

Diabetic Kidney Disease (DKD)

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I have no relevant financial relationships to disclose.

OBJECTIVES



- Identify the physiological and structural changes in DKD
- Define DKD and its clinical courses
- Describe the main goals of management of DKD
- Recognize the main pillars of medical management of DKD to improve renal and cardiovascular outcomes.

OVERVIEW

- ❑ Introduction & epidemiology
- ❑ Physiopathology of DKD
- ❑ Clinical course of DKD
- ❑ Screening & diagnosis of DKD
- ❑ Management of DKD
 - ❑ Pillars of treatment
 - ❑ 2022 KDIGO Guideline Recommendations
- ❑ Conclusions



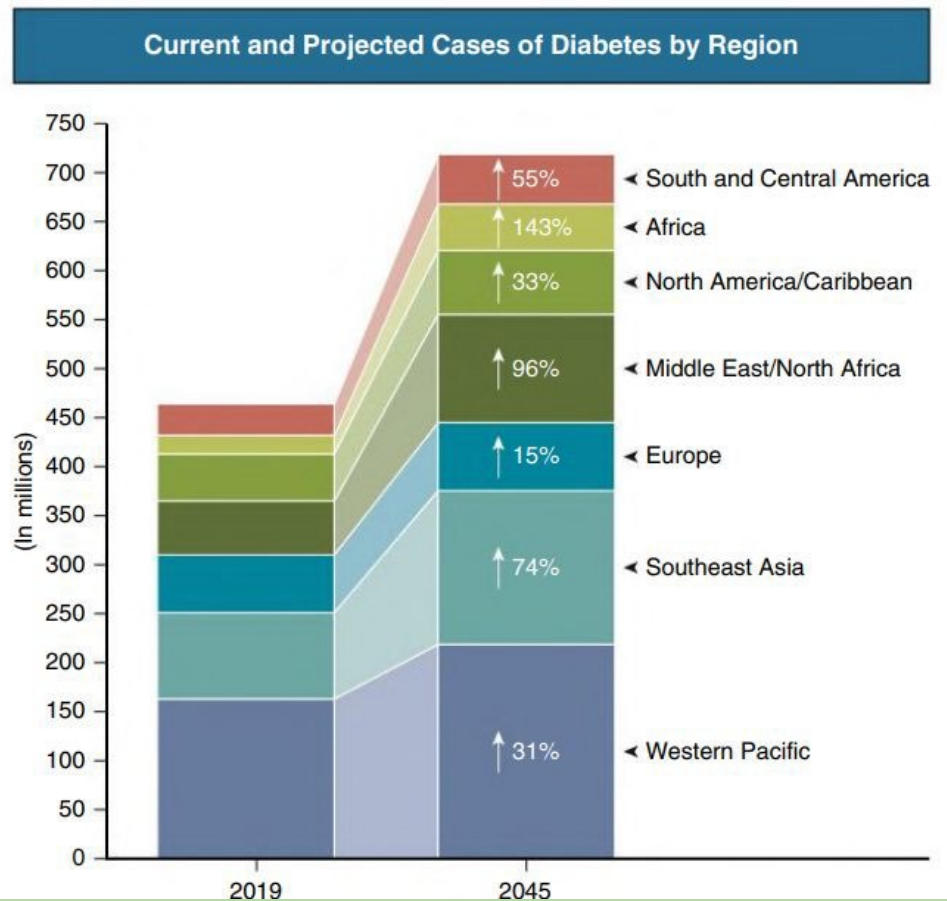


Introduction

- Diabetic Kidney Disease (DKD) is a chronic kidney disease attributable to diabetes, and it is **increasing world wide**, largely in response to a global epidemic of diabetes.
- **1 in 3** patients with diabetes develop DKD.
- DKD is characterized by **albuminuria, decreased estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR), or both** in patients with diabetes.
- In DKD, all cause and cardiovascular mortality is **20 to 30 times higher** compared to mortality in the general population.

Predicted increase in diabetes prevalence.

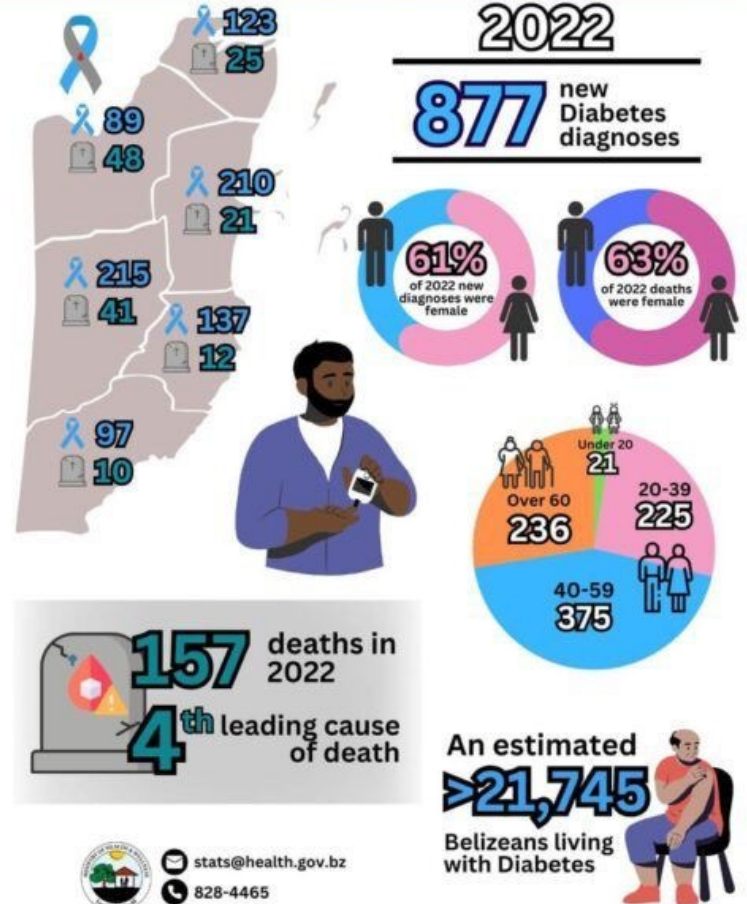
Globally, more than 400 million people have DM and almost 600 million may be affected by 2035.



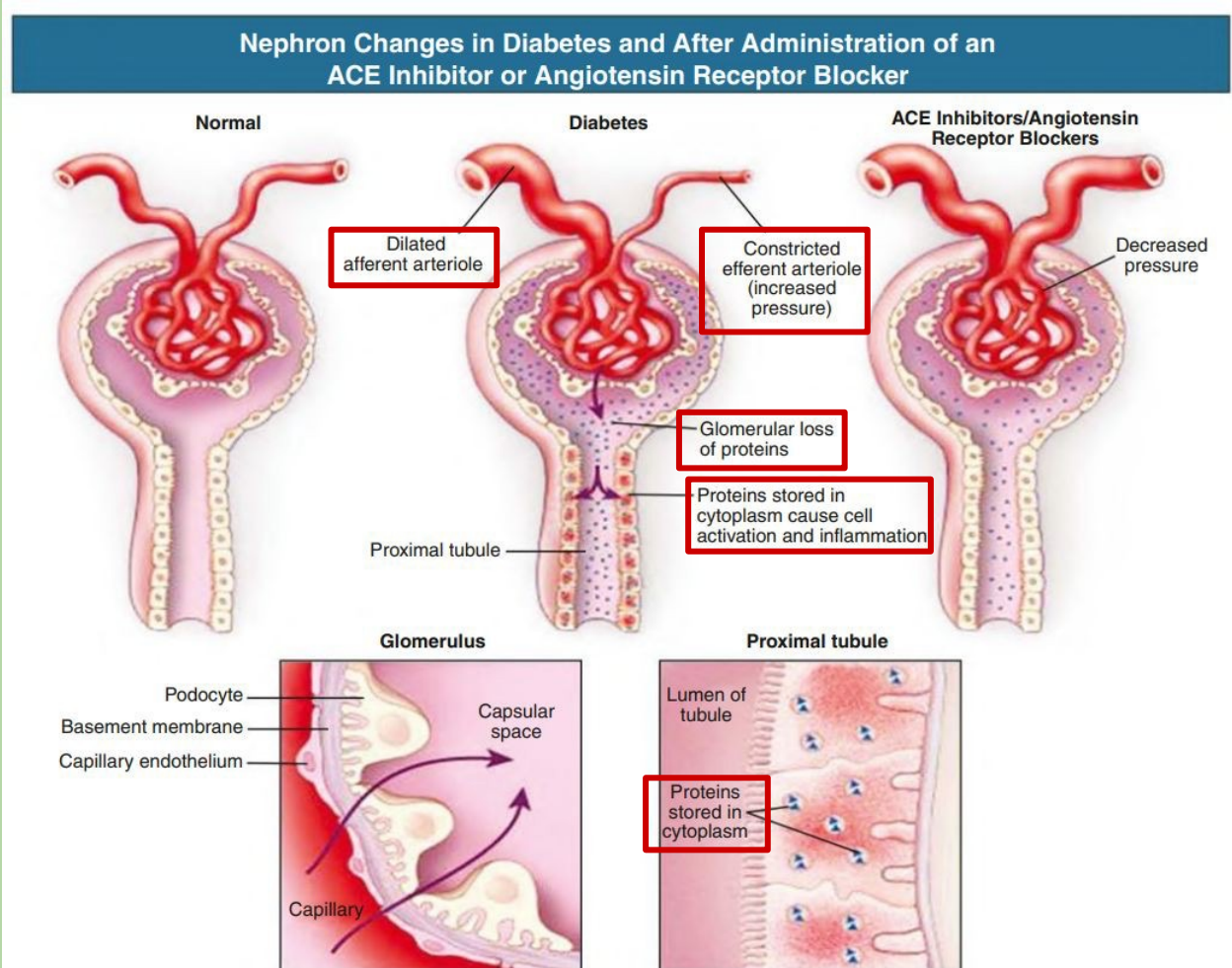
Epidemiology in Belize of DM

MOHW has reported that diabetes was the **fourth leading cause** of death in Belize in 2022.

DIABETES

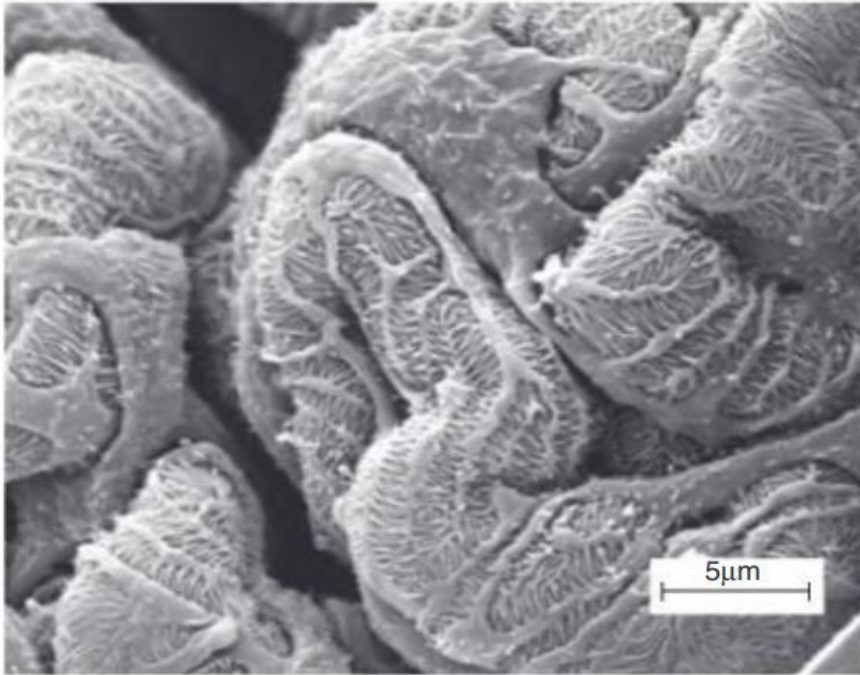


Physiopathology of DKD

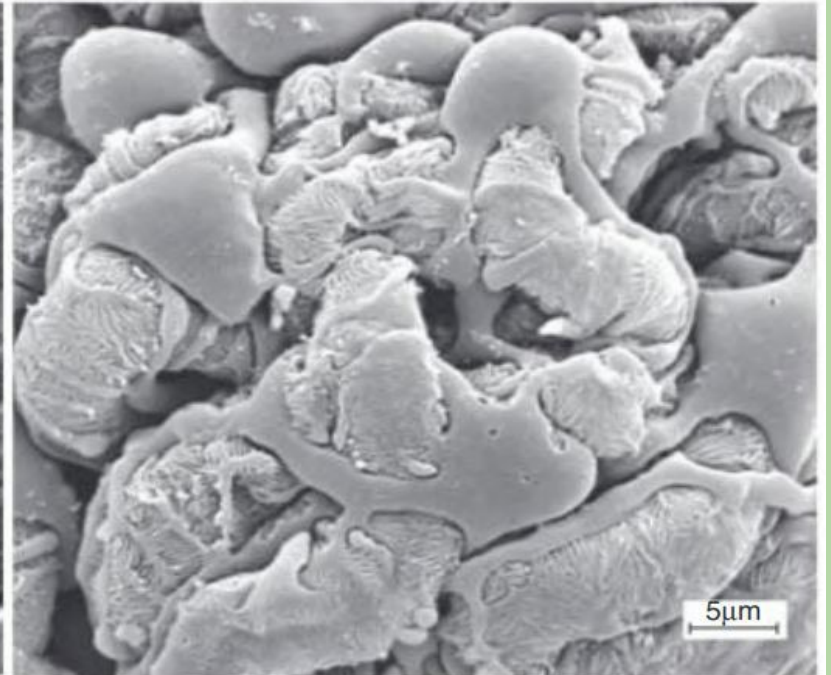


Inflammatory reaction that promotes interstitial FIBROSIS

Structural changes in DKD



Normal Rat

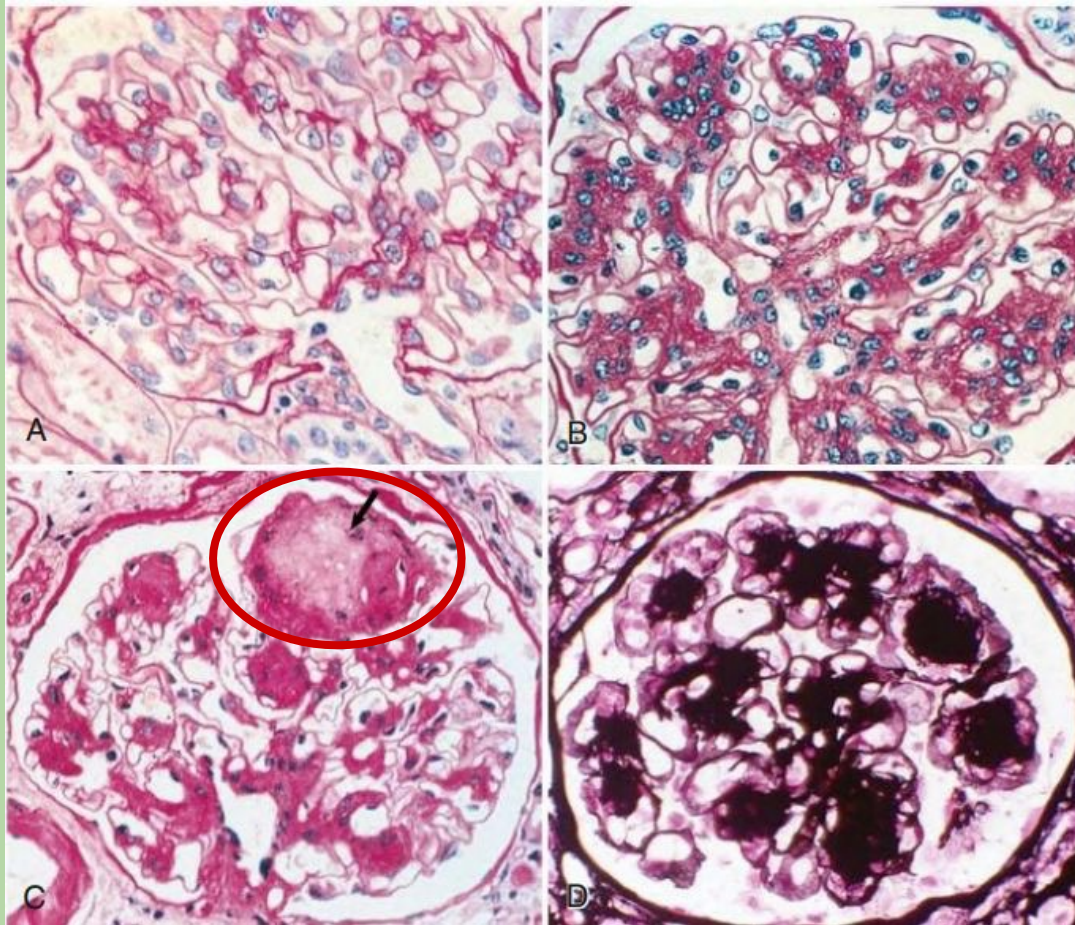


Diabetic Rat

Alicic, Radica & Rooney, Michele & Tuttle, Katherine. (2017). Diabetic Kidney Disease: Challenges, Progress, and Possibilities. Clinical journal of the American Society of Nephrology : CJASN. 12. 10.2215/CJN.11491116.

Marshall SM. The podocyte: a major player in the development of diabetic nephropathy? Horm Metab Res. 2005;37[suppl 1]:9-16.

Light microscopy of glomerular changes in DKD



- A. Normal (PAS)
- B. Diffuse glomerular lesion + mesangial expansion (PAS)
- C. Nodular lesion + mesangial expansion. Kimmelstiel - Wilson nodule. (PAS)
- D. Nodular expansion of mesangial matrix in methenamine silver staining



Clinical Course of DKD

Clinical course of DKD

01

Classic course of DKD

- Albumin or protein excretion increases & GFR rises then falls, culminating in uremia and ESKD.

02

Non proteinuric DKD

- Loss of GFR in the absence of proteinuria in both T1D and T2D.
- Women with T2D, obesity, dyslipidemia, hypertension and/or hyperfiltration.
- About half of individuals with a decline of kidney function did not have preceding proteinuria or never progressed to proteinuria in T2D.
- Weaker association with diabetic retinopathy.

Lee K. et al. Diabetic Kidney Disease: Challenges, Advances, and Opportunities. *Kidney Dis* 2020;6:215–225

Fornoni A. et al. Chapter 39. Epidemiology of diabetes kidney disease. P 1327-1378. Brenner & Rector's *The Kidney*, 11 Ed. 2020

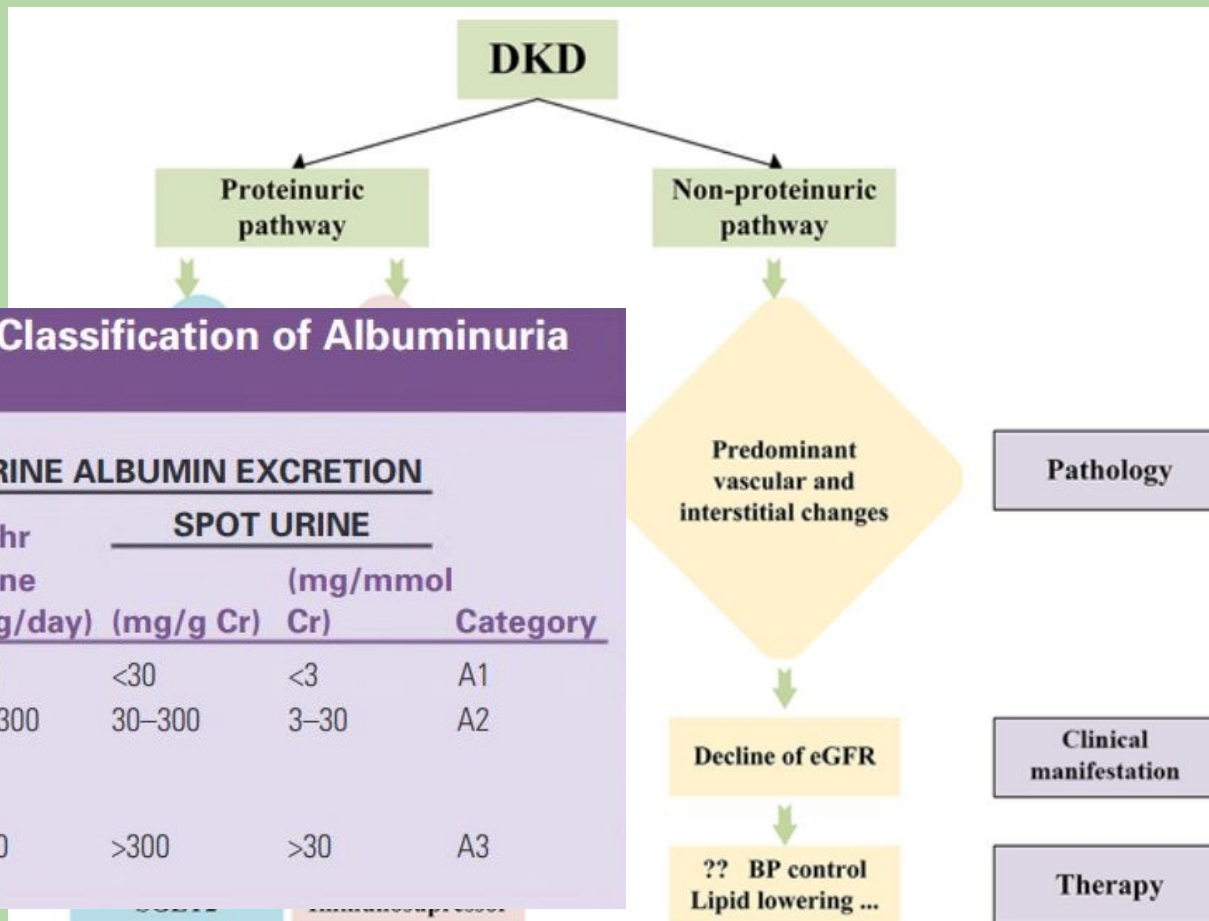
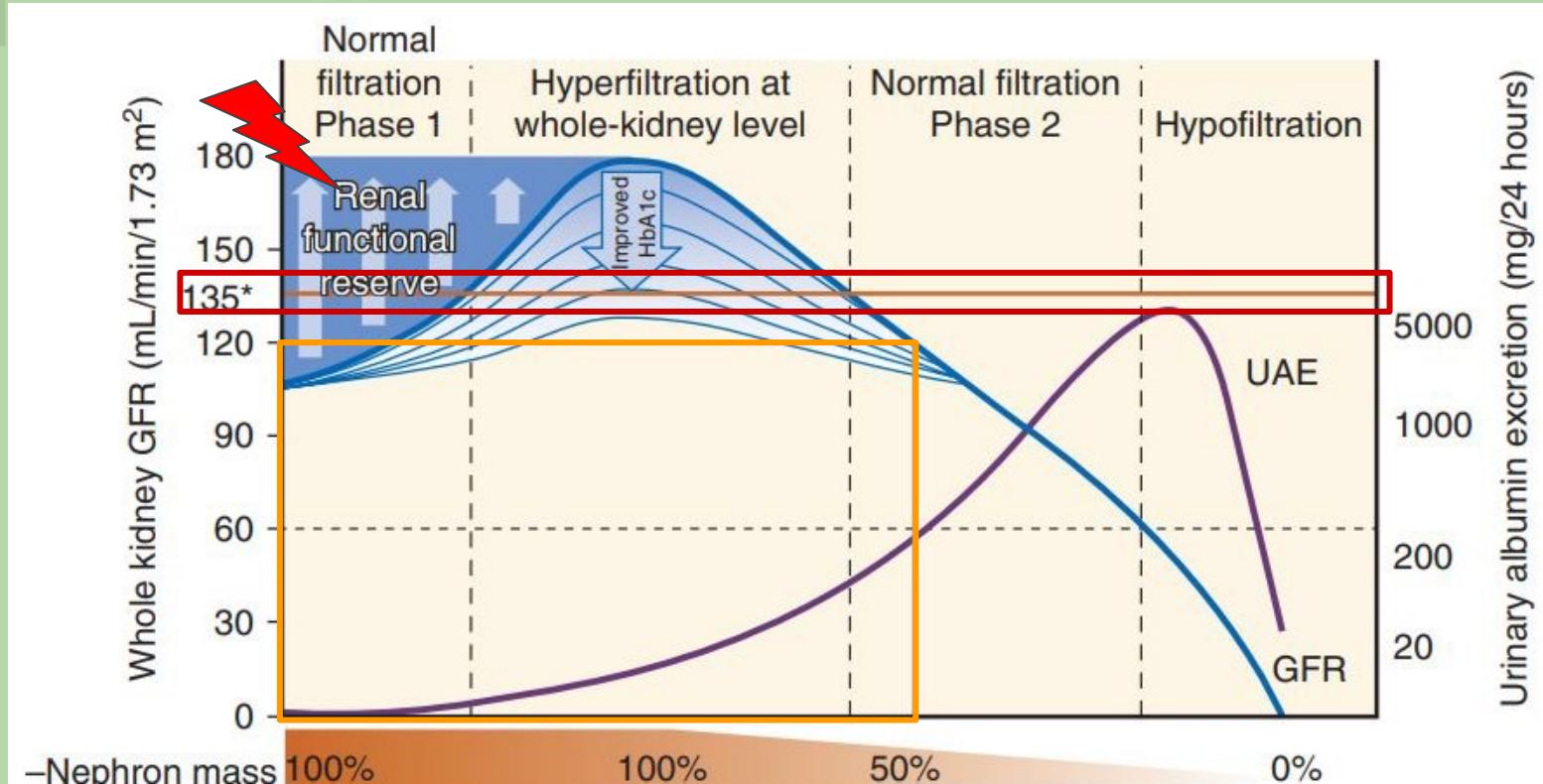


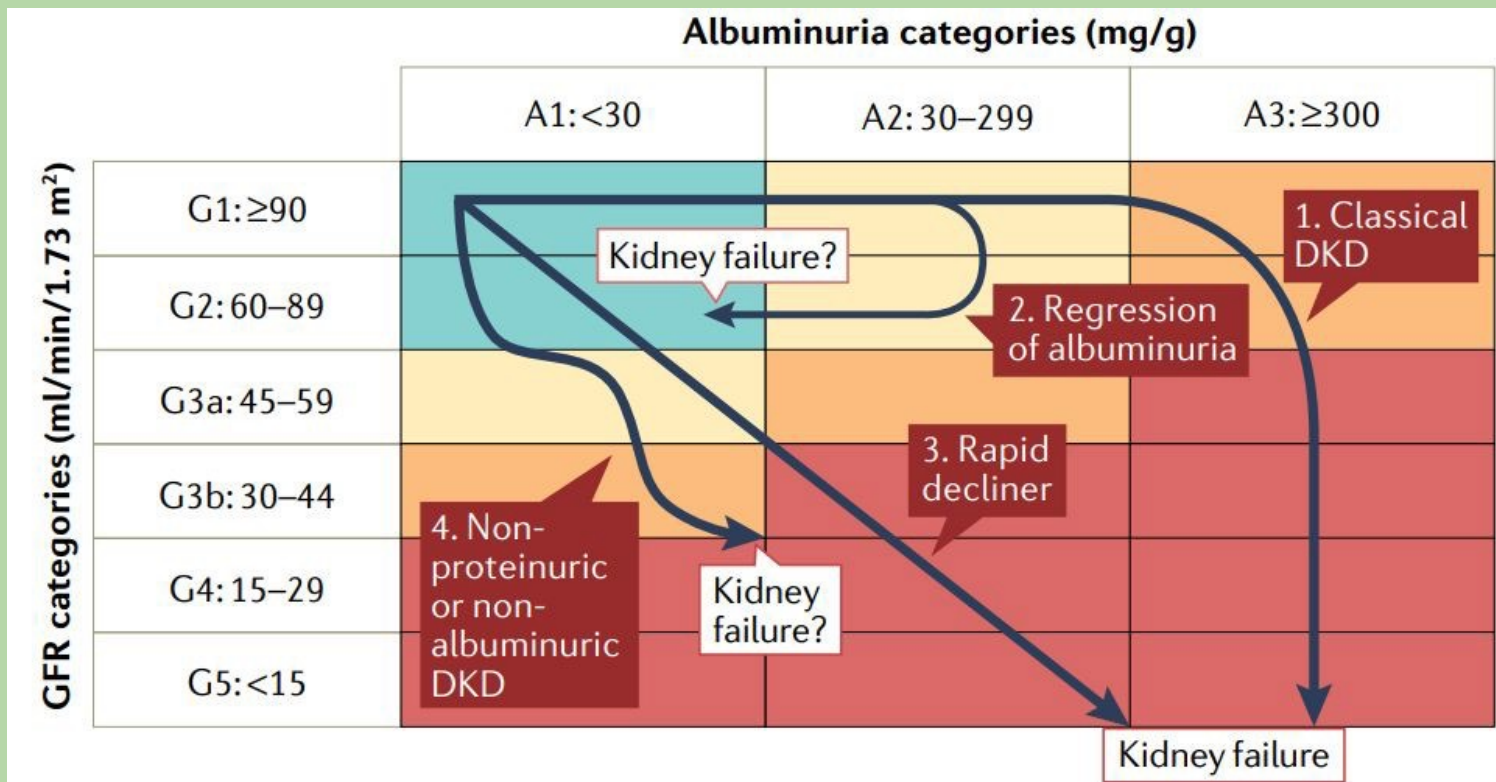
TABLE 31.1 Classification of Albuminuria Categories

Condition	URINE ALBUMIN EXCRETION			Category
	24-hr Urine (mg/day)	SPOT URINE (mg/g Cr)		
Normoalbuminuria	<30	<30	<3	A1
Moderately increased albuminuria	30–300	30–300	3–30	A2
Severely increased albuminuria	>300	>300	>30	A3

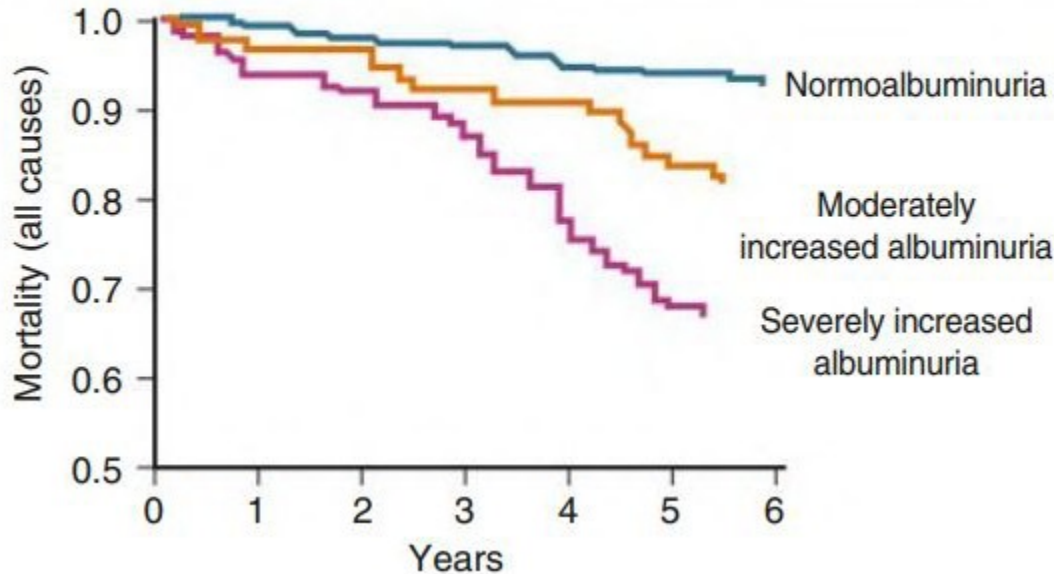
Classic course of DKD



Trajectories of kidney function in DKD



Impact of Moderately and Severely Increased Albuminuria on Mortality



- UAE is a good predictor of cardiovascular events.
- Generalized endothelial cell dysfunction with increased risk of atherosclerosis and other cardiovascular risk factors.

Screening & Diagnosis

CKD Screening & Diagnosis in people with DM

Who and when to screen?

T1D Yearly starting 5 years after diagnosis

T2D Yearly starting at diagnosis

How to screen?



Spot urine ACR

and



eGFR

- Confirmatory urine sample within **3–6 months** is recommended.

- 2021 Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration (CKD-EPI) equation

What to do with a positive result?



Repeat and confirm:

- Evaluate possible temporary or spurious causes
- Consider using cystatin C and creatinine to more precisely estimate GFR
- Only persistent abnormalities define CKD



Initiate evidence-based treatments

What defines CKD diagnosis?



Persistent urine ACR ≥ 30 mg/g

and/or



Persistent eGFR < 60 mL/min/1.73 m²

and/or



Other evidence of kidney damage

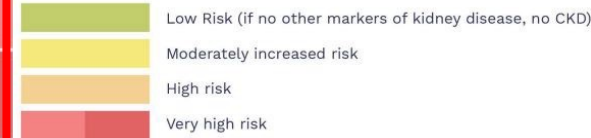
> 3 months
Hematuria
Structural
abnormalities



KDIGO Heat Map

Stratify & treat

CKD is classified based on: *Cause (C) *GFR (G) *Albuminuria (A)				Albuminuria categories		
				Description and range		
				A1	A2	A3
				Normal to mildly increased	Moderately increased	Severely increased
				<30 mg/g <3 mg/mmol	30-299 mg/g 3-29 mg/mmol	≥300 mg/g ≥30 mg/mmol
GFR categories (ml/min per 1.73 m ²) Description and range	G1	Normal or high	≥90	Screen 1	Treat 1	Treat and refer 3
	G2	Mildly decreased	60-89	Screen 1	Treat 1	Treat and refer 3
	G3a	Mildly to moderately decreased	45-59	Treat 1	Treat 2	Treat and refer 3
	G3b	Moderately to severely decreased	30-44	Treat 2	Treat and refer 3	Treat and refer 3
	G4	Severely decreased	15-29	Treat and refer* 3	Treat and refer* 3	Treat and refer 4+
	G5	Kidney failure	<15	Treat and refer 4+	Treat and refer 4+	Treat and refer 4+



The Kidney Failure Risk Equation (KFRE)

- Risk of progression of kidney failure requiring dialysis at **2 and 5 years**.
- Validated in more than **30 countries worldwide**.
- Determining the probability of kidney failure may be useful for **patient and provider communication, triage and management of nephrology referrals**.

- Low risk: 0-5%
- Intermediate risk: 5-15%
- High risk: >15%

<https://kidneyfailurerisk.com/>

If you don't have the information required below talk to your doctor.

Age (Yrs)

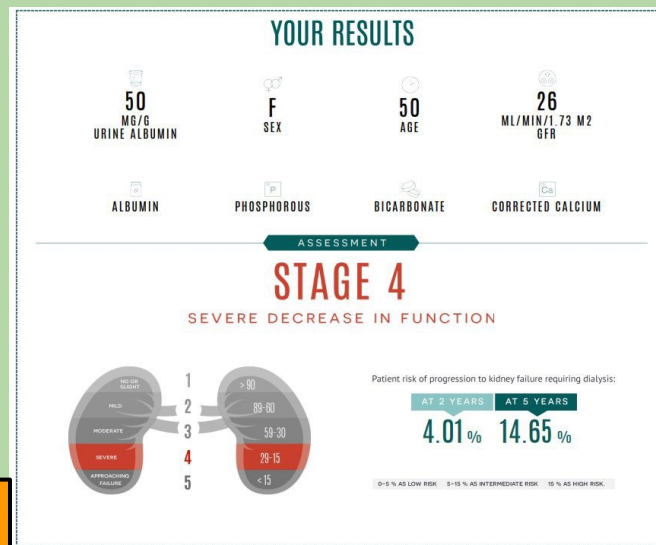
Sex

Region

GFR (ML/Min/1.73M2)

Urine Albumin: Creatinine Ratio Units

NEXT



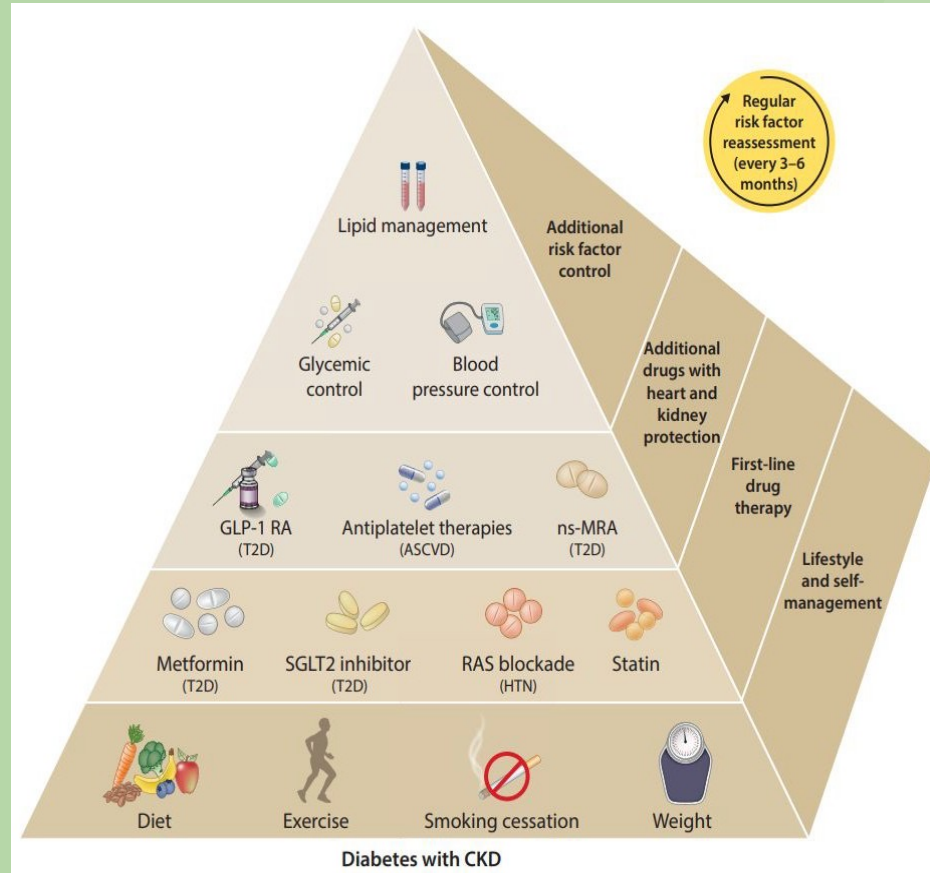
Management of DKD

Goals of management of DKD



- ★ Albuminuria regression
- ★ Preservation of kidney function
- ★ Prevention of cardiovascular events
- ★ Addressing modifiable risk factors
- ★ Adequate glycemic control
- ★ Proper blood pressure control

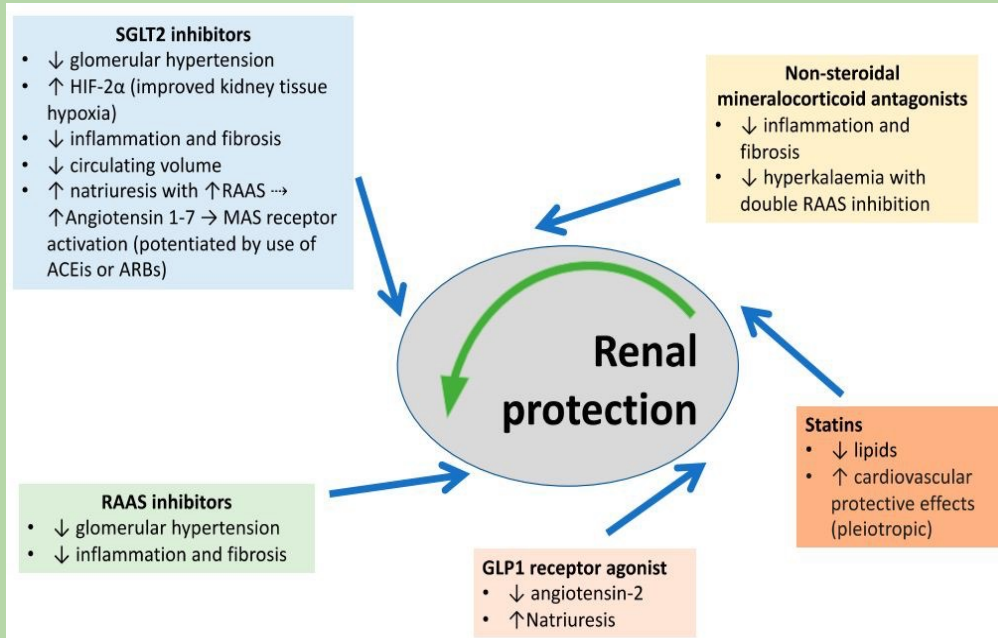
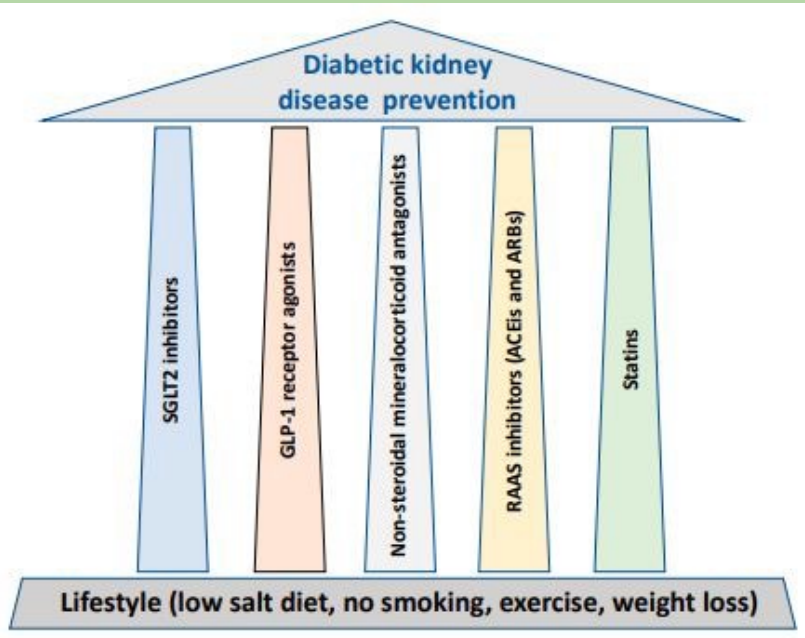
Kidney–heart risk factor management.



Lifestyle modifications

1. : We recommend advising patients with diabetes and CKD who use tobacco to quit using tobacco products (1D).
2. : We suggest maintaining a protein intake of 0.8 g protein/kg /day for those with diabetes and CKD not on dialysis (2C)
3. : We suggest that sodium intake be < 2 g of sodium per day (<90mmol of sodium per day, or <5g of sodium chloride per day) (2C)
4. : We recommend patients undertake moderate intensity physical activity for a cumulative duration of at least 150 minutes per week or to a level compatible with the cardiovascular and physical tolerance (1D)

Pillars for renal disease treatment in DKD

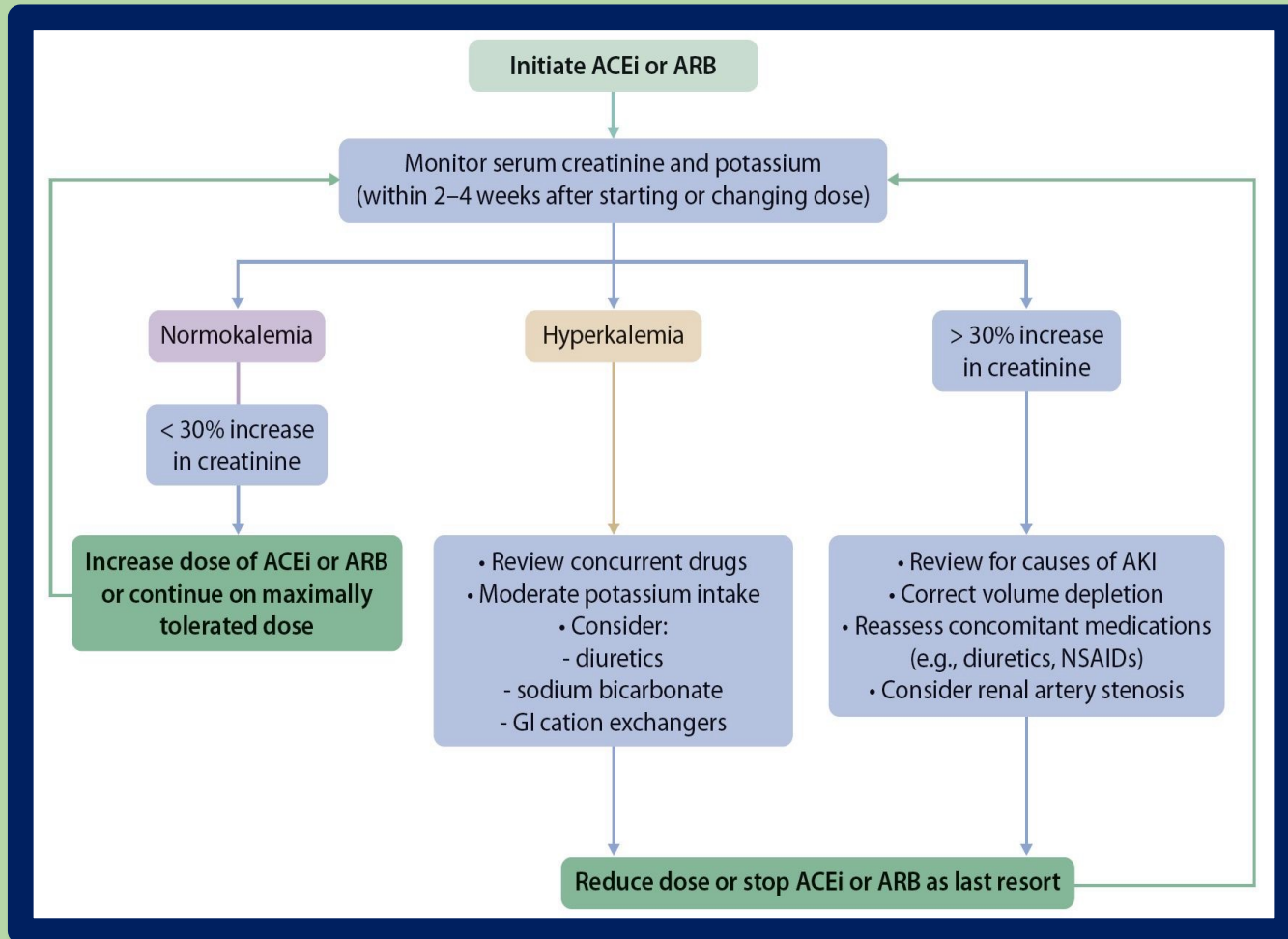


Renin-angiotensin system (RAS) blockade

1.2.1. We recommend that treatment with an angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor (ACEi) or an angiotensin II receptor blocker (ARB) be initiated in patients with diabetes, hypertension, and albuminuria, and that these medications be titrated to the highest approved dose that is tolerated (1B).

IRMA-2	INNOVATION	IDNT	RENAAL
<p>Irbesartan 150 vs 300 mg vs placebo 590 patients 2 years</p>	<p>Telmisartan 40 vs 80 mg vs placebo 527 patients 1 year</p>	<p>Irbesartan 75-300 mg vs Amlodipine 2.5-10mg vs placebo 1,715 patients 2.6 years</p>	<p>Losartan 50-100 mg vs placebo + conventional Tx 1,513 patients 3.4 years</p>

RAS Blockade



Drug	Starting dose	Maximum daily dose	Kidney Impairment	
ACE Inhibitors	Benazepril	10 mg once daily	80 mg	CrCl \geq 30 ml/min: No dosage adjustment needed. CrCl < 30 ml/min: Reduce initial dose to 5 mg PO once daily for adults. Parent compound not removed by hemodialysis
	Captopril	12.5 mg to 25 mg 2 to 3 times daily	Usually 50 mg 3 times daily (may go up to 450 mg/day)	Half-life is increased in patients with kidney impairment CrCl 10–50 ml/min: administer 75% of normal dose every 12–18 hours. CrCl < 10 ml/min: administer 50% of normal dose every 24 hours. Hemodialysis: administer after dialysis. About 40% of drug is removed by hemodialysis
	Enalapril	5 mg once daily	40 mg	CrCl \leq 30 ml/min: In adult patients, reduce initial dose to 2.5 mg PO once daily 2.5 mg PO after hemodialysis on dialysis days; dosage on nondialysis days should be adjusted based on clinical response.
	Fosinopril	10 mg once daily	80 mg	No dosage adjustment necessary Poorly removed by hemodialysis
	Lisinopril	10 mg once daily	40 mg	CrCl 10–30 ml/min: Reduce initial recommended dose by 50% for adults. Max: 40 mg/d CrCl < 10 ml/min: Reduce initial dosage to 2.5 mg PO once daily. Max: 40 mg/d
	Perindopril	2 mg once daily	8 mg	Use is not recommended when CrCl < 30 ml/min Perindopril and its metabolites are removed by hemodialysis
	Quinapril	10 mg once daily	80 mg	CrCl 61–89 ml/min: start at 10 mg once daily CrCl 30–60 ml/min: start at 5 mg once daily CrCl 10–29 ml/min: start at 2.5 mg once daily CrCl < 10 ml/min: insufficient data for dosage recommendation About 12% of parent compound removed by hemodialysis
	Ramipril	2.5 mg once daily	20 mg	Administer 25% of normal dose when CrCl < 40 ml/min Minimally removed by hemodialysis
	Trandolapril	1 mg once daily	4 mg	CrCl < 30 ml/min: reduce initial dose to 0.5 mg/d

Drug		Starting dose	Maximum daily dose	Kidney Impairment
Angiotensin receptor blockers	Azilsartan	20–80 mg once daily	80 mg	Dose adjustment is not required in patients with mild-to-severe kidney impairment or kidney failure
	Candesartan	16 mg once daily	32 mg	In patients with CrCl <30 ml/min, AUC and Cmax were approximately doubled with repeated dosing. Not removed by hemodialysis
	Irbesartan	150 mg once daily	300 mg	No dosage adjustment necessary. Not removed by hemodialysis
	Losartan	50 mg once daily	100 mg	No dosage adjustment necessary. Not removed by hemodialysis
	Olmesartan	20 mg once daily	40 mg	AUC is increased 3-fold in patients with CrCl <20 ml/min. No initial dosage adjustment is recommended for patients with moderate to marked kidney impairment (CrCl <40 ml/min). Has not been studied in dialysis patients
	Telmisartan	40 mg once daily	80 mg	No dosage adjustment necessary. Not removed by hemodialysis
	Valsartan	80 mg once daily	320 mg	No dosage adjustment available for CrCl <30 ml/min—to use with caution. Not removed significantly by hemodialysis

Non steroidal MRA in T2D and CKD

1.4.1: We suggest a **nonsteroidal mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist (NSMRA)** with proven kidney or cardiovascular benefit for patients with T2D, an eGFR ≥ 25 ml/min per 1.73 m², normal serum potassium concentration, and albuminuria (≥ 30 mg/g [≥ 3 mg/mmol]) despite maximum tolerated dose of RAS inhibitor (RASi) (2A).

FIDELIO-DKD (Oct 2020)	FIGARO-DKD (Aug 2021)
5,734 participants	7,437 participants
2.6 years	3.4 years
Kidney failure, sustained decrease $\geq 40\%$ in GFR, renal death	Death from CV causes, nonfatal MI, non fatal stroke, or hospitalization for HF

Albuminuria categories (mg albumin/g creatinine)		A1	A2	A3	A1	A2	A3
		0–29	30–<300	≥300	0–29	30–<300	≥300
GFR categories (mL/min/1.73 m ²)	G1	≥90					
	G2	60–89					
	G3a	45–59					
	G3b	30–44					
	G4	15–29					
	G5	<15					

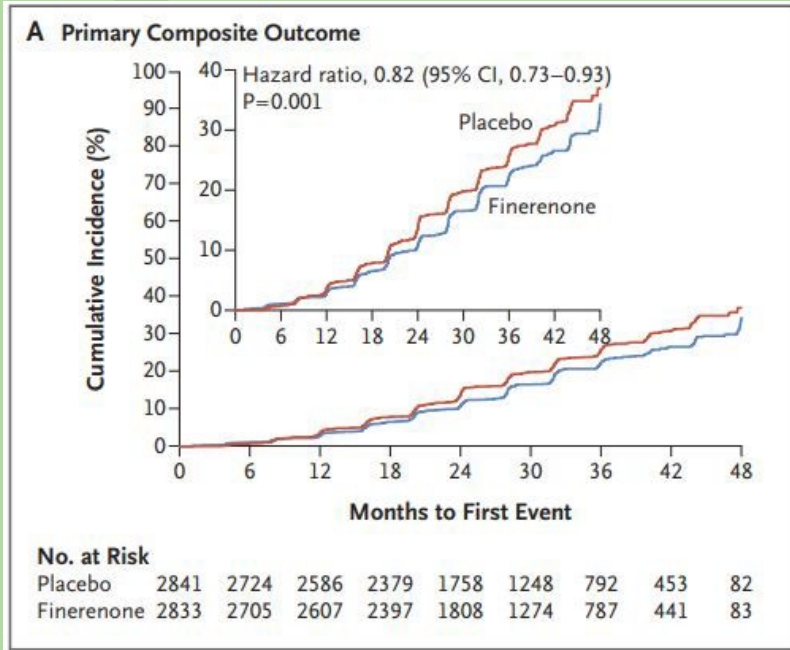

FIDELIO-DKD

- UACR 30 to < 300 mg/g and eGFR ≥ 25 to < 60 mL/min/1.73 m²
- Or UACR ≥ 300 mg/g and eGFR ≥ 25 to < 75 mL/min/1.73 m²

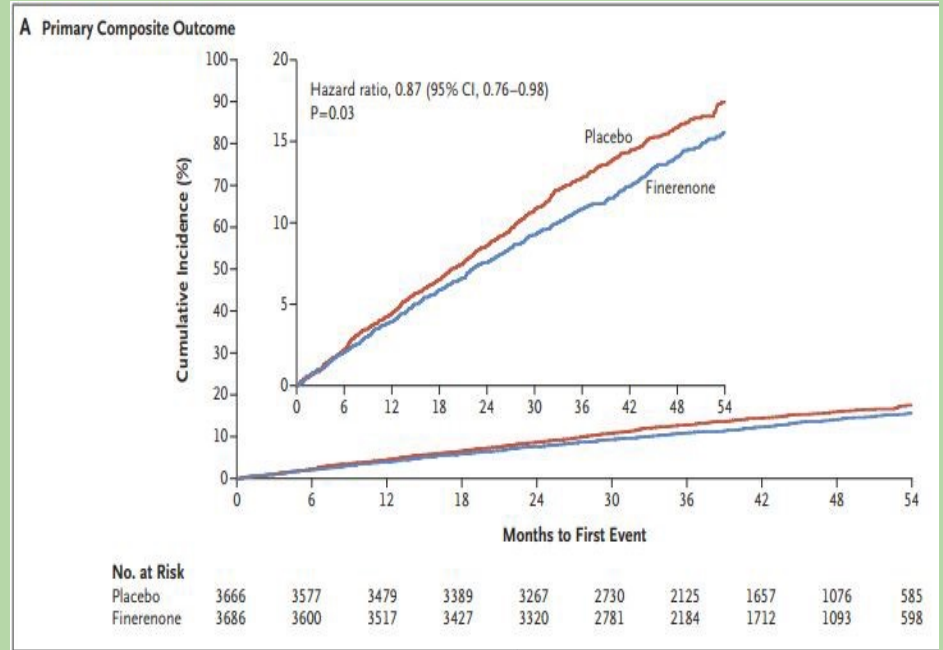

FIGARO-DKD

- UACR 30 to < 300 mg/g and eGFR 25 to ≤ 90 mL/min/1.73 m²
- Or UACR ≥ 300 mg/g and eGFR ≥ 60 mL/min/1.73 m²

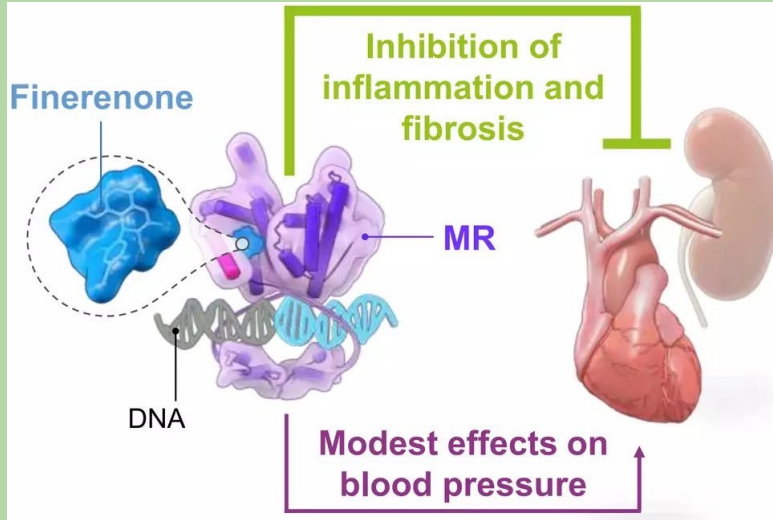
FIDELIO -DKD



FIGARO - DKD



Finerenone lowers risk of progression of kidney disease and improves cardiovascular outcomes compared to placebo in patients with type 2 diabetes and chronic kidney disease



Finerenone blocks mineralocorticoid receptor (MR) overactivation, which contributes to inflammation and fibrosis, leading to kidney and cardiovascular damage.

$K^+ \leq 4.8$ mmol/l

- Initiate finerenone
 - 10 mg daily if eGFR 25–59 ml/min per 1.73 m²
 - 20 mg daily if eGFR ≥ 60 ml/min per 1.73 m²
- Monitor K^+ at 1 month after initiation and then every 4 months
- Increase dose to 20 mg daily, if on 10 mg daily
- Restart 10 mg daily if previously held for hyperkalemia and K^+ now ≤ 5.0 mmol/l

$K^+ 4.9\text{--}5.5$ mmol/l

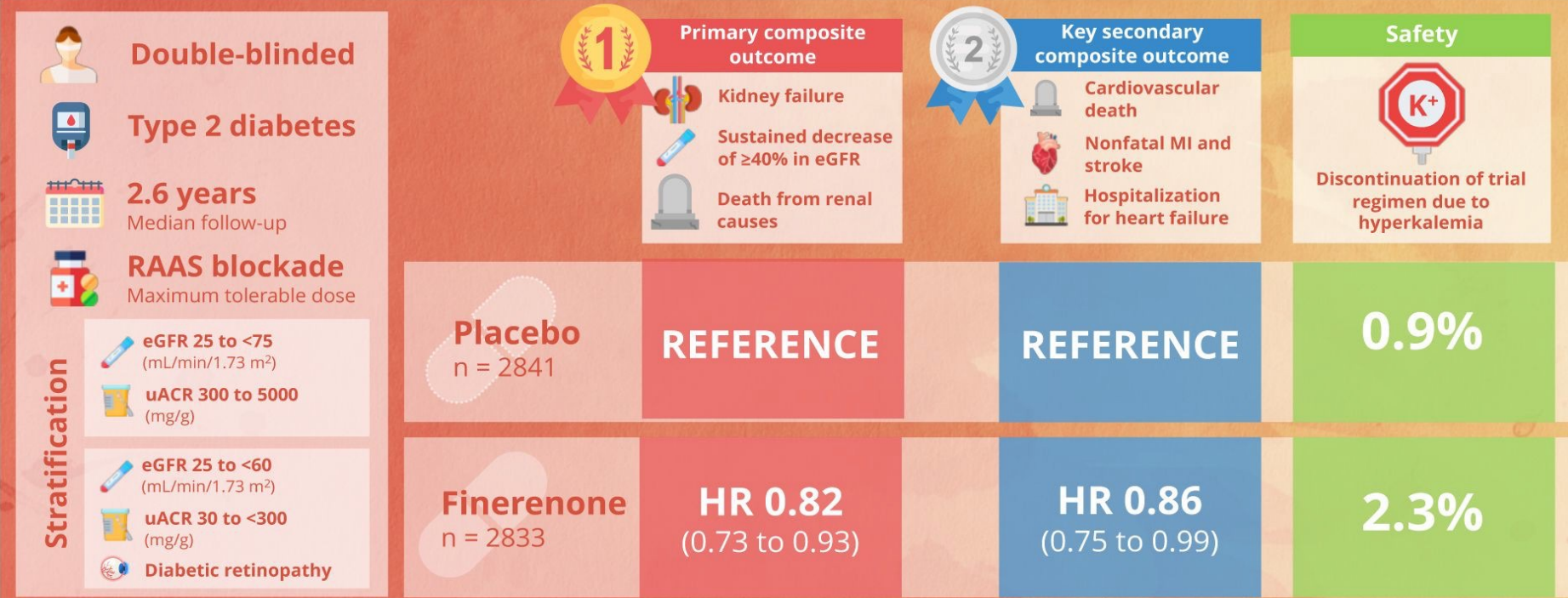
- Continue finerenone 10 mg or 20 mg
- Monitor K^+ every 4 months

$K^+ > 5.5$ mmol/l

- Hold finerenone
- Consider adjustments to diet or concomitant medications to mitigate hyperkalemia
- Recheck K^+
- Consider reinitiation if/when $K^+ \leq 5.0$ mmol/l

Figure 1. FIDELIO-DKD

Does finerenone improve outcomes in CKD with type 2 diabetes?



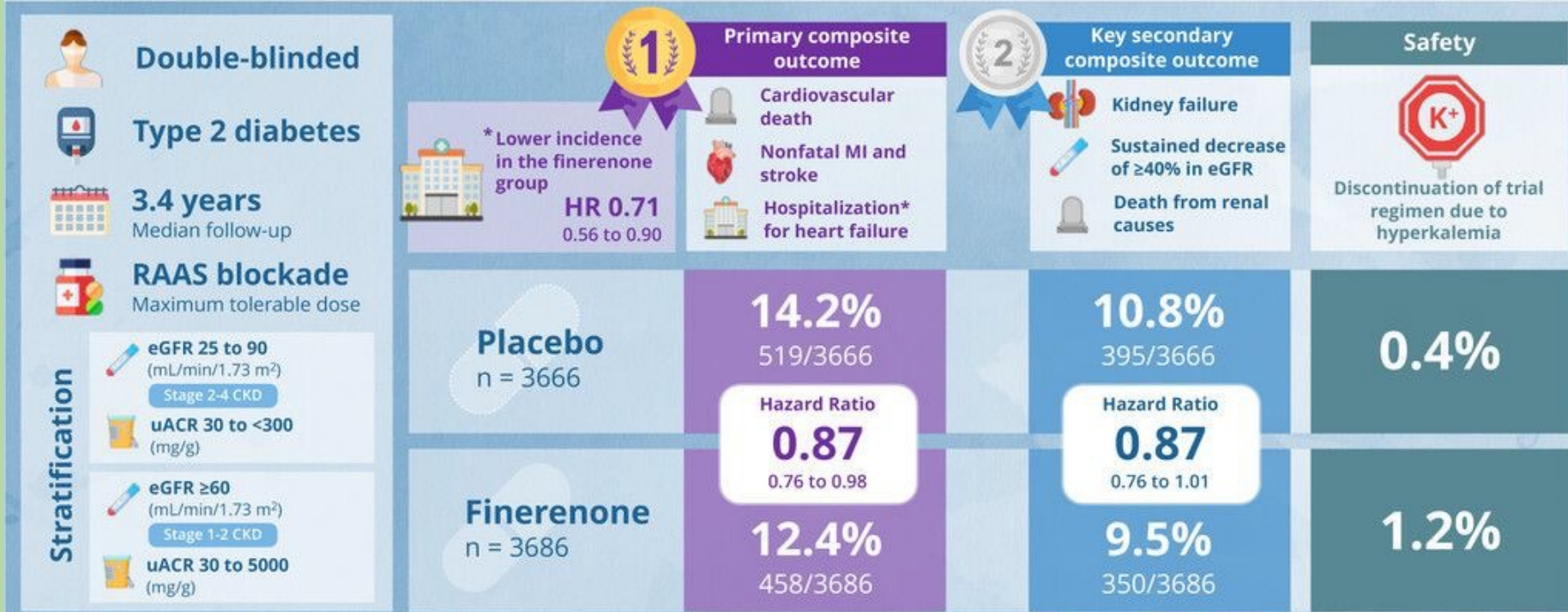
Conclusion In patients with CKD and type 2 diabetes, treatment with finerenone resulted in lower risks of CKD progression and cardiovascular events than placebo. RAAS, renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system; uACR, urine albumin-creatinine ratio; HR, hazard ratio.

Bakris GL, et al. Effect of finerenone on chronic kidney disease outcomes in type 2 diabetes. *N Engl J Med* 2020; 383:2219-2229. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2025845

Visual abstract by Michelle Lim, MBChB, MRCP

Figure 2. FIGARO-DKD

Does finerenone improve cardiovascular outcomes in type 2 diabetes and CKD?



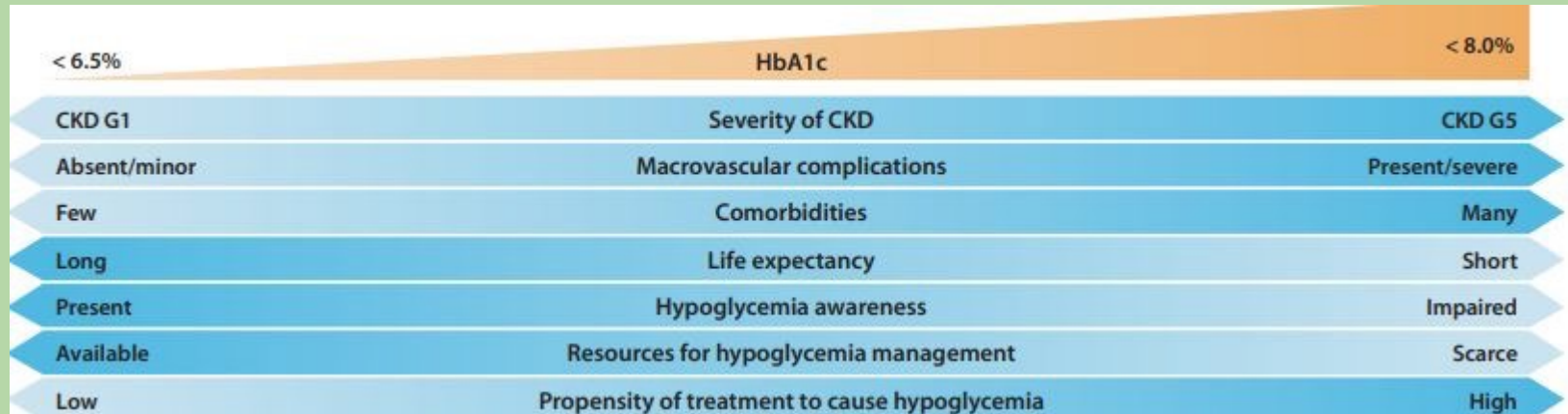
Conclusion Among patients with type 2 diabetes and stage 2 to 4 CKD with moderately elevated albuminuria or stage 1 or 2 CKD with severely elevated albuminuria, finerenone therapy improved cardiovascular outcomes as compared with placebo.

Pitt B, et al.; FIGARO-DKD Investigators. Cardiovascular events with finerenone in kidney disease and type 2 diabetes. *N Engl J Med* [published online ahead of print August 28, 2021]. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2110956
Visual abstract by Michelle Lim, MBChB, MRCP

Glycemic monitoring

2.1.1: We recommend using hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) to monitor glycemic control (1C)

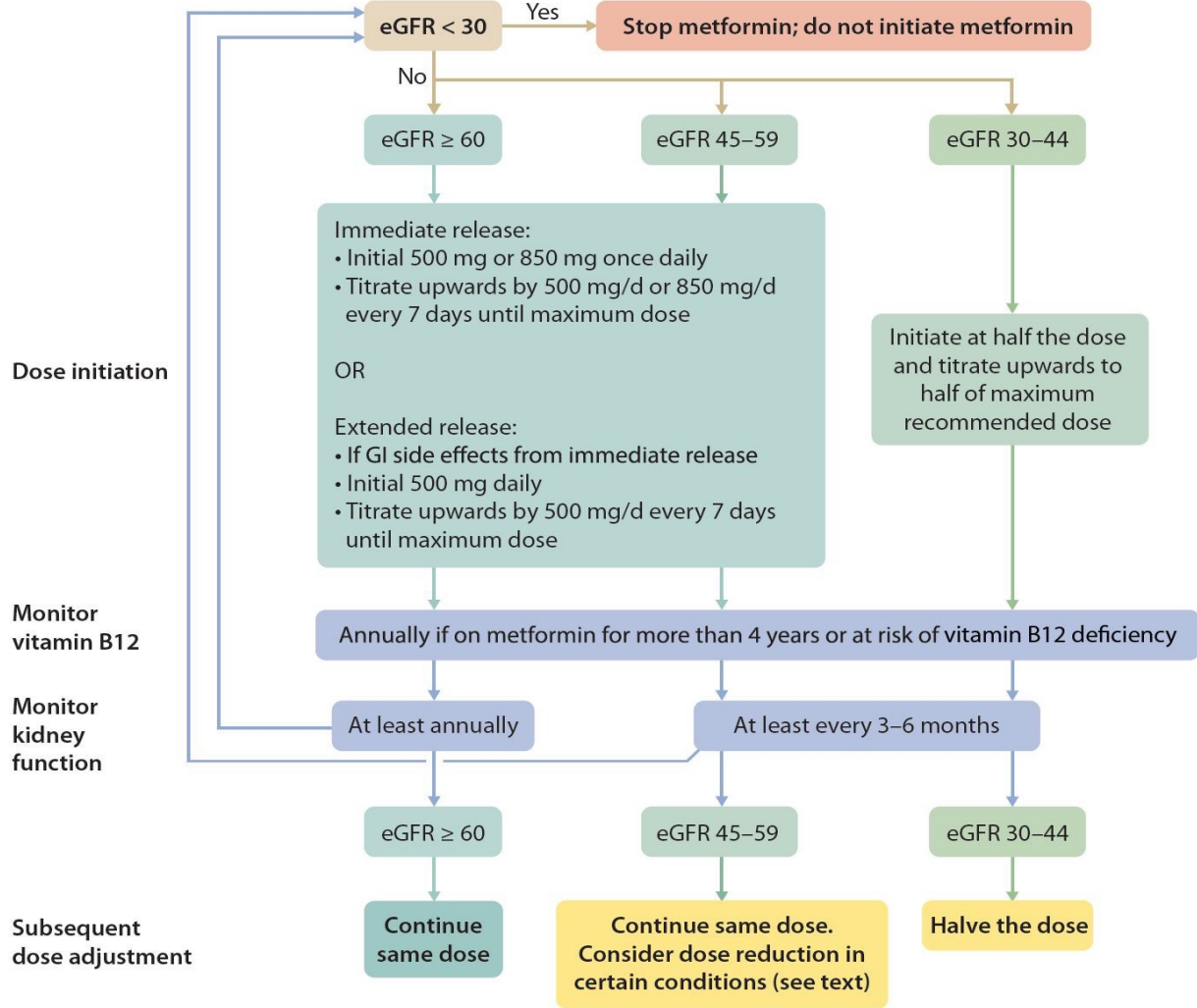
2.2.1: Target ranging from <6.5% to < 8.0% in patient with diabetes and CKD not on dialysis (1C)



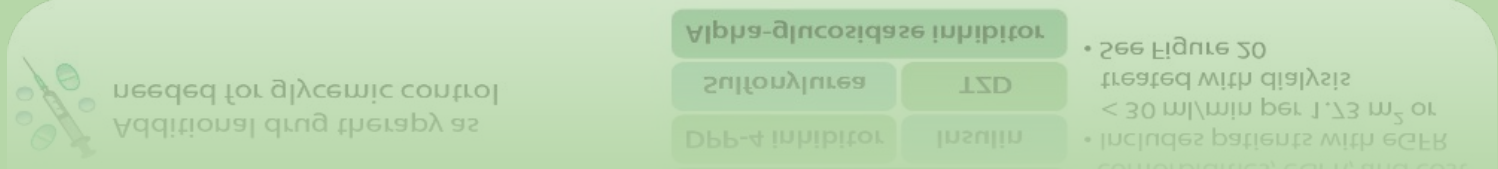
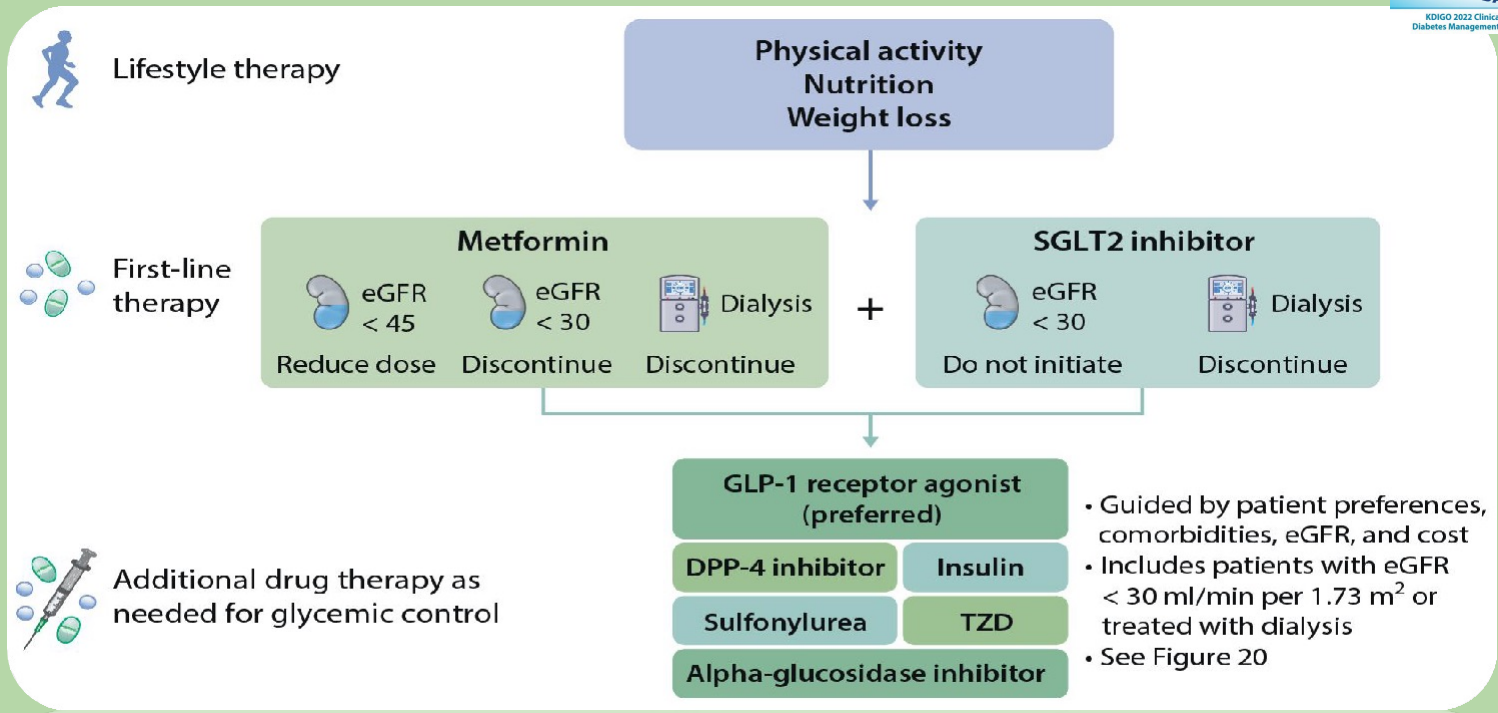
Glucose lowering therapies in T2D and CKD

4.1.1: We recommend treating patients with T2D, CKD, and an eGFR ≥ 30 ml/min per 1.73 m² with metformin (1B)

Formulation	Dosage forms	Starting dose	Maximum dose
Metformin, immediate release	Tablet, oral: 500 mg, 850 mg, 1000 mg	500 mg once or twice daily OR 850 mg once daily	Usual maintenance dose: 1 g twice daily OR 850 mg twice daily Maximum: 2.55 g/d
Metformin, extended release	Tablet, oral: 500 mg, 750 mg, 1000 mg	500 mg once daily OR 1 g once daily	2 g/d



Glucose Control in T2D & CKD

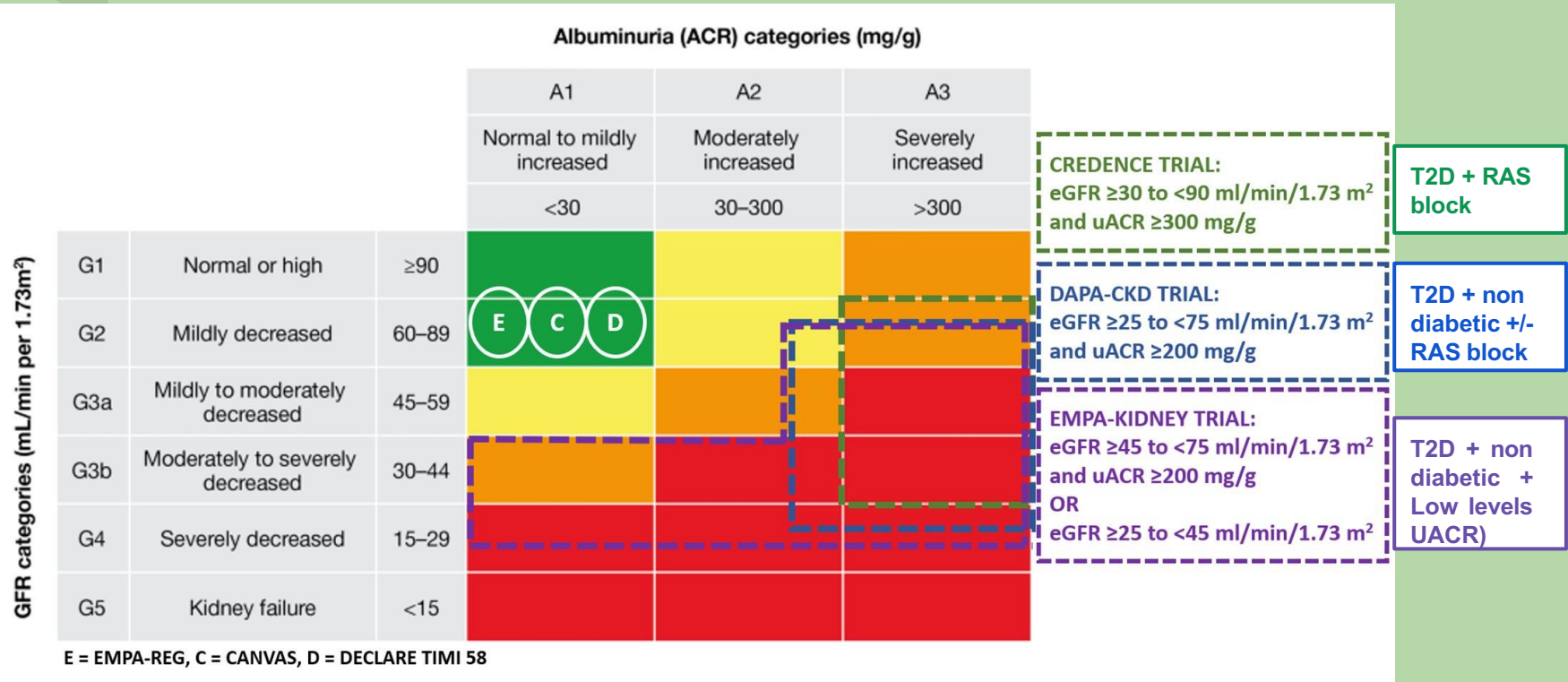


Glucose lowering therapies in T2D and CKD

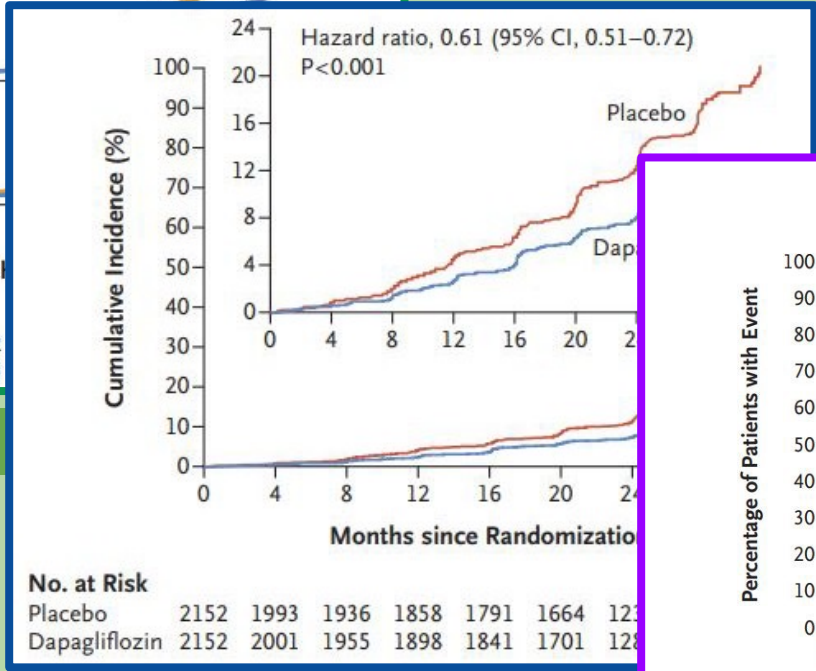
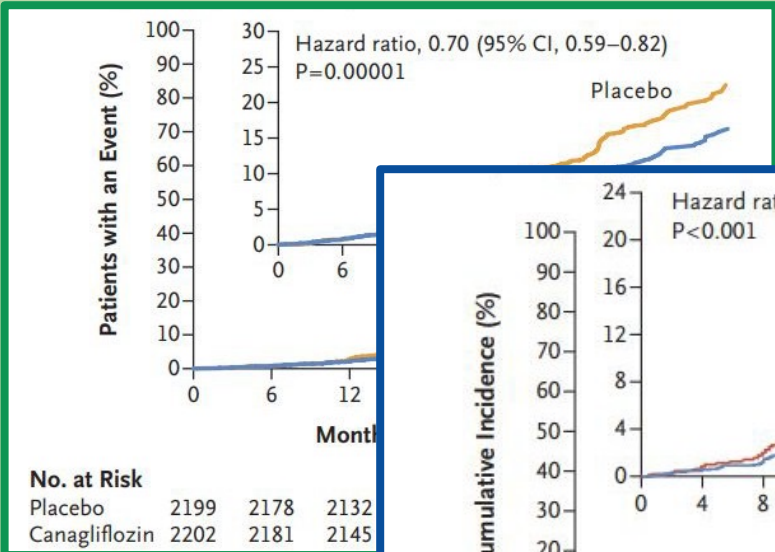
1.3.1: We recommend treating patients with type 2 diabetes (T2D), CKD, and an eGFR ≥ 20 ml/min per 1.73 m² with an SGLT2 inhibitor (1A)

CREDESCENCE (Apr 2019)	DAPA-CKD* (Sept 2020)	EMPA-KIDNEY* (Nov 2022)
Canagliflozin 100mg QD	Dapagliflozin 10mg QD	Empagliflozin 10mg QD
4,401 participants, 2.6 years	4,304 participants, 2.4 years	6,609 participants, 2.0 years
End stage kidney disease, doubling of SCr, or death from kidney or CV causes	Sustained decline in eGFR $\geq 50\%$, end stage kidney disease, or death from kidney or CV causes	Kidney disease progression (ESKD, sustained decline in eGFR < 10 ml/min, sustained decline eGFR $\geq 40\%$ or renal death) or CV death

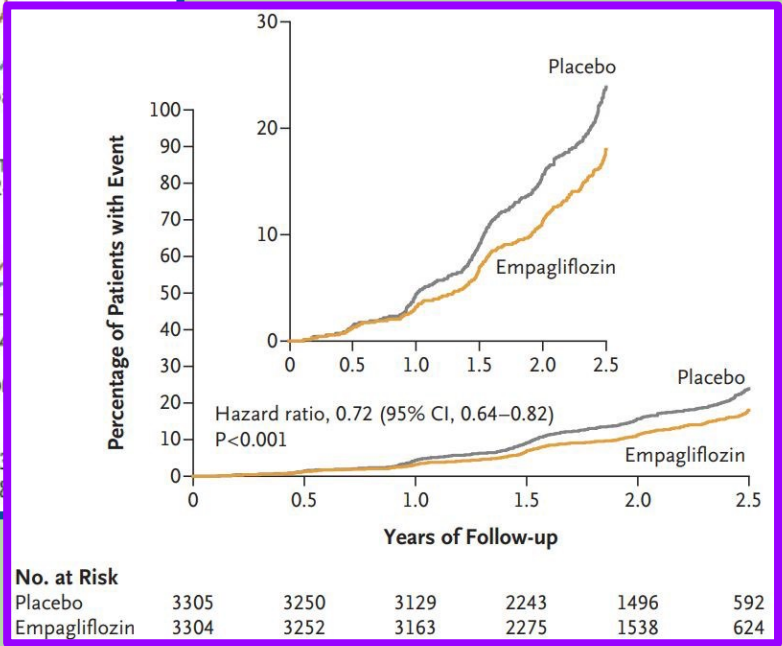
Landmark RCT with SGLT2 inhibitors



Risk of primary composite outcomes was lower in the canagliflozin (30%), dapagliflozin (39%) and empagliflozin (28%) groups compared to placebo groups.



DAPA -CKD

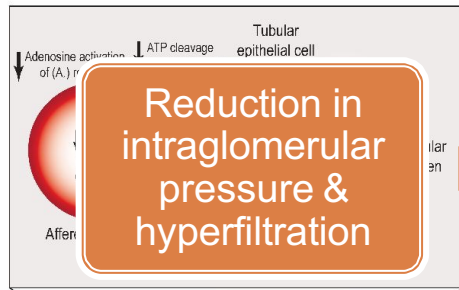


EMPA-KIDNEY

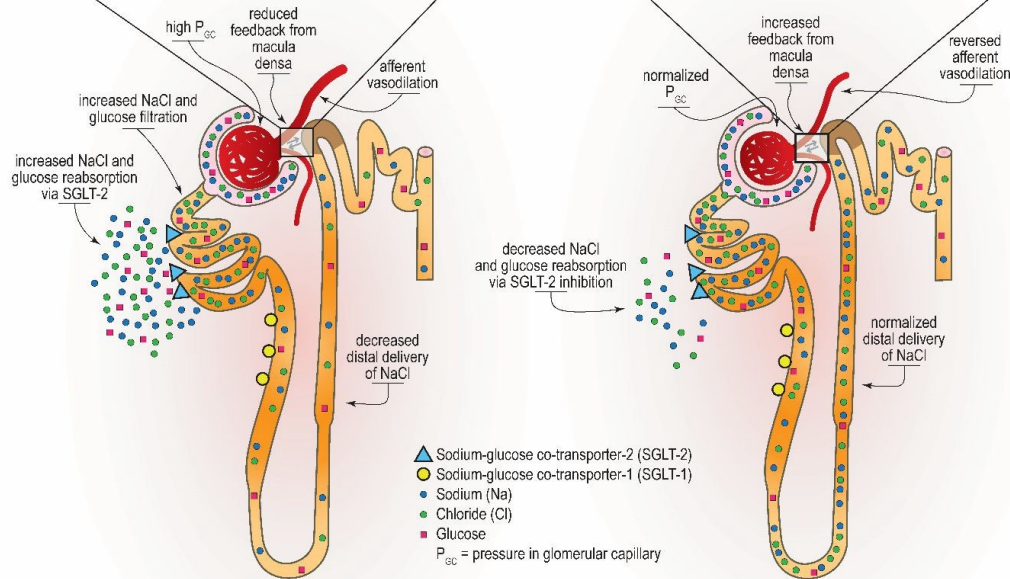
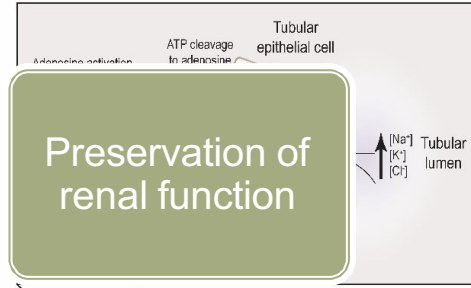
CREDESCENCE

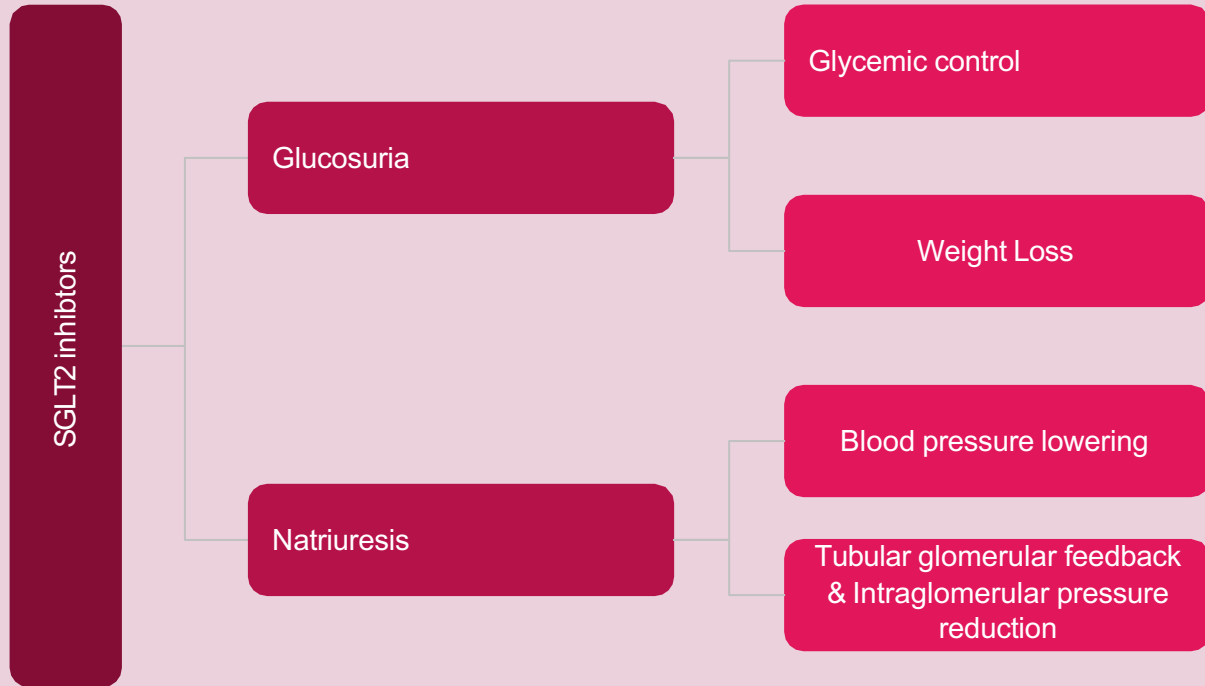
SGLT2 Inhibitors

A. Diabetic nephron



B. Diabetic nephron with SGLT inhibition





Do SGLT-2 inhibitors slow the progression of CKD in patients with diabetic nephropathy?



34 Countries
690 Sites

Mean Age: 63 years, 33% Women

Type 2 DM
Mean Hba1c: 8.3%

eGFR 30 to 90 mL/min
Mean eGFR 56.2 mL/min

UACR
300 - 5000 mg/g
Median UACR 927 mg/g

Max tolerated dose of ACEi or ARB

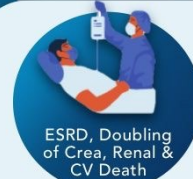
100 mg
CANAGLIFLOZIN
+ Standard of care
n=2201

N=4401

P

PLACEBO
+ Standard of care
n=2219

11.3%



ESRD, Doubling of Crea, Renal & CV Death
0.70
(0.59-0.82)
p=0.0001

7.0%



Renal Composite Outcome
0.66
(0.53-0.81)
p<0.001

5.4%



ESRD
0.68
(0.54-0.86)
p<0.001

5.3%



Doubling of Creatinine
0.60
(0.48-0.76)
p=0.002

5.0%



CV Death
0.78
(0.61-1.00)
p=0.05

15.5%

10%

8.5%

7.5%

6.4%

CONCLUSION: In adult patients with Type 2 DM and kidney disease, Canagliflozin reduced kidney failure, cardiovascular events as well as mortality compared to those in placebo.

Perkovic V, Jardine MJ, Neal B, Bompoint S, Heerspink HJL, Charytan DM, Edwards R, Agarwal R, Bakris G, Bull S, Cannon CP, Capuano G, Chu PL, de Zeeuw D, Greene T, Levin A, Pollock C, Wheeler DC, Yavin Y, Zhang H, Zinman B, Meisinger G, Brenner BM, Mahaffey KW; CREDENCE Trial Investigators. Canagliflozin and Renal Outcomes in Type 2 Diabetes and Nephropathy. *N Engl J Med.* 2019 Jun 13;380(24):2295-2306. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa1811744. Epub 2019 Apr 14. PMID: 30990260.

Visual Abstract by: Ana Naidas, MD ananaidas@gmail.com








DIVISION OF NEPHROLOGY
Philippine General Hospital

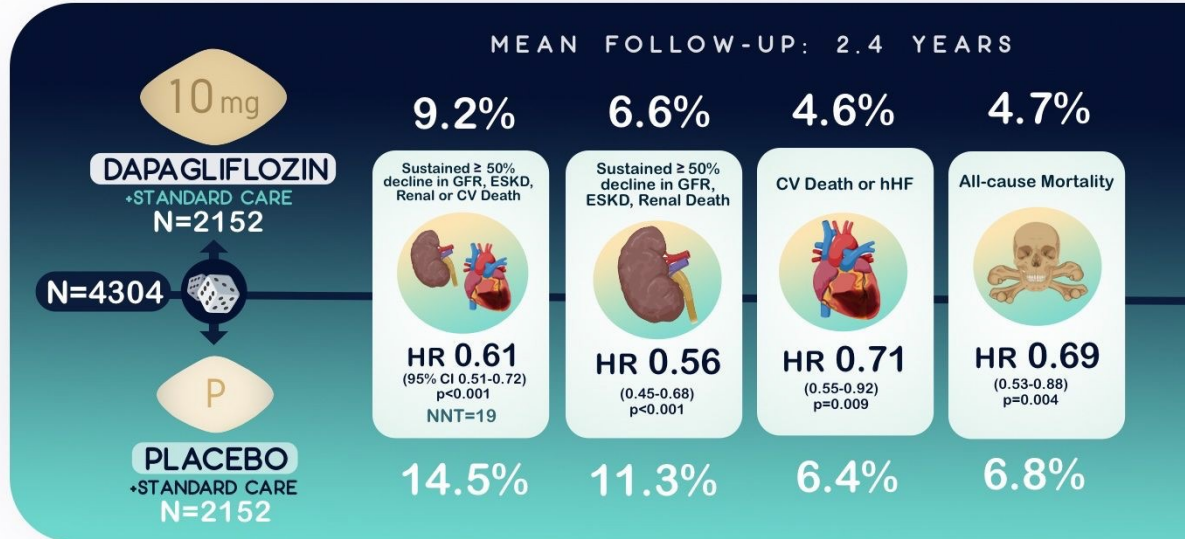
Does Dapagliflozin compared to placebo reduce the risk of kidney failure and CV events in CKD patients with and without T2DM?

DAPA-CKD

 **21 Countries**
 **286 Centers**

 **≥ 18 yo**
 **eGFR ≥ 25 to ≤ 75ml/min**
 **UACR ≥ 200 to ≤ 5000mg/g**
 **Max tolerated dose of ACEi/ARB**
 **With and without T2DM**

 Mean Age 62y, 67% ♂
 eGFR 43ml/min
 UACR 949mg/g
 ACEi/ARB 97%
 With T2DM 67.5%



Benefit of Dapagliflozin on primary end-point was consistent in patients with and without T2DM
 % of patients who discontinued the drug or who experienced SAE was similar in both groups
 DKA, 2 in placebo group vs none in Dapagliflozin group
 No DKA or severe hypoglycemia in patients without T2DM

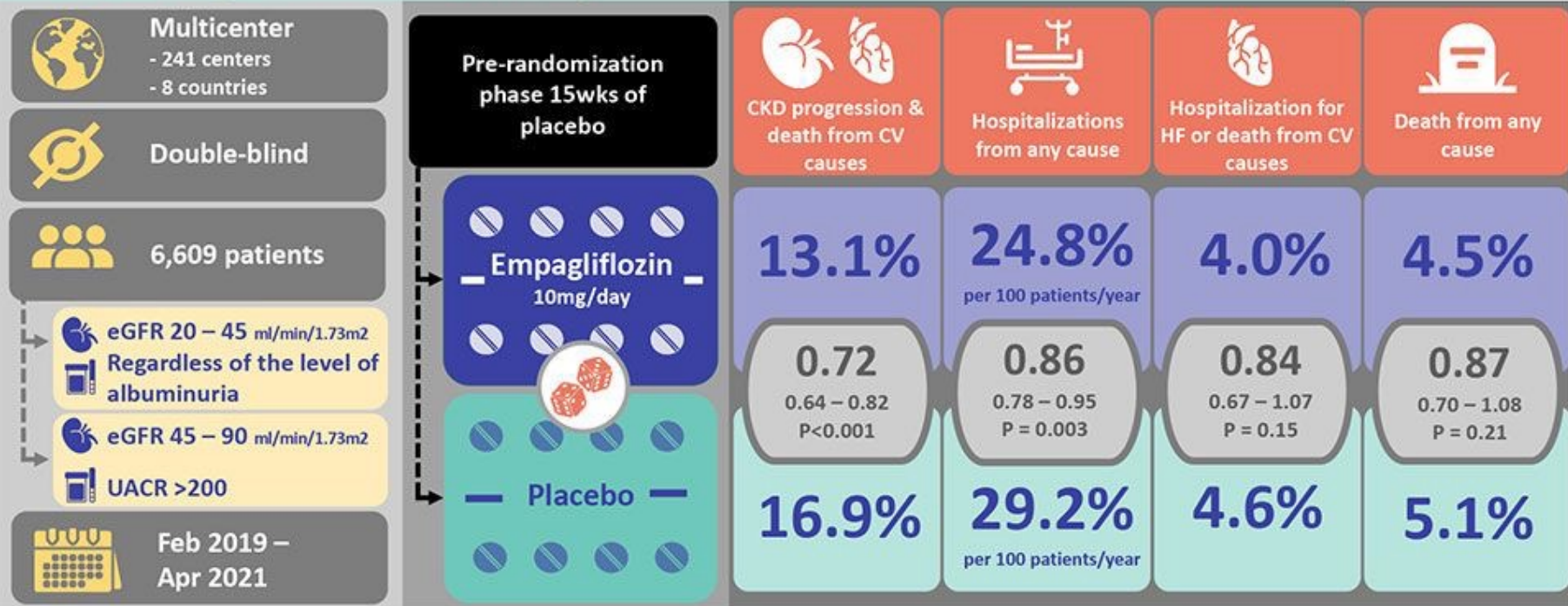
CONCLUSION: Dapagliflozin compared to placebo significantly reduced the risk of kidney failure, CV death or hospitalization for HF and all-cause mortality in patients with CKD with and without T2DM. Dapagliflozin was well-tolerated, in keeping with its established safety profile.

DAPA-CKD

Heerspink et al (2020). Dapagliflozin in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease. *New England Journal of Medicine*. September 24,2020
 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2024816

Visual Abstract by: Ana Naidas, MD

Empagliflozin in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease (EMPA-KIDNEY)



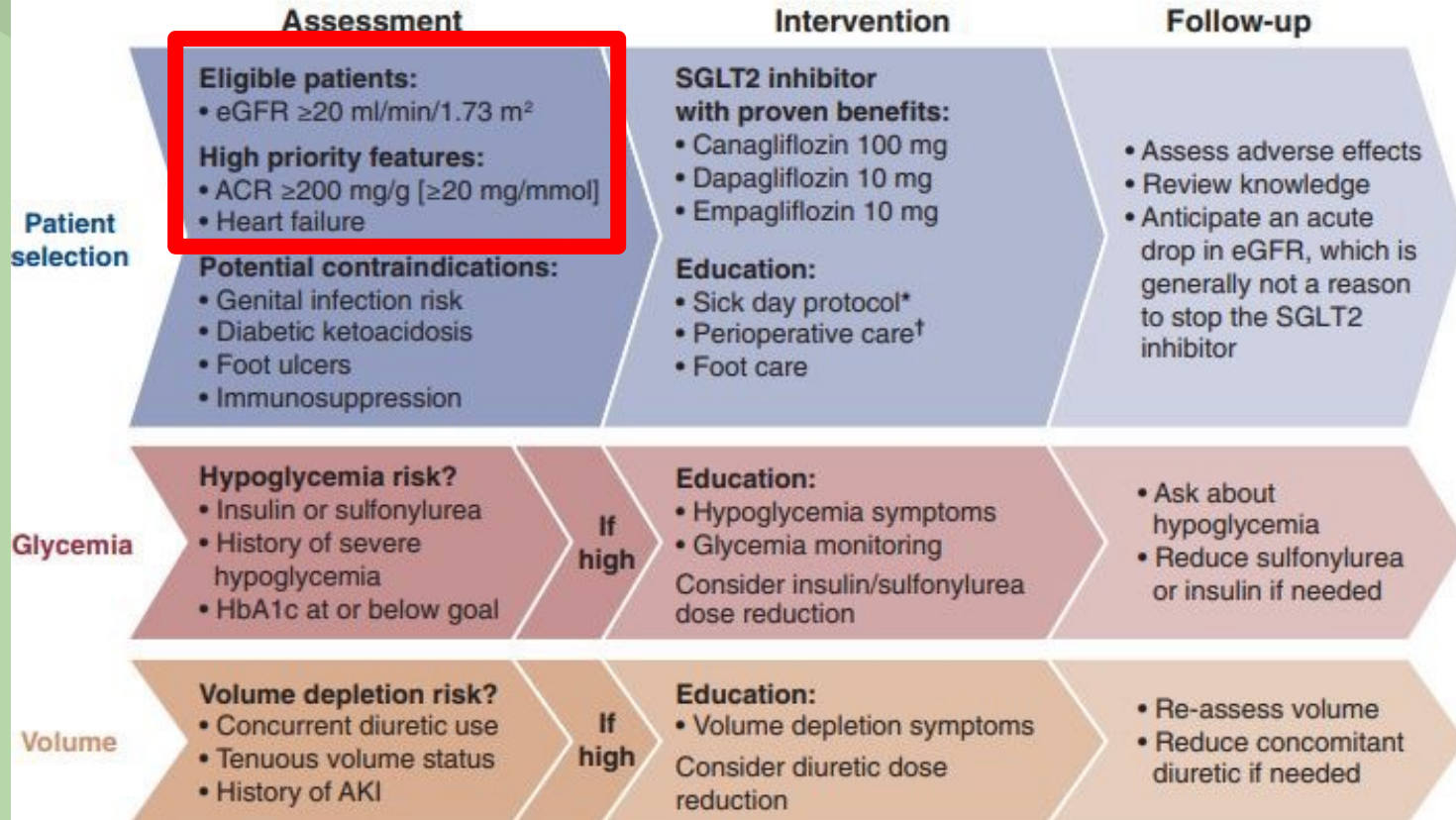
Conclusion: among a wide range of patients with chronic kidney disease who were at risk for disease progression, empagliflozin therapy led to a lower risk of progression of kidney disease or death from cardiovascular causes than placebo.

Reference: EMPA-KIDNEY Collaborative Group. (2022). Empagliflozin in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease. *New England Journal of Medicine*.

VA by Denisse Arellano, MD

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Practical provider guide to initiating SGLT2 inhibitors in patients with type 2 diabetes and CKD



Glucose lowering therapies in T2D and CKD

4.2.1: In patients with T2D and CKD who have not achieved individualized glycemic targets despite use of metformin and SGLT2i treatment, or who are unable to use those medications, we recommend a **long-acting GLP-1 receptor agonists(1B)**

Mechanism of action of GLP-1 RA

- Stimulate insulin release from beta cells
- Suppresses glucagon release from alpha cells
- Slows gastric emptying
- Decreases appetite stimulation in the brain.

GLP-1 receptor agonists

GLP-1 RA	Dose	CKD adjustment
Dulaglutide	0.75 mg and 1.5 mg once weekly	No dosage adjustment Use with eGFR >15 ml/min per 1.73 m ²
Exenatide	10 µg twice daily	Use with CrCl >30 ml/min
Exenatide extended-release	2 mg once weekly	Use with eGFR >45 ml/min per 1.73 m ²
Liraglutide	1.2 mg and 1.8 mg once daily	No dosage adjustment Limited data for severe CKD
Lixisenatide	10 µg and 20 µg once daily	No dosage adjustment Limited data for severe CKD Not recommended with eGFR <15 ml/min per 1.73 m ²
Semaglutide (injection)	0.5 mg and 1 mg once weekly	No dosage adjustment Limited data for severe CKD
Semaglutide (oral)	3 mg, 7 mg, or 14 mg daily	No dosage adjustment Limited data for severe CKD

- Improve glycemic control and confer weight loss
- Reduces major adverse cardiovascular events (MACE)
- Kidney benefits by reducing albuminuria and slowing the rate of eGFR decline.

What's new?

FLOW TRIAL

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Effects of Semaglutide on Chronic Kidney Disease in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes

Vlado Perkovic, M.B., B.S., Ph.D., Katherine R. Tuttle, M.D., Peter Rossing, M.D., D.M.Sc., Kenneth W. Mahaffey, M.D., Johannes F.E. Mann, M.D., George Bakris, M.D., Florian M.M. Baeres, M.D., Thomas Idorn, M.D., Ph.D., Heidrun Bosch-Traberg, M.D., Nanna Leonora Lausvig, M.Sc., and Richard Pratley, M.D., for the FLOW Trial Committees and Investigators*

FLOW Trial

Stopped early for clear positive efficacy!

3160 patients

- T2D, $HbA_{1c} \leq 10\%$
- $eGFR \leq 75$ to $\geq 50^*$ and $UACR > 300$ to < 5000 mg/g OR $eGFR < 50$ to $\geq 25^*$ and $UACR > 100$ to < 5000 mg/g
- RAAS blocker

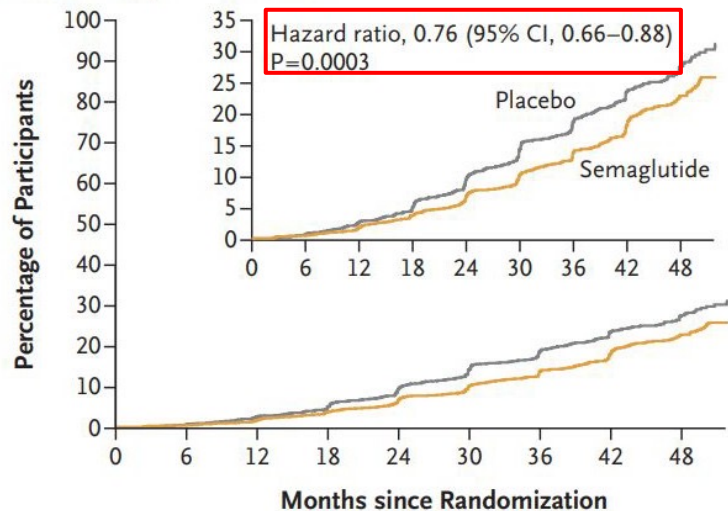


Primary endpoint

Time to first occurrence of a composite endpoint consisting of

- Onset of persistent $\geq 50\%$ reduction in eGFR
- Onset of persistent $eGFR < 15$ mL/min/1.73 m²
- Initiation of chronic renal replacement therapy (dialysis or kidney transplantation)
- Renal death
- CV death

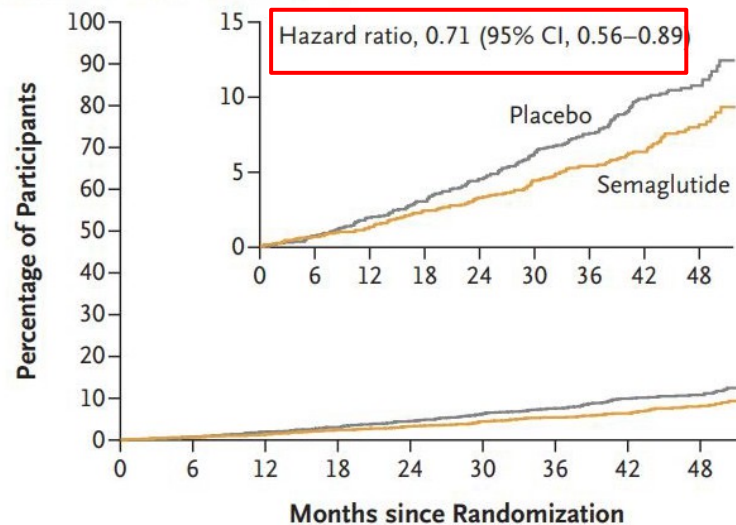
A First Major Kidney Disease Event



No. at Risk

Placebo	1766	1736	1682	1605	1516	1408	1048	660	354
Semaglutide	1767	1738	1693	1640	1572	1489	1131	742	392

C Death from Cardiovascular Causes



No. at Risk

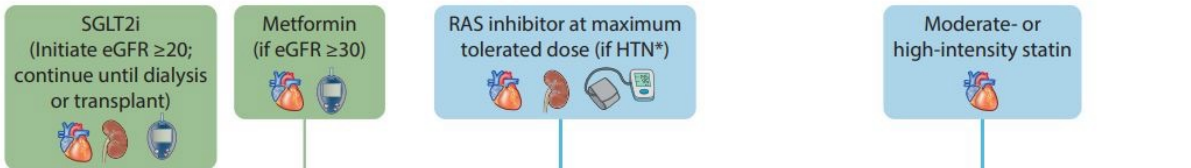
Placebo	1766	1737	1697	1641	1601	1544	1185	772	437
Semaglutide	1767	1739	1703	1665	1627	1583	1234	838	460

Semaglutide reduced the risk of clinically important kidney outcomes (24%) and death from cardiovascular causes (29%) in patients with type 2 diabetes and CKD.

Lifestyle

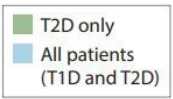
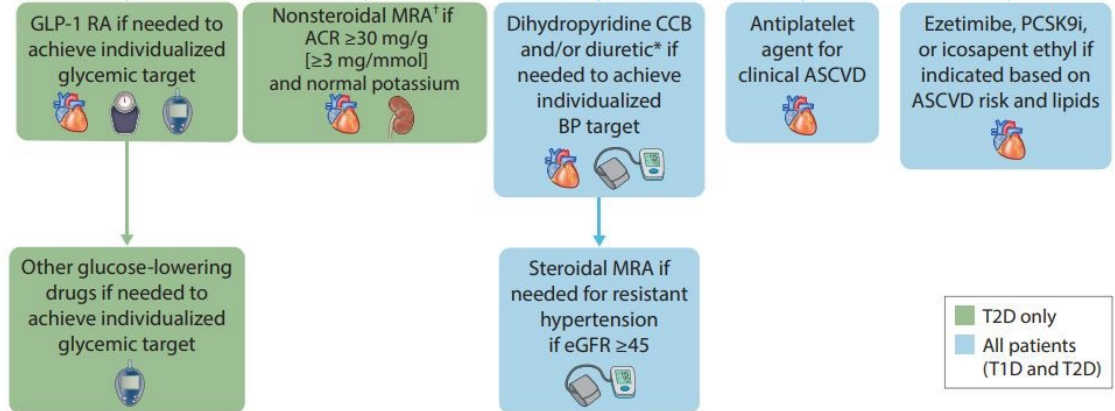


First-line drug therapy








Regular reassessment of glycemia, albuminuria, BP, CVD risk, and lipids

Additional risk-based therapy



Considerations for selecting glucose-lowering agents

	Progression of CKD	ASCVD	Heart failure	Glucose-lowering efficacy	Hypoglycemia risk	Weight effects	Cost
Metformin	Neutral	Potential benefit	Potential benefit	High	Low	Neutral	Low
SGLT2 inhibitors	Benefit ^a	Benefit ^c	Benefit	Intermediate	Low	Loss	High
GLP-1 receptor agonists	Benefit ^b	Benefit ^c	Potential benefit	High	Low	Loss	High
DPP-4 inhibitors	Neutral	Neutral	Potential risk ^c (saxagliptin)	Intermediate	Low	Neutral	High
Insulin	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Highest	High	Gain	High (analogues)
							Low (human)
Sulfonylureas	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	High	High	Gain	Low
Thiazolidinediones	Neutral	Potential benefit (pioglitazone)	Increased risk	High	Low	Gain	Low
α-Glucosidase inhibitors	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Intermediate	Low	Neutral	Low

 Neutral	 Potential risk or high cost to patient
 Potential benefit or intermediate glucose-lowering efficacy	 Increased risk for adverse effects
 Benefit (organ protection, high efficacy, low hypoglycemia risk, weight loss, or low cost)	

Dose adjustments for eGFR <45 mL/min/1.73 m²

	Stage 3b (eGFR 30–44 mL/min/1.73 m ²)	Stage 4 (eGFR 15–29 mL/min/1.73 m ²)	Stage 5 (eGFR <15 mL/min/1.73 m ²)
DPP-4 inhibitors			
Alogliptin	Maximum 12.5 mg daily	Maximum 6.25 mg daily	
Linagliptin	No dose adjustment required		
Saxagliptin	Maximum 2.5 mg daily		
Sitagliptin	Maximum 50 mg daily	Maximum 25 mg once daily	
Sulfonylureas (2nd generation)			
Glimepiride	Initiate conservatively at 1 mg daily and titrate slowly to avoid hypoglycemia		
Glipizide	Initiate conservatively (e.g., 2.5 mg once daily) and titrate slowly to avoid hypoglycemia		
Glyburide	Use not recommended		
Thiazolidinediones			
Pioglitazone	No dose adjustment required		
α-Glucosidase inhibitors			
Acarbose	No dose adjustment required	Use not recommended	
Miglitol	No dose adjustment required	Use not recommended	
Liraglutide	No dose adjustment required		
Lixisenatide	No dose adjustment required		Use not recommended
Semaglutide	No dose adjustment required		



Conclusions

- DKD is the major cause of end stage kidney disease in the world and the number of patients is expected to rise in the coming years.
- Early detection and management of DKD is essential for improving cardiovascular outcomes.
- A comprehensive care in the management of DKD is needed and must include pharmacotherapy and healthy lifestyle approaches.
- There is a critical need for patients to be treated in accord with the most up-to-date recommendations.

Kidney Health For All

Advancing equitable access to care
and optimal medication practice



Thankyou!

