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CHRONIC RENAL FAILURE AND SEXUAL FUNCTIONING

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Introduction: Sexual function is one aspect of physical functioning. Sexual dysfunction, no matter the etiology, could cause distress. In people with chronic renal failure, sexual problems have often been neglected in clinical practice and research. The aim of this study was to assess the sexual functioning of patients with chronic renal failure.
Methods: A total of 50 patients with chronic renal failure on hemodialysis were included in this study. The questionnaire included thirty items: sociodemographic data, clinical factors and history, sexual functioning before and after hemodialysis. Data were analyzed using SPSS 17.
Results: Twenty seven per cent (27%) of the patients stated having no sexual activity at all. Eighty-three per cent (83%) of sexually active patients had sexual dysfunction. Sexual dysfunction in men was due to erectile failure, to loss of sexual interest, and to fatigue. Women reported essentially asthenia, loss of sexual interest and finally dyspareunia. These disorders appeared on average three years after being on hemodialysis.
Conclusions: The prevalence of sexual dysfunction was high among patients with chronic renal failure. This disorder needs special attention and management from doctors.

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