

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

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Background

Lebanon has ~4270 patients on chronic hemodialysis, distributed as follows:

• Beirut: ~760 patients

Mount Lebanon: ~1530 patients

North: ~960 patients
South: ~610 patients
Begaa: ~410 patients

Cases of SARS-CoV-2 in Lebanese hemodialysis units

Up to October 26, 2020, 46 out of 80 hemodialysis units experienced cases of COVID-19 among their dialysis patients.

A total of 147 dialysis patients were reported with SARS-CoV-2 infection across Lebanon and distributed as follows: 47 cases in Mount-Lebanon, 62 cases in the North, 23 cases in Beirut, 6 cases in Begaa and 9 cases in the South.

Characteristics of these patients:

• Mean age: 62.24 ± 13.98 years

• 57% were males and 43% females

• 51% were diabetics

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

Figure 1. Number of new cases per month

89.8% were symptomatic and the majority had respiratory symptoms and fever.

Admission to a COVID unit

Sixty-four patients or 43.5% 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-seven out of the 147 patients died: 14 males and 13 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	0.00%
30 to 59	48	4	8.33%
60 to 69	42	9	21.42%
70 to 79	41	7	17.07%
Above 80	12	7	58.33%
Total	147	27	18.36%