Problem of Vascular Access in Hemodialysis as First Choice Treatment in Senegal

Kane Y*, Diouf C1, Barboza D1, Seck SM2, Cisse MM3, Lemrabott AT2, Faye M3, Ka EF2, Niang A2 and Diouf B2

1Nephrology Department, Internal Medicine and General Surgery of Assane Seck University/Ziguinchor, Senegal
2Nephrology Department of Teaching Hospital Aristide Le Dantec /Dakar, Senegal
3Nephrology Department of Gaston Berger University/Saint Louis, Senegal

Commentary

Vascular access is of paramount importance for successful hemodialysis sessions. Any malfunction of the vascular access has a direct impact on morbidity and mortality of the patient under dialysis. Native arteriovenous fistula remains the standard and first line vascular access. This offers the best performance, greater longevity and lower morbidity [1].

Brecia and Cimino [2] were the first to describe a vascular procedure in creating an arterio-venous fistula (AVF) by performing a surgical anastomosis of the radial artery and the cephalic vein. However, there is a wide disparity in terms of geographic regions and centers in the methods of use of vascular access [3].

So in Senegal, in 89.20% of our chronic hemodialysis patients the first hemodialysis was performed using a central venous line, and only 10.80% had started their hemodialysis session with arteriovenous fistula. In a previous study performed in another center in 2010 [4], there was a finding that transitory catheter was performed in 86.6% of the cases.

The difference with our results could be explained by the fact that patients are not monitored in nephrology before dialysis. Any malfunction of the vascular access has a direct impact on morbidity and mortality of the patient under dialysis. Therefore low rate in our population is also explained by the fact that AVF administration is centralized in a single vascular surgery service for the whole country with a long scheduled period and especially that patients are not monitored in nephrology before dialysis.

For better quality of care in hemodialysis by good vascular access based on AVF, the recommendations are as follows:

1. Refer patients to vascular surgery in time for creation of the AVF as soon as creatinine clearance is below 30 ml/minute.
2. Set up a venous capital preservation strategy in all patients with kidney impairment avoiding venipuncture in the arm and forearm.
3. Start performing AVF in all regional hospitals of the country.

References