



PSYCHOLOGICAL SYMPTOMS AND QUALITY OF LIFE
IN DIALYSIS PATIENTS: A SURVEY-BASED STUDY

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INTRODUCTION	METHODS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Patients with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) are at an elevated risk of developing psychiatric disordersComplex interplay of physical and psychosocial factors significantly impacts their quality of lifePatients undergoing hemodialysis often face physical and psychological symptoms related to membrane bioincompatibility, while also navigating substantial lifestyle changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Participants recruited from St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon, SaskatchewanCompleted a psychological questionnaire designed to capture emotional challenges related to their health conditionResponses were rated on a 6-point Likert scale ranging from "strongly disagree" to "strongly agree" with higher scores reflecting greater psychological distress, maximum score of 120
RESULTS	CONCLUSION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Scores ranging from 29 to 102, 58% of participants scored >6063.1% reported difficulty adapting, 63.2% reported trouble sleeping, 46.8% worried about worsening health, and 47.4% felt a loss of independenceDespite these challenges, most participants (68.4%) strongly disagreed with having thoughts of self-harm or suicide	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Low prevalence of suicidal thoughts among participants may be attributed to protective factors (e.g., social support)However, many ESRD patients exhibited signs of stress, depression, anxietyThese findings highlight the importance of providing mental health support for all dialysis patients to help reduce psychological symptoms and improve quality of life

ETHICS STATEMENT: All study participants were from the hemodialysis centre at St. Paul's Hospital and signed a written informed consent, approved by the University of Saskatchewan Biomedical Research Ethics Board.

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