

# Heart failure in patients with advanced chronic kidney disease

<b>Submission date</b> 03/03/2021	<b>Recruitment status</b> Recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 16/03/2021	<b>Overall study status</b> Ongoing	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 06/01/2026	<b>Condition category</b> Circulatory System	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

## Plain English summary of protocol

### Background and study aims

The kidneys filter the blood using very specialised blood vessels to remove waste and toxic substances, and returning vitamins, amino acids, glucose, hormones and other vital substances into the bloodstream. The kidneys also help to regulate the fluid volume of the blood. Kidney failure is when kidneys no longer function well enough to meet the needs of daily life. This can worsen to end-stage kidney disease (ESKD) which is when kidney function falls below 10% of normal function. Kidney failure can be treated by haemodialysis. Haemodialysis is a way of replacing some of the functions of your kidney, blood is filtered using an external machine and then returned to the body.

Patients with ESKD who are receiving haemodialysis are at increased risk for development of heart failure (HF). Heart failure (HF) is a frequent cause of death and disability in patients.

It is not easy to distinguish HF from water overload in patients with ESKD, and many patients on haemodialysis have exercise limitations unrelated to HF. Therefore the traditional definition of HF, which is based on exercise ability, is less useful in this population.

The study team have suggested two new definitions of heart failure. This study will test whether these newer definitions are able to better identify patients with a higher risk of heart failure.

### Who can participate?

Clinically stable adult patients being treated by chronic hemodialysis in the collaborating haemodialysis units

### What does the study involve?

Patients treated by haemodialysis in 6 collaborating haemodialysis units will be examined at the General University Hospital in Prague every 6-12 months until kidney transplantation. The examination at each session will involve basic history, clinical assessment of heart failure (HF) symptoms (through scans of the heart, analysis of the blood vessels, blood samples for markers of heart failure, body composition analysis), and completion of a questionnaire about heart failure.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

A potential benefit is timely diagnosis of heart disease that would allow timely treatment. There are no associated risks anticipated.

Where is the study run from?

General University Hospital in Prague (Czech Republic)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

From March 2019 to December 2029

Who is funding the study?

Ministry of Health Czech Republic and General University Hospital in Prague (Czech Republic)

Who is the main contact?

Dr Jan Malik, email: jan.malik@vfn.cz

## Contact information

### Type(s)

Scientific

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## **Additional identifiers**

## **Study information**

### **Scientific Title**

CZEcking Heart failure in patients with advanced Chronic Kidney Disease (Czech HF-CKD)

### **Acronym**

Czech HF-CKD

### **Study objectives**

1. Newer heart failure (HF) definitions will better identify patients with more advanced structural heart changes, higher morbidity, and mortality. The newer definitions are as follows:
  - 1.1. Modified ADQI XI Workgroup definition (at least 2 criteria of structural heart disease with cut-off values used in the cardiological guidelines)
  - 1.2. Haemodynamic definition, defined as low effective cardiac index ( $<2.5$  l/min/m<sup>2</sup>) at rest in patients with at least one of the following abnormalities:
    - 1.2.1. Left ventricular hypertrophy
    - 1.2.2. Left ventricular EF  $<40\%$
    - 1.2.3. AVF flow volume  $>1500$  ml/min, but in the absence of significant valvular/pericardial disease
    - 1.2.4. Diastolic dysfunction grade 2 or 3
    - 1.2.5. Moderate or severe left atrial dilatation (LAVi  $>40$  ml/m<sup>2</sup>)
    - 1.2.6. Estimated pulmonary artery systolic pressure  $>40$  mmHg
2. In patients with non-cardiac exercise limitation (orthopedical and neurological problems, myopathy, frailty, etc), the use of a combination of advanced structural heart changes and of elevated NTproBNP level could become an HF surrogate that would lead to a similar risk of endpoints as in the symptomatic HF subjects
3. Careful assessment of dry weight setting will enable us to estimate real-world HF prevalence by excluding simple water overload mimicking HF

### **Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

### **Ethics approval(s)**

Approved 23/05/2019, protocol amendment approved 23/05/20120, title amendment approved 18/02/2021, Institutional ethics committee of the General University Hospital in Prague (Na Bojišti 1, 128 08 Prague 2, Czech Republic; +420 224 964 131; eticka.komise@vfn.cz), ref: 789/19, protocol amendment ref: 30/20

### **Study design**

Longitudinal prospective single-center observational cohort study with regular assessment of endpoints

### **Primary study design**

Observational

### **Study type(s)**

Diagnostic

### **Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Heart failure in patients with advanced chronic kidney disease

### **Interventions**

This is an observational study of a cohort of patients with advanced chronic kidney disease.

The study will collect basic history, clinical assessment of heart failure (HF) symptoms, and use of the "Prague CKD-HF questionnaire". The clinical assessment will include the following:

1. Blood samples (full blood count, albumin, total protein, NT-pro brain natriuretic peptide)
2. Expert echocardiography, detailed analysis of the volumes of heart cavities, quantification of valvular disease, diastolic dysfunction according to the recent guidelines, calcification extent, and cardiac output calculation (from the left ventricular outflow tract diameter and velocity-time interval)
3. Hemodialysis arteriovenous fistula flow volume (flow in the feeding brachial artery by duplex ultrasound)
4. Hydration status assessed clinically (effusions, edema) and estimation of central venous pressure by inferior vena cava diameter and collapsibility by bio-impedance
5. Body composition (bio-impedance by Body composition monitor, FMC) including total body water, overhydration, extra- and intracellular water, lean body mass, and fat body mass
6. Arterial stiffness (pulse wave velocity between carotid and femoral arteries using Sphygmocor)
7. Rhythm analysis (sinus rhythm vs. atrial fibrillation) using electrocardiography

In cases of water overload during the examination, dry weight adjustment will be recommended, and the patient invited for another examination within 6 weeks. Only examinations performed at the optimal hydration status will be included.

Participants will be followed up for assessment every 6 to 12 months until kidney transplantation, death, or the end of the study period.

### **Intervention Type**

Other

### **Primary outcome(s)**

Current primary outcome measure as of 07/07/2021:

1. Incidence of cardiovascular death measured from patient notes between baseline and the end of the study
  2. Worsening of heart failure (defined as worsening by 1 class of New York Heart Association Functional Classification, the incidence of hospitalization for de-compensation, an ejection fraction decrease by  $\geq 10\%$ , or new diagnosis of heart failure) measured using clinical assessment and patient notes every 6-12 months between baseline and the end of the study
  3. Incidence of significant cardiovascular morbidity (acute coronary syndrome or stroke) measured from patient notes between baseline and the end of the study
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Previous primary outcome measure:

1. Incidence of death measured from patient notes between baseline and the end of the study
2. Worsening of heart failure (defined as worsening by 1 class of New York Heart Association Functional Classification, the incidence of hospitalization for de-compensation, an ejection fraction decrease by  $\geq 10\%$ , or new diagnosis of heart failure) measured using clinical assessment and patient notes every 6-12 months between baseline and the end of the study
3. Incidence of significant cardiovascular morbidity (acute coronary syndrome or stroke) measured from patient notes between baseline and the end of the study
4. Coronary or valvular intervention (percutaneous or surgical) measured from patient notes between baseline and the end of the study

**Key secondary outcome(s)**

Current secondary outcome measures as of 07/07/2021:

1. Components of the primary endpoint measured from patient notes between baseline and the end of the study
2. Incidence of other cardiovascular morbidity (stroke, acute leg ischemia, pulmonary embolism, etc.) measured from patient notes between baseline and the end of the study
3. Need for dry weight decrease by  $>3\%$  of body weight because of overhydration measured by body composition monitor every 6-12 months between baseline and the end of the study
4. Need of coronary or valvular intervention (percutaneous or surgical) measured from electrocardiography and echocardiography every 6-12 months between baseline and the end of the study
5. Incidence of pacemaker/defibrillator implantation measured from patient notes between baseline and the end of the study
6. Coronary or valvular intervention (percutaneous or surgical) measured from patient notes between baseline and the end of the study
7. Incidence of vascular access intervention measured from patient notes between baseline and the end of the study
8. Non-cardiac death measured from patients notes between baseline and the end of the study

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1. Components of the primary endpoint measured from patient notes between baseline and the end of the study
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3. Need for dry weight decrease by  $>3\%$  of body weight because of overhydration measured by body composition monitor every 6-12 months between baseline and the end of the study
4. Need of coronary or valvular intervention (percutaneous or surgical) measured from electrocardiography and echocardiography every 6-12 months between baseline and the end of the study
5. Incidence of pacemaker/defibrillator implantation measured from patient notes between baseline and the end of the study
6. Incidence of vascular access intervention measured from patient notes between baseline and the end of the study

**Completion date**

31/12/2029

## Eligibility

### Key inclusion criteria

1. Treated by chronic hemodialysis in the collaborating haemodialysis units
2. Clinically stable
3. Willing to participate
4. ESKD treated by hemodialysis for at least 3 months
5. Aged >18 years

### Participant type(s)

Patient

### Healthy volunteers allowed

No

### Age group

Mixed

### Lower age limit

18 years

### Upper age limit

100 years

### Sex

All

### Total final enrolment

300

### Key exclusion criteria

1. Planned kidney transplantation from a living donor within 3 months of the index visit
2. Life expectancy <6 months at the index (first) visit for any reason
3. No dementia

### Date of first enrolment

10/06/2019

### Date of final enrolment

31/12/2028

## Locations

### Countries of recruitment

Czech Republic

**Study participating centre**  
**General University Hospital**  
U nemocnice 1  
Prague  
Czech Republic  
12808

## Sponsor information

**Organisation**  
General University Hospital in Prague

**ROR**  
<https://ror.org/04yg23125>

## Funder(s)

**Funder type**  
Government

**Funder Name**  
Ministerstvo Zdravotnictví České Republiky

**Alternative Name(s)**  
Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic, MZCR

**Funding Body Type**  
Government organisation

**Funding Body Subtype**  
National government

**Location**  
Czech Republic

**Funder Name**  
Všeobecná Fakultní Nemocnice v Praze

**Alternative Name(s)**  
General University Hospital in Prague, VFN

**Funding Body Type**

Government organisation

### Funding Body Subtype

Other non-profit organizations

### Location

Czech Republic

## Results and Publications

### Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

#### IPD sharing plan summary

Data sharing statement to be made available at a later date

#### Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<a href="#">Results article</a>		01/06/2023	19/02/2025	Yes	No