



Dear Colleagues,

If a young woman on dialysis asks you what her chances are of getting pregnant and delivering a healthy baby, would you know the answers? And if she succeeds to get pregnant, would you know how to best adjust her (dialysis) treatment?

During their time in medical practice most nephrologists will encounter only one or two cases of women on dialysis getting pregnant. It is suggested that the frequency of pregnancy in young women on dialysis is rising and that the survival of infants born to these women is increasing. Nevertheless, most of the publications on pregnancies in dialysis in Europe are case reports or small case series. Those that were published may unintentionally have focused on cases with favorable outcomes and therefore suffer from publication bias.

The ERA-EDTA Registry therefore initiated the “DIALysis and Pregnancies in EuRope (DIAPER) study”. With this study we aim to estimate the incidence of pregnancies in chronic dialysis patients in the period from 2007 to 2011 in different European countries. In addition, we aim to assess which treatment regimens are used in pregnant dialysis patients and are associated with the best outcomes for mother and child.

The data collection consists of **two parts**:

- 1) We would highly appreciate it if someone in your centre could complete a first short questionnaire comprising three questions, even if your centre did not record any pregnancies in the past five years.
- 2) If your centre did record one or more pregnancies between 2007 and 2011 and you agree on further participation in the study, we will send you a second and more extensive questionnaire by e-mail, including questions on demographics, treatment during pregnancy, delivery, and outcomes of mother and child.

We kindly ask your help in collecting data for the DIAPER study. The results of this study may help to optimize outcomes for mother and child and could help you as nephrologists to advise patients who would like to become pregnant and to care for them if they get pregnant.

If you would like to know more about (participating in) the DIAPER study, please do not hesitate to contact me at m.noordzij@amc.uva.nl

Kind regards,

Also on behalf of the study group members,

Marlies Noordzij

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