

October 2018

KDIGO controversies conference or series on Women's health and CKD

Rationale

Women's health is an international priority. Globally, despite advances, women still experience poorer health outcomes. Structural determinants of women's health, along with legal and policy restrictions and gender discrimination, often restrict women's access to optimal healthcare. The effects of health inequity are felt hardest in resource-poor settings.

Women with CKD are an emerging focus in the nephrology community. In 2018 International Women's Day coincided with World Kidney Day, leading to several publications addressing some of the issues women with CKD face. There is mounting evidence of sex-specific difference in kidney function and in the epidemiology, diagnosis, underlying mechanisms, natural history and outcomes of CKD and complications of CKD. In addition, there is the need to consider the reproductive health of affected women and the kidney and overall health of their children.

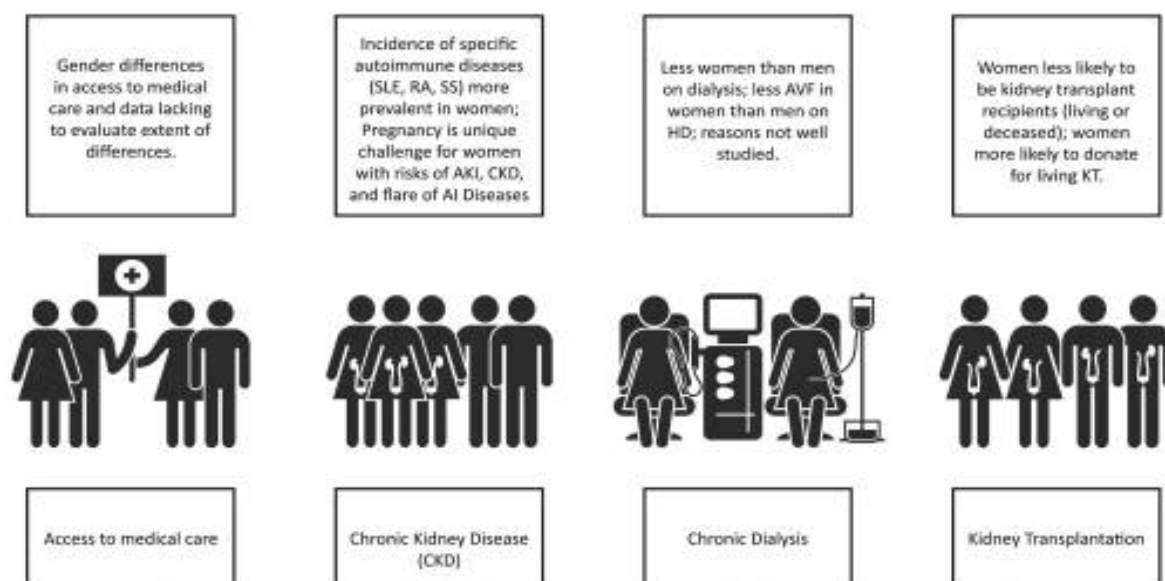


Figure 1. Sex difference across CKD continuum. From <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5793722/>

We suggest that KDIGO consider a series or at least 1 Controversies Conference on the topic of women's health. We suggest the focus of the initial conference be on reproductive health and CKD, which has been recommended as a priority topic by several members of the Executive Committee in recent years.

Potential sub-topics for reproductive health and CKD conference

Covering epidemiology/mechanisms/investigations/interventions/outcomes of

- 1) Impact of CKD on fertility and conception
 - a) Pregnancy planning
 - b) Role of assisted reproductive technology
 - c) Genetic testing for heritable CKD (unless covered in another conference on genetic kidney disease)
- 2) Contraception and CKD
 - a) Benefit and harms of options in CKD context (including pre/post-transplant)
 - b) Common drugs used in CKD and teratogenicity – relative preferences
- 3) Identifying and differentiating CKD that presents for the first time during pregnancy (including from AKI)

- 4) Management of pregnancy and CKD
 - a) Pregnancy with CKD 3-4
 - b) Pregnancy on dialysis (PD and Haemo)
 - c) Pregnancy post-transplant
 - d) Challenges for developing countries
- 5) Menopause and CKD

Multidisciplinary appeal of these topics across specialties

Fertility services

Obstetric and gynaecology

Endocrinology

Pharmacology

Suggestions for steering committee/ co-chairs

Michelle Hladunewich (Toronto, Canada)

Shilpa Jesuadson (Adelaide, Australia)

Anne Marie Henessey (Sydney, Australia)

Angela Makris (Sydney, Australia)

Relevant references

Temmerman Marleen, Khosla Rajat, Laski Laura, Mathews Zoe, Say Lale. Women's health priorities and interventions BMJ 2015; 351 :h4147 <https://www.bmj.com/content/351/bmj.h4147>

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Piccoli GB, Alrukhaimi M, Liu Z-H, Zakharova E, Levin A, World Kidney Day Steering Committee. Women and kidney disease: reflections on World Kidney Day 2018. *Clinical Kidney Journal*. 2018;11(1):7-11. doi:10.1093/ckj/sfx147 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5793722/>

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Piccoli GB, Alrukhaimi M, Liu ZH, Zakharova E, Levin A. What we do and do not know about women and kidney diseases; questions unanswered and answers unquestioned: reflection on World Kidney Day and International Women's Day. *Journal of nephrology*. 2018;31(2):173-84. <https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007%2Fs40620-018-0474-6.pdf>