



Hemodialysis Patients with COVID-19 in Lebanon (2nd Report)

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Background

Lebanon has ~4100 patients on chronic hemodialysis, distributed as follows:

- Beirut: ~762 patients
- Mount Lebanon: ~1562 patients
- North: ~860 patients
- South: ~616 patients
- Beqaa: ~402 patients

Cases of SARS-CoV-2 in Lebanese hemodialysis units

Up to September 20, 2020, 31 out of 80 hemodialysis units experienced cases of COVID-19 among their dialysis patients.

A total of 78 dialysis patients were diagnosed with SARS-CoV-2 infection across Lebanon and distributed as follows: 27 cases in Mount-Lebanon, 30 cases in the North, 16 cases in Beirut, 2 cases in Beqaa and 3 cases in the South.

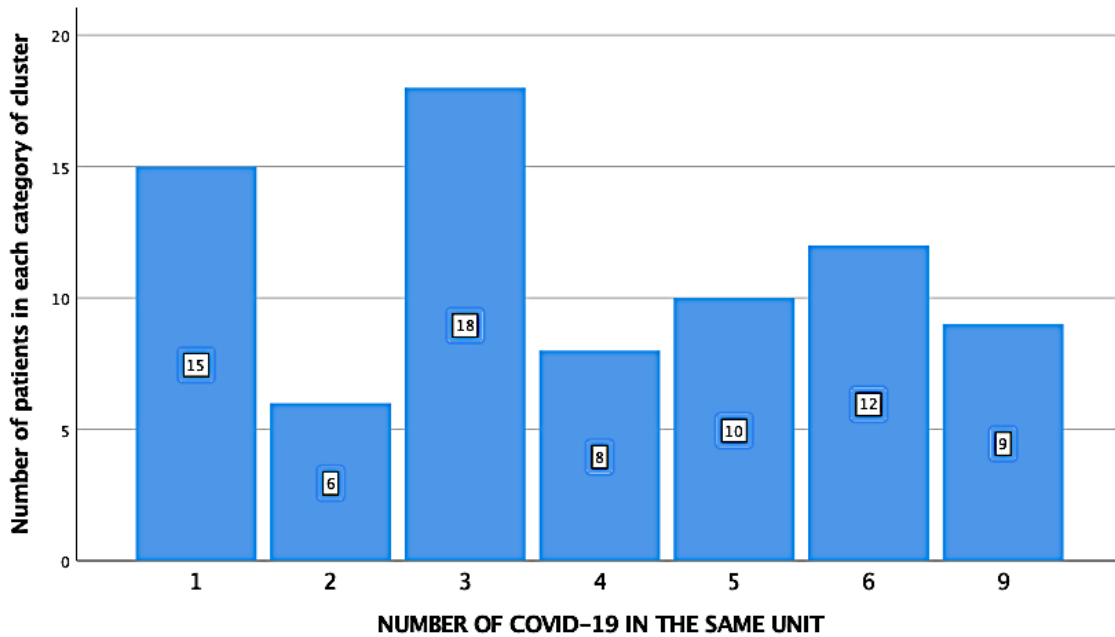
77 were on chronic hemodialysis and one patient was shifted from peritoneal dialysis to hemodialysis.

Characteristics of these patients:

- Mean age: 62.59 ± 14.03 years
- 53.8% were males and 46.2% females
- 55.1% were diabetics

81% of these cases occurred in clusters of two to nine patients in a single dialysis unit (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Clustering of COVID-19 cases in dialysis units



91% were symptomatic and the majority had respiratory symptoms.

Admission to a COVID unit

Thirty-four patients or 43.6% of the total number of infected patients were admitted to a COVID unit. Rafic Hariri University Hospital, Dar el Amal Hospital and Tripoli Governmental Hospital received the highest number of patients.

Outcome of patients

Seven out of the 78 patients died (Table 1).

Table 1. Case Fatality Rate (CFR) per category of age

Age category	Total number of patients	Case Fatality Rate (deaths among cases)
20 to 29	2	0%
30 to 39	2	0%
40 to 49	6	0%
50 to 59	19	0%
60 to 69	19	5.26%
70 to 79	24	12.5%
Above 80	6	50%
Total	78	8.9%