9 cases in the South.

Characteristics of these patients:

- Mean age: 62.53 ± 13.92 years
- 56.4% were males and 43.6% females
- 52.6% were diabetics

The number of patients per month is increasing progressively since July 2020 (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Number of new cases per month

90.2% were symptomatic and the majority had respiratory symptoms and fever.

Admission to a COVID unit

Sixty-one patients or 46% of the total number of infected patients were admitted to a COVID unit. Rafic Hariri University Hospital and Tripoli Governmental Hospital received the highest number of patients.

Outcome of patients

Twenty-four out of the 133 patients died: 13 males and 11 females (Table 1).

Table 1. Case Fatality Rate (CFR) per category of age

Age category	Total number of patients	Number of deaths	Case Fatality Rate (deaths among cases)
18 to 29	4	0	0%
30 to 39	4	0	0%
40 to 49	10	1	10%
50 to 59	28	1	3.5%
60 to 69	37	8	21.6%
70 to 79	38	7	18.4%
Above 80	12	7	58.3%
Total	133	24	15.3%