

Complications of hemodialysis

Prof. Ashraf MA Bakr

**Vice president for Students Affairs,
Mansoura University**

**Prof of pediatrics,
Mansoura Faculty of Medicine**

**Consultant, Pediatric Nephrology Unit,
Mansoura University Children's Hospital**

Mansoura, Egypt



- **The advance in technology and the delay in kidney transplant lead to the prolongation of period of hemodialysis in children with CKD and the emergence of many complications.**

Common complications

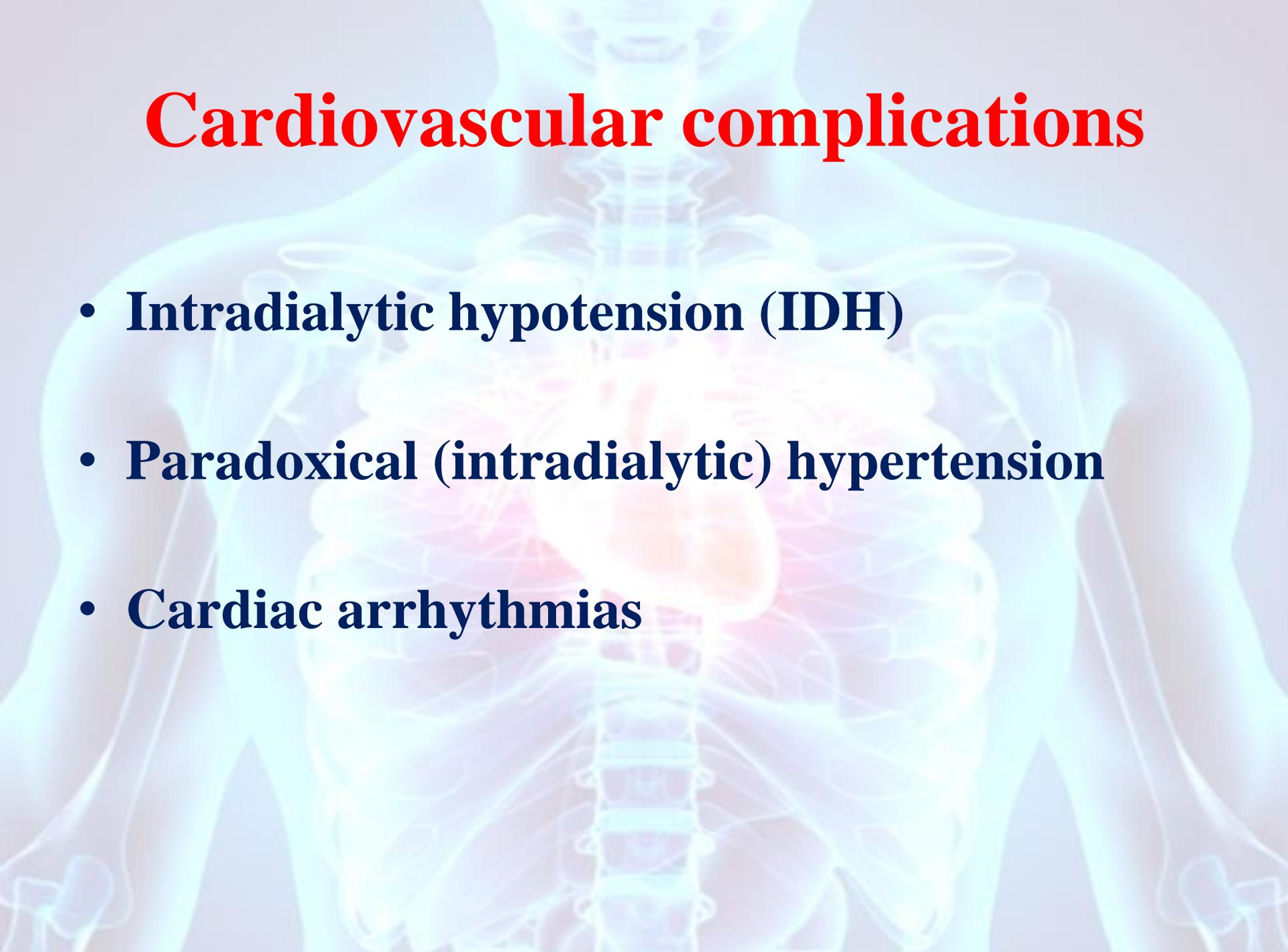
Patient Complications

- Hypotension (20-30%)
- Muscle Cramps
- Disequilibrium Syndrome
- Nausea and Vomiting
- Headache
- Chest Pain
- Itching
- Fever and Chills
- Pyrogen reaction
- Hypertension

Technical Complications

- Clotting
- Blood leak
- Power failure
- Hemolysis
- Air Embolism
 - Air in bloodlines
- Exsanguination
- Dialyzer reactions

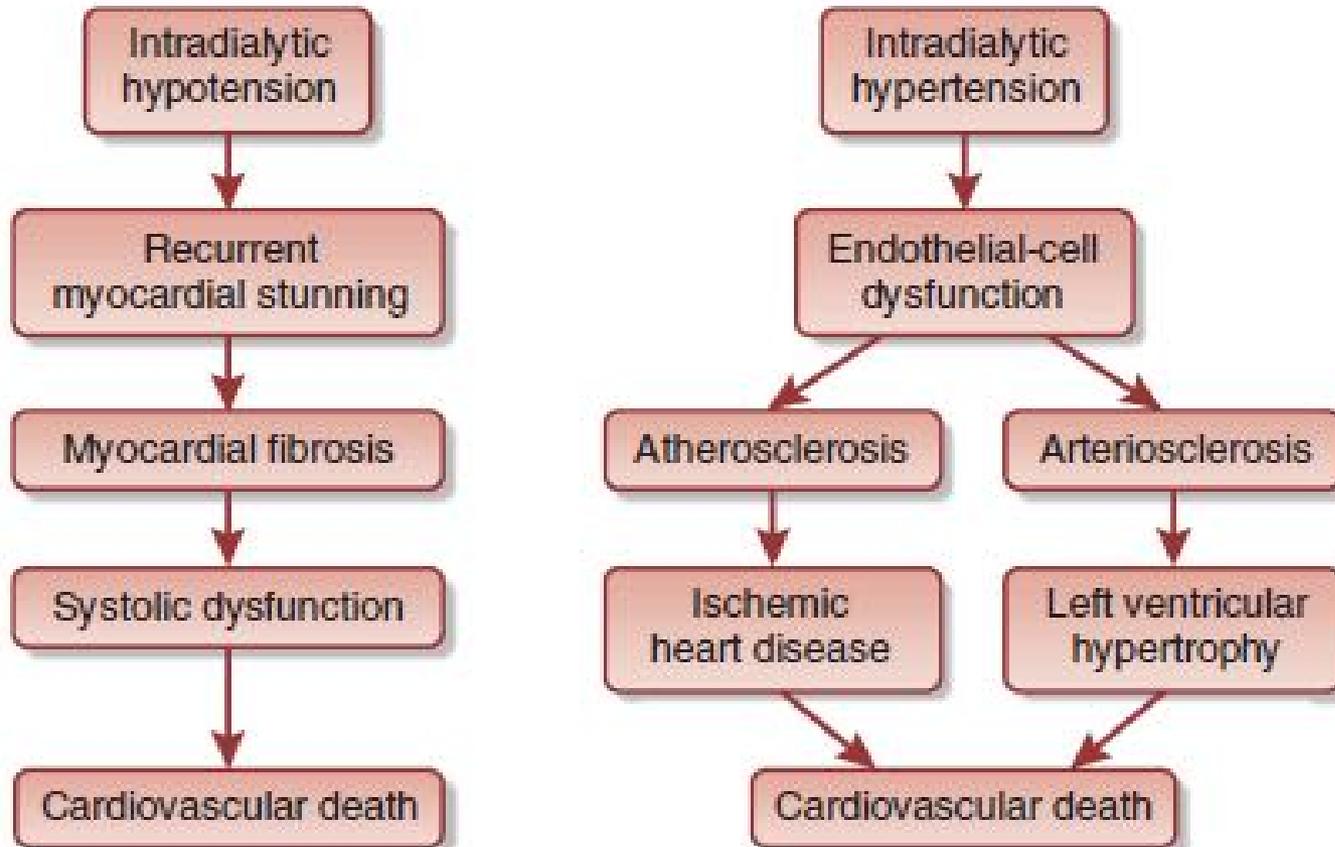
Cardiovascular complications



- **Intradialytic hypotension (IDH)**
- **Paradoxical (intradialytic) hypertension**
- **Cardiac arrhythmias**

Cardiovascular complications

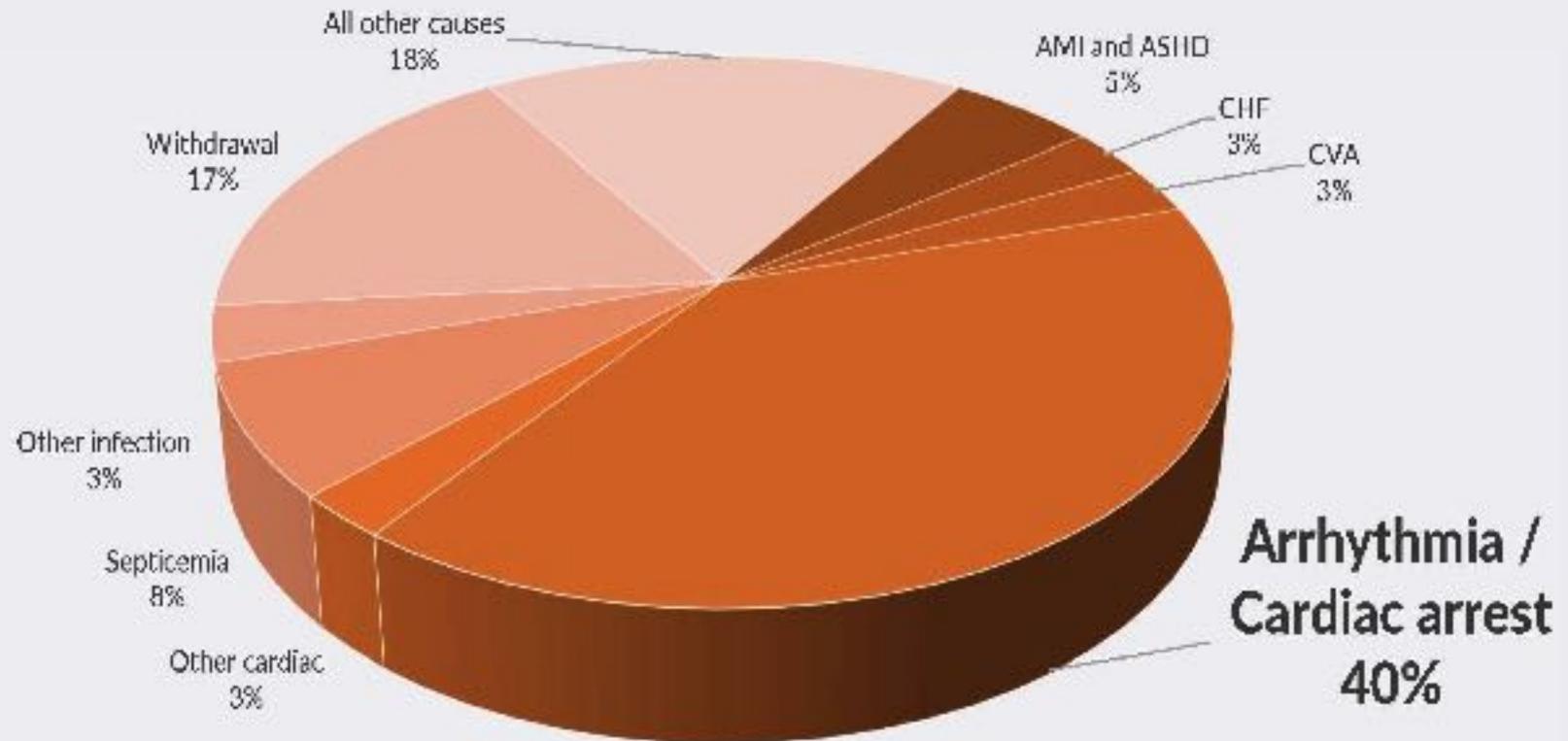
Adverse outcomes



Cardiovascular complications

Adverse outcomes

Causes of Death on Dialysis³



Intradialytic hypotension (IDH)



20-30%



Intradialytic hypotension (IDH)

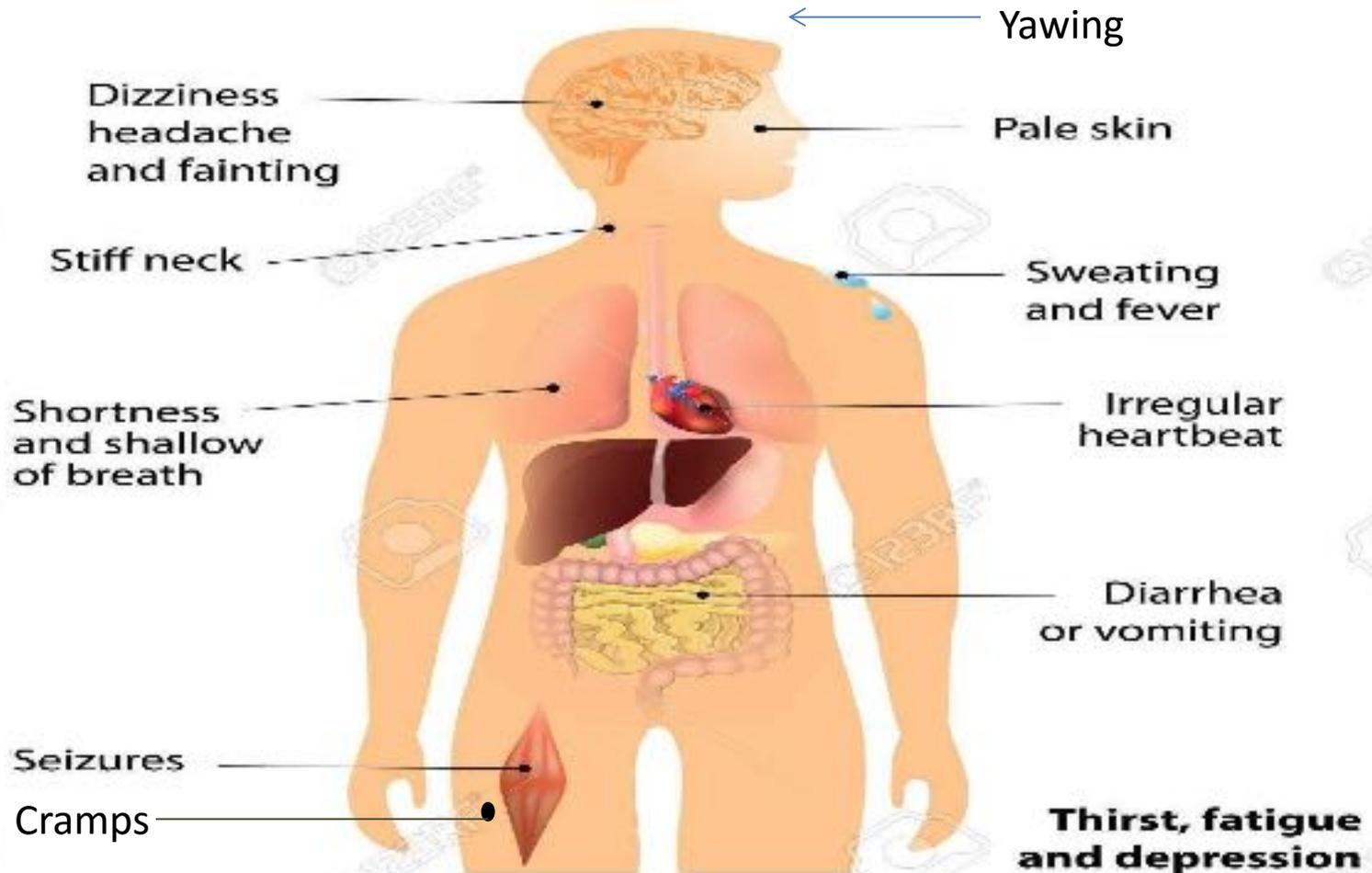
Definition

KDOQI Clinical Practice Guidelines for Cardiovascular Disease in Dialysis Patients

- *A decrease in systolic blood pressure by ≥ 20 mm Hg or a decrease in MAP by 10 mm Hg*
- *associated with symptoms* that include: abdominal discomfort; yawning; sighing; nausea; vomiting; muscle cramps; restlessness; dizziness or fainting; and anxiety

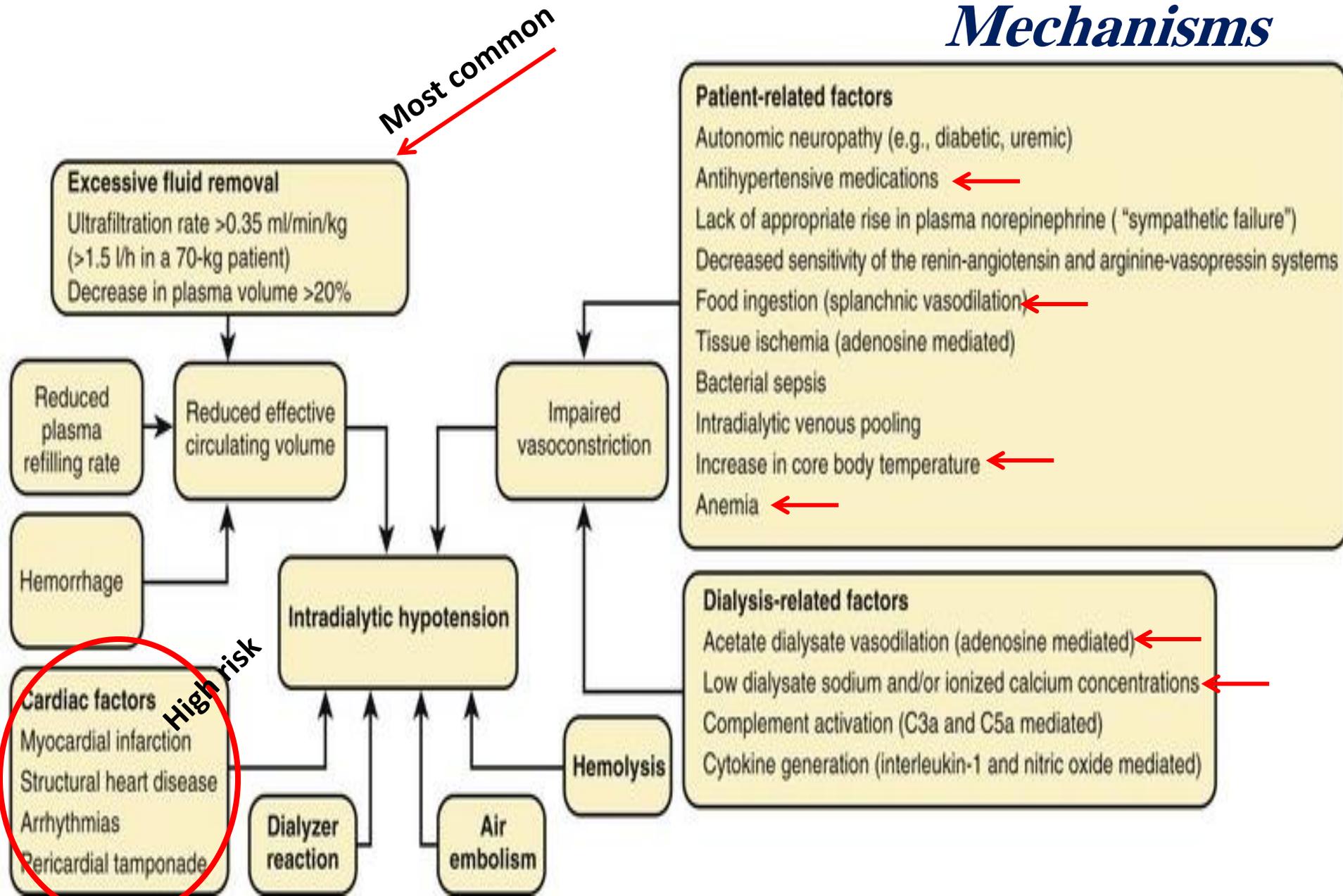
Intradialytic hypotension (IDH)

Signs & symptoms



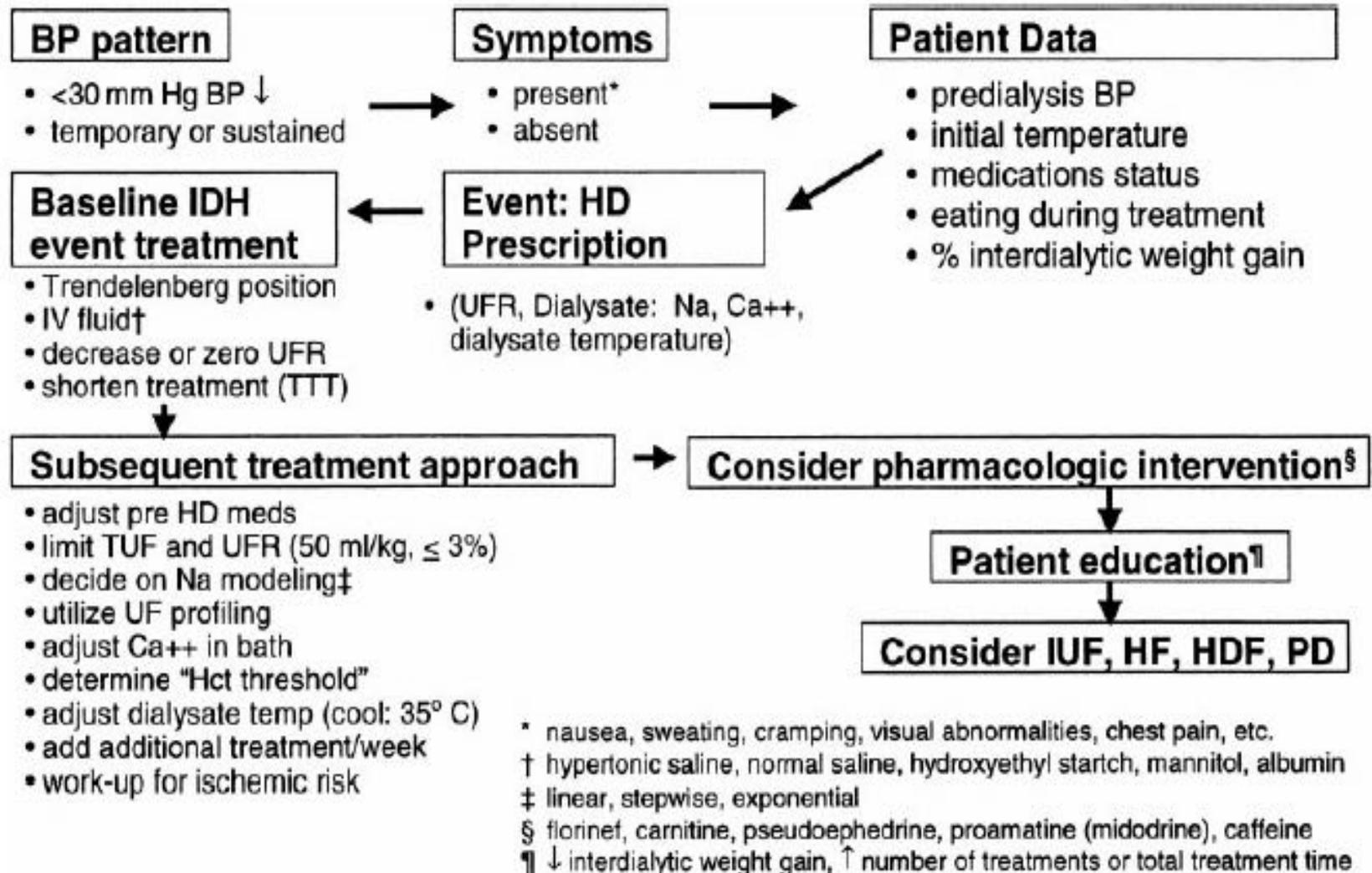
Intradialytic hypotension (IDH)

Mechanisms



Intradialytic hypotension (IDH)

Management



Paradoxical (intradialytic) hypertension

8-30% (no pediatric no.)



Definitions

- \uparrow MAP of ≥ 15 mmHg during or immediately post dialysis
- Hypertension during 2nd or 3rd hr of HD after significant UF removed
- \uparrow BP that is resistant to UF

Clinical Trial

Dry-Weight Reduction in Hypertensive Hemodialysis Patients (DRIP) A Randomized, Controlled Trial

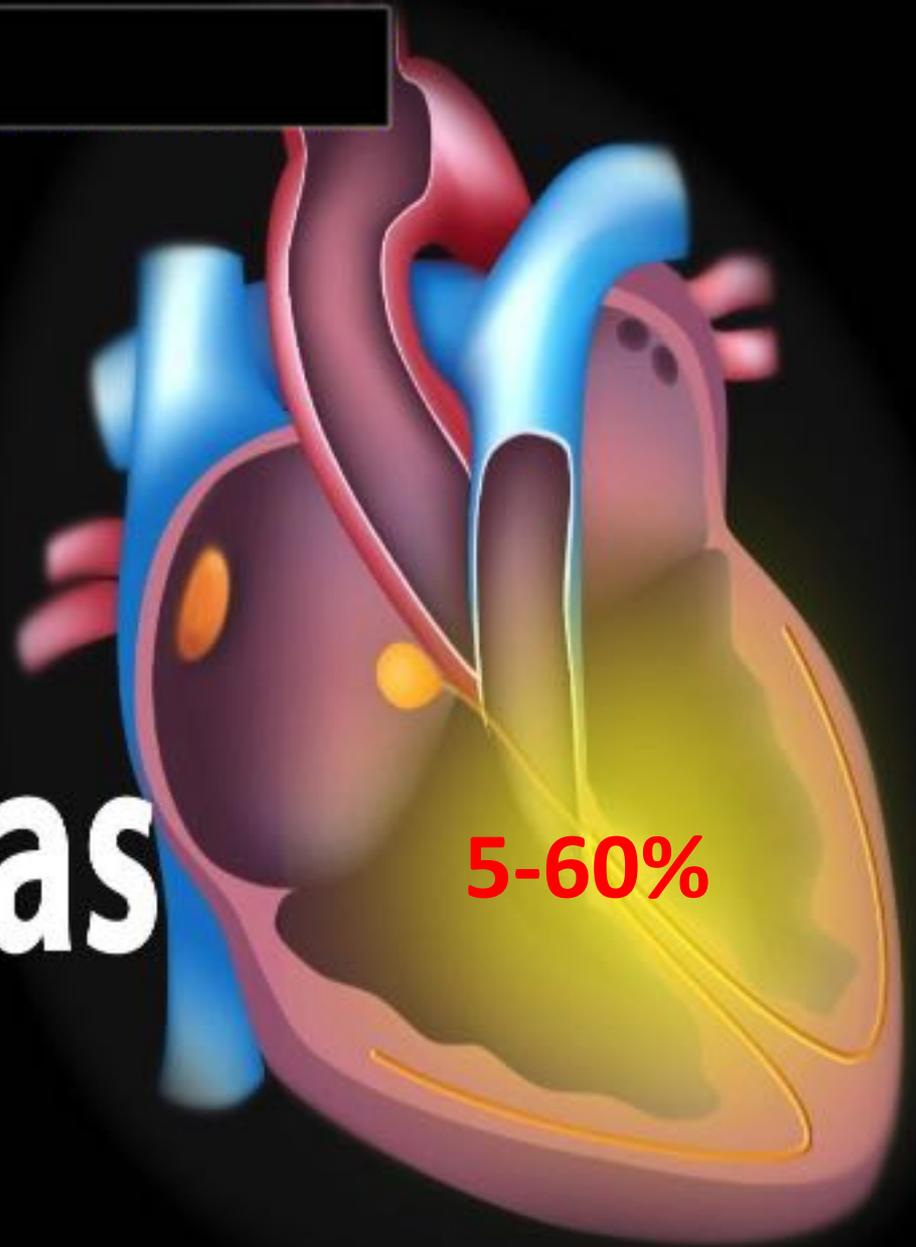
Rajiv Agarwal, Pooneh Alborzi, Sangeetha Satyan, Robert P. Light

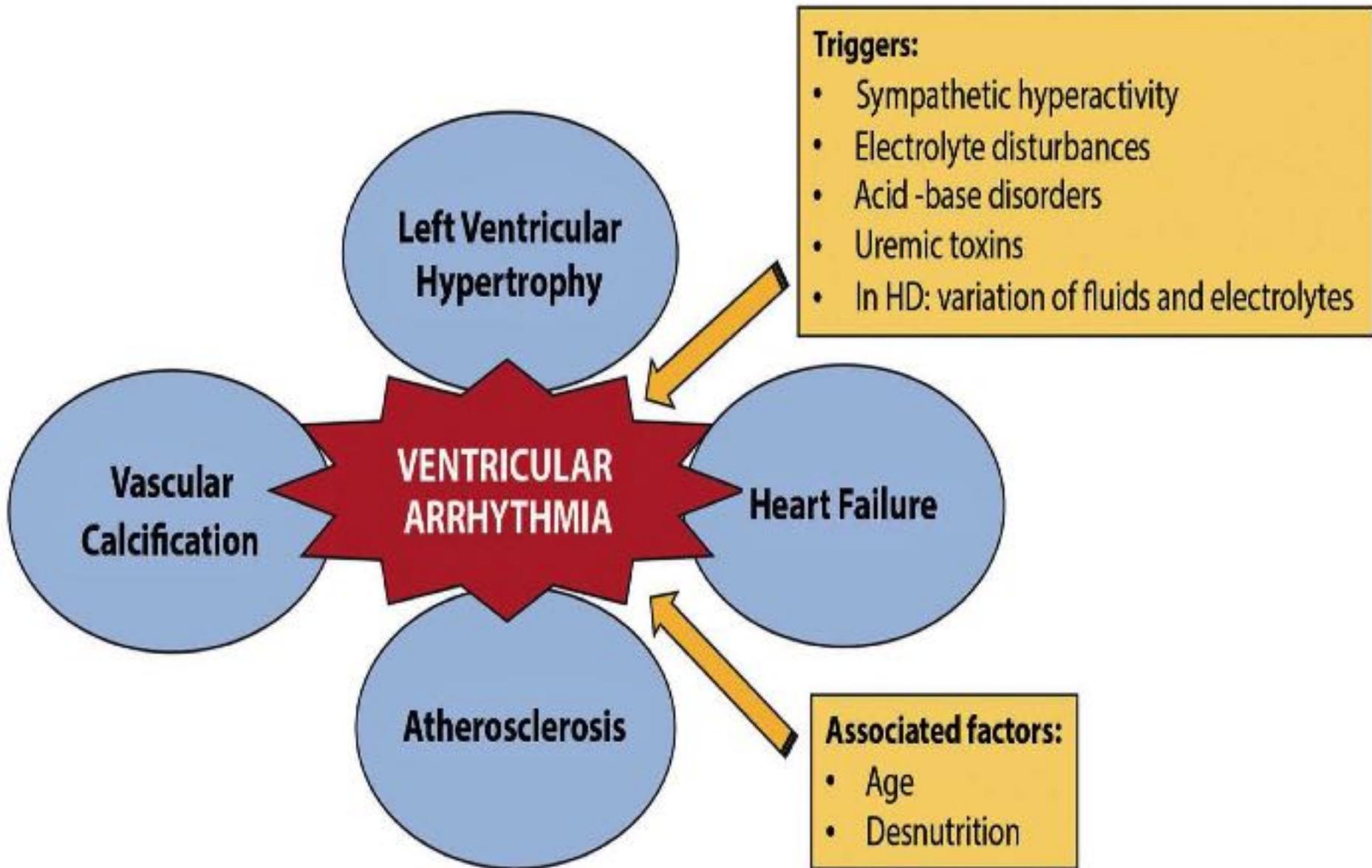
Abstract—Volume control is thought to be important in the pathogenesis of hypertension among hemodialysis patients. To

“Optimal control of blood pressure in HD patients is via volume control NOT the use of antihypertensive agents”

we assigned 100 patients to a dry-weight reduction (DRIP) group (mean baseline systolic BP 170 mm Hg, 95% CI: 162.2 to 177.8 mm Hg, $P=0.0001$) and assigned 100 patients to a control group (mean baseline systolic BP 170 mm Hg, 95% CI: 162.2 to 177.8 mm Hg, $P=0.0001$). The DRIP group achieved a mean systolic BP reduction of -10.5 mm Hg (95% CI: -6.4 to -14.6 mm Hg; $P=0.0001$) from baseline. The Mantel-Haenszel combined odds ratio for systolic BP reduction of ≥ 10 mm Hg was 2.24 (95% CI: 1.32 to 3.81; $P=0.003$). There was no deterioration seen in any domain of the kidney disease quality of life health survey despite an increase in intradialytic signs and symptoms of hypotension. The reduction of dry weight is a simple, efficacious, and well-tolerated maneuver to improve BP control in hypertensive hemodialysis patients. Long-term control of BP will depend on continued assessment and maintenance of dry weight. (*Hypertension*. 2009;53:500-507.)

Cardiac Arrhythmias







HHS Public Access

Author manuscript

Nat Rev Nephrol. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2015 October 01.

Published in final edited form as:

Nat Rev Nephrol. 2015 April ; 11(4): 199–200. doi:10.1038/nrneph.2015.25.

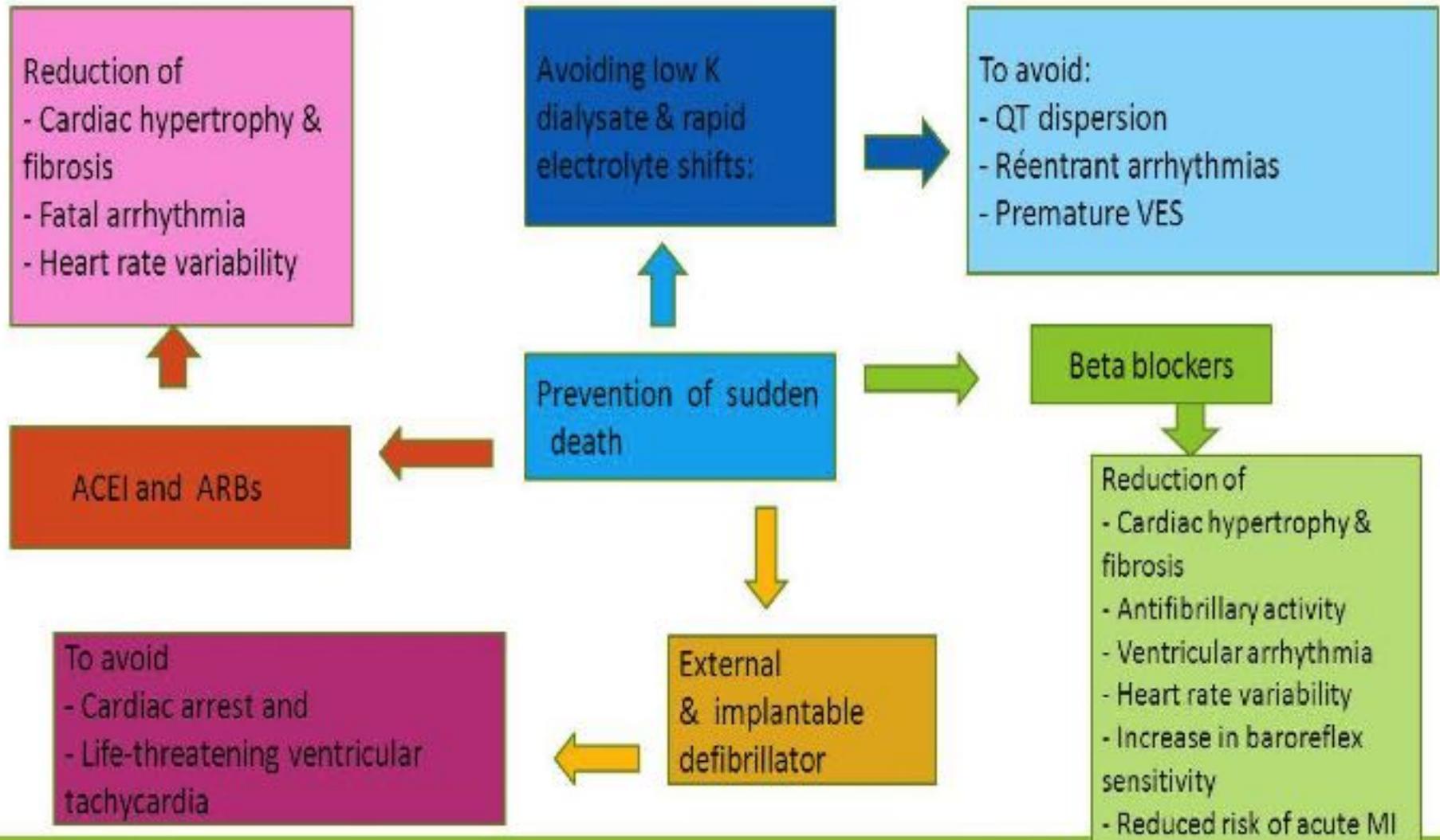
Spotlight on CKD deaths—increasing mortality worldwide

Patients who suffered a **cardiac arrest** at the time of dialysis **were twice** as likely to be **dialysed against a 0 or 1.0 mEq/l potassium dialysate** compared to controls, despite no difference in pre-dialysis serum potassium levels but **levels below 4.0 mEq/l or higher than 5.6 mEq/l were associated with increased mortality.**

disease has declined over the past two decades. By contrast, new data indicate that the rate of CKD-associated deaths is increasing worldwide. This important finding highlights CKD as a major contributor to global morbidity and mortality.

Despite increasing recognition of the high prevalence and associated mortality of pre-dialysis and dialysis-dependent chronic kidney disease (CKD) in industrialized nations such as the USA^{1,2} and the UK,³ a large knowledge gap remains with regards to the epidemiology of CKD in less-developed countries. A new report from the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study has reduced this gap and identified CKD as an increasing cause of mortality worldwide.⁴

Prevention of sudden death in dialysis patients.



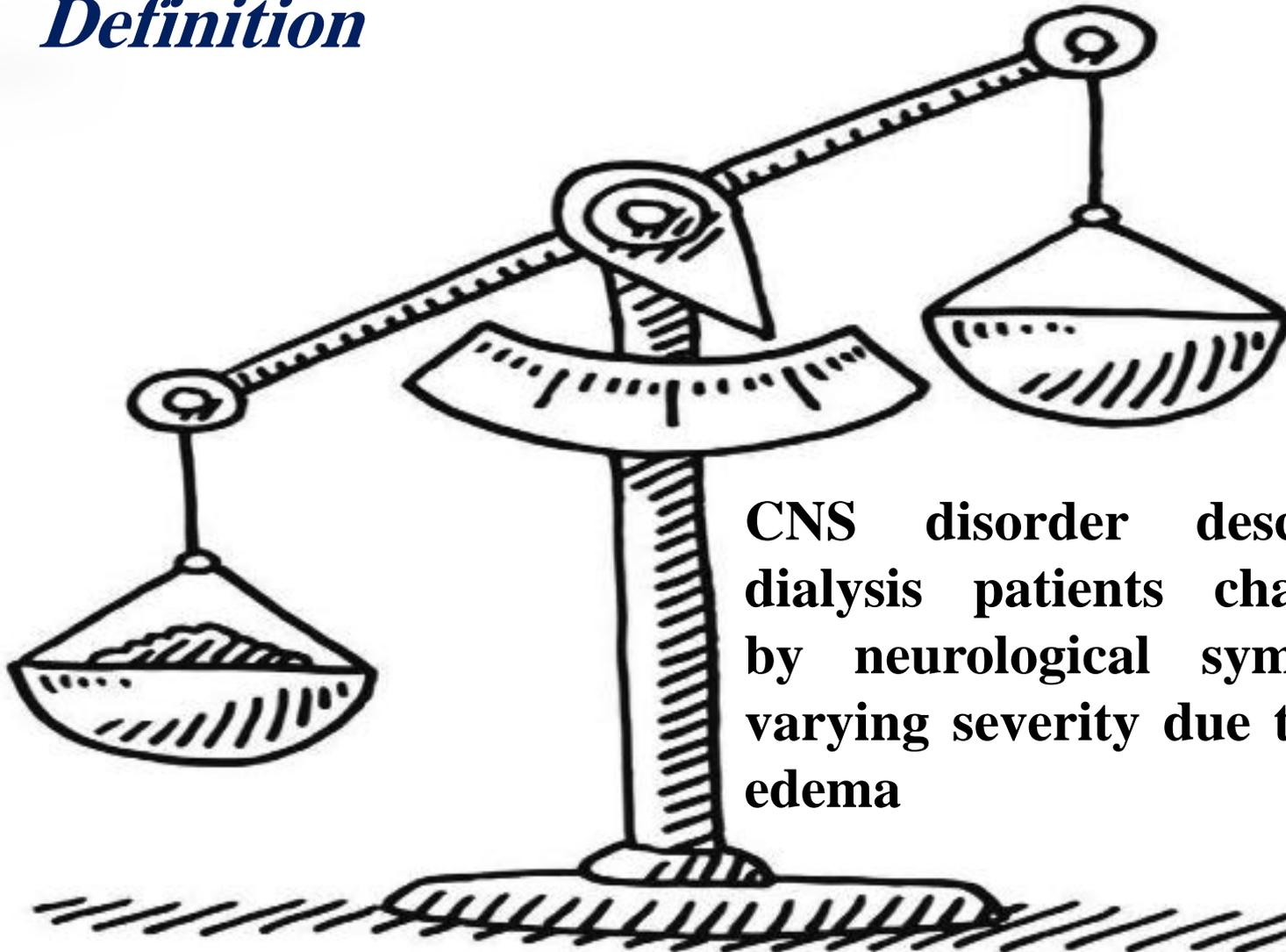
Neuromuscular complications

- **Dialysis disequilibrium syndrome**
- **Hemodialysis-associated seizure (HAS)**
- **Muscle cramps**
- **Hemodialysis-related headache**



Dialysis disequilibrium syndrome

Definition



CNS disorder described in dialysis patients characterized by neurological symptoms of varying severity due to cerebral edema



Dialysis disequilibrium syndrome

Risk factors

- ✓ 1st session hemodialysis
- ✓ Extreme age : child or aging
- ✓ High BUN level: > 125 mg/dl
- ✓ CNS disorder (stroke, tumor, dementia, hypo Na),

head injury (subdural hematoma)

Pediatr Nephrol (2012) 27:2205–2211

Seminars in Dialysis—Vol 20, No 3 2008 pp. 493–498



Dialysis disequilibrium syndrome

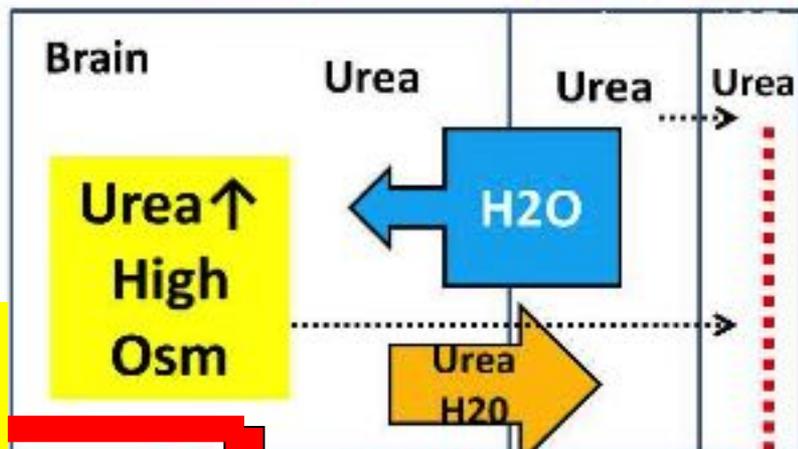
Pathogenesis

Dialysis disequilibrium syndrome

ICF

ECF

IVF



Paradoxical
CSF acidemia

Organic
osmolytes
(idiogenic
osmoles)

Cerebral edema

reverse osmotic shift

HD



Dialysis disequilibrium syndrome

Clinical diagnosis

Clinical : fatigue, mild headache, nausea, vomiting, disturbed consciousness, convulsions... coma.

Common mild..Self limited, fatal.. if severe

Diagnosis

Clinical diagnosis (during HD, after HD)
+ risk factor **Exclusion other condition**



Dialysis disequilibrium syndrome

Prevention

Children starting chronic dialysis or patients with acute kidney injury

Slow and gentle HD to allow for the gradual reduction in plasma uremic toxin levels over a series of dialysis treatments.

- Dialyzers: smaller (less efficient)**
- Dialysis time: 2 h**
- Blood flow rate: 2–3 mL/kg/ min**
- Dialysate flow rate: maintaining the 2:1 dialysate: blood flow rate ratio.**
- Fluid overload: Sequential HD (consider CRRT)**



Dialysis disequilibrium syndrome

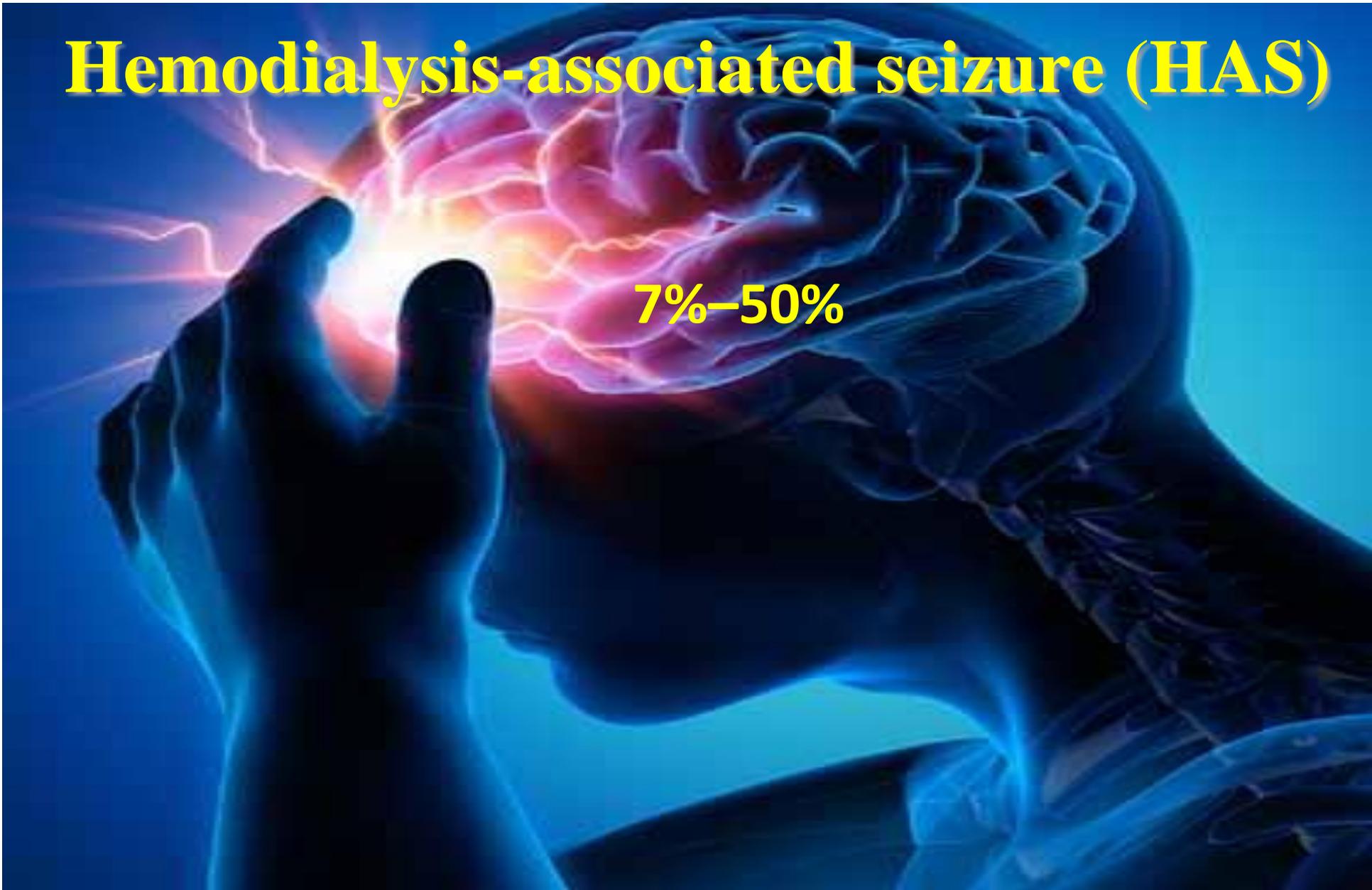
Prevention

Children on maintenance HD suffering from recurrent episodes of DDS

Higher dialysate sodium concentrations: increase in dialysate Na linear or stepwise manner from 135–137 mmol/L to 142–148 mmol/L over the course of the dialysis session.

- The most evidence-based maneuver**
- Counterbalance the rapid ↓ in plasma osmolality from urea purification.**
- May stimulate thirst causing ↑ interdialytic weight gain and hypertension.**

Hemodialysis-associated seizure (HAS)

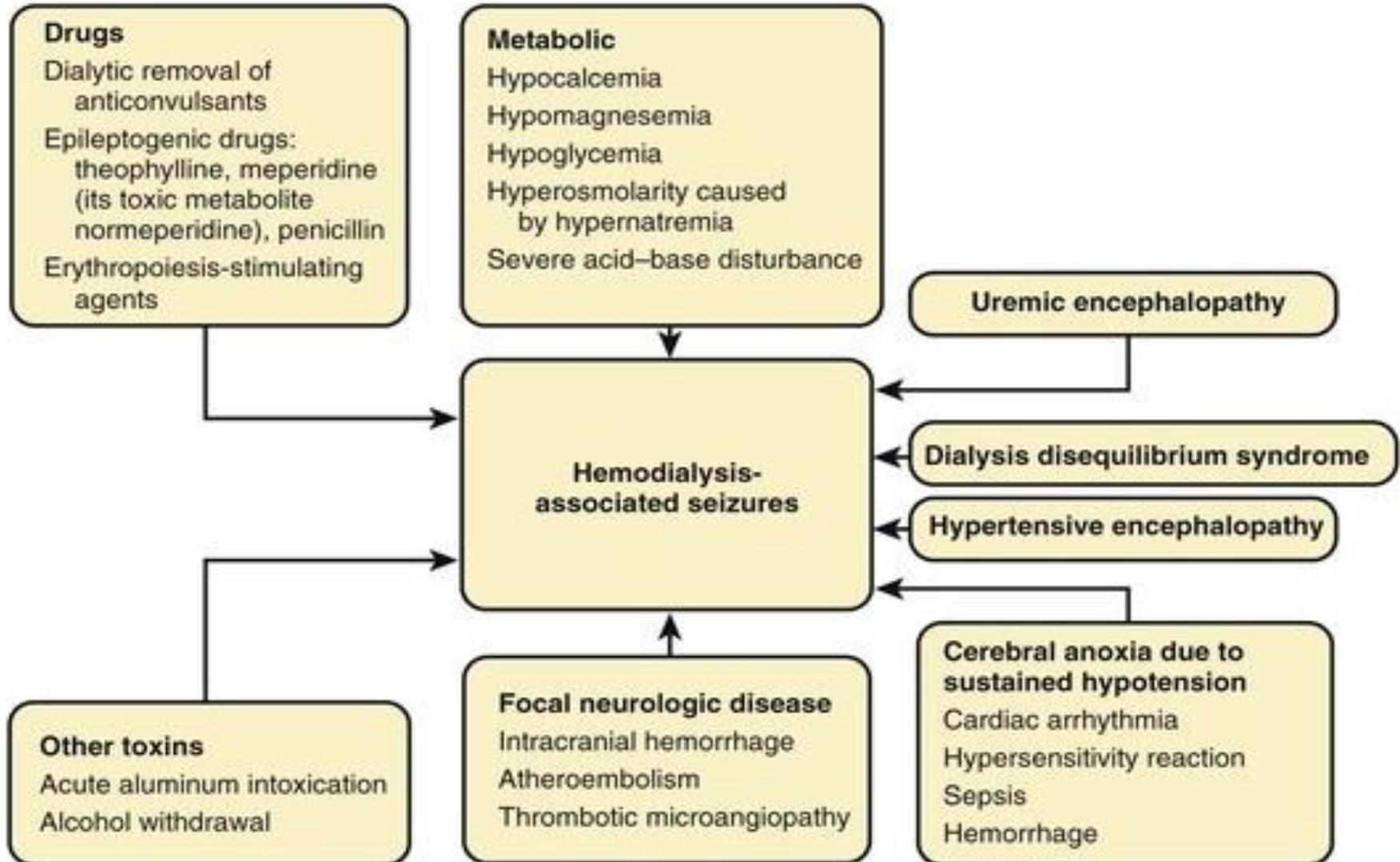


7%–50%

Usually reported as generalized tonic-clonic seizures

Hemodialysis-associated seizure (HAS)

Causes



Hemodialysis-associated seizure (HAS)

Prevention

Pediatr Nephrol (2000) 14:367–369

© IPNA 2000

BRIEF REPORT

Ferah Sönmez · Sevgi Mir · Sarenur Tütüncüoğlu

**Potential prophylactic use of benzodiazepines
for hemodialysis-associated seizures**

CRAAMP

35-86%

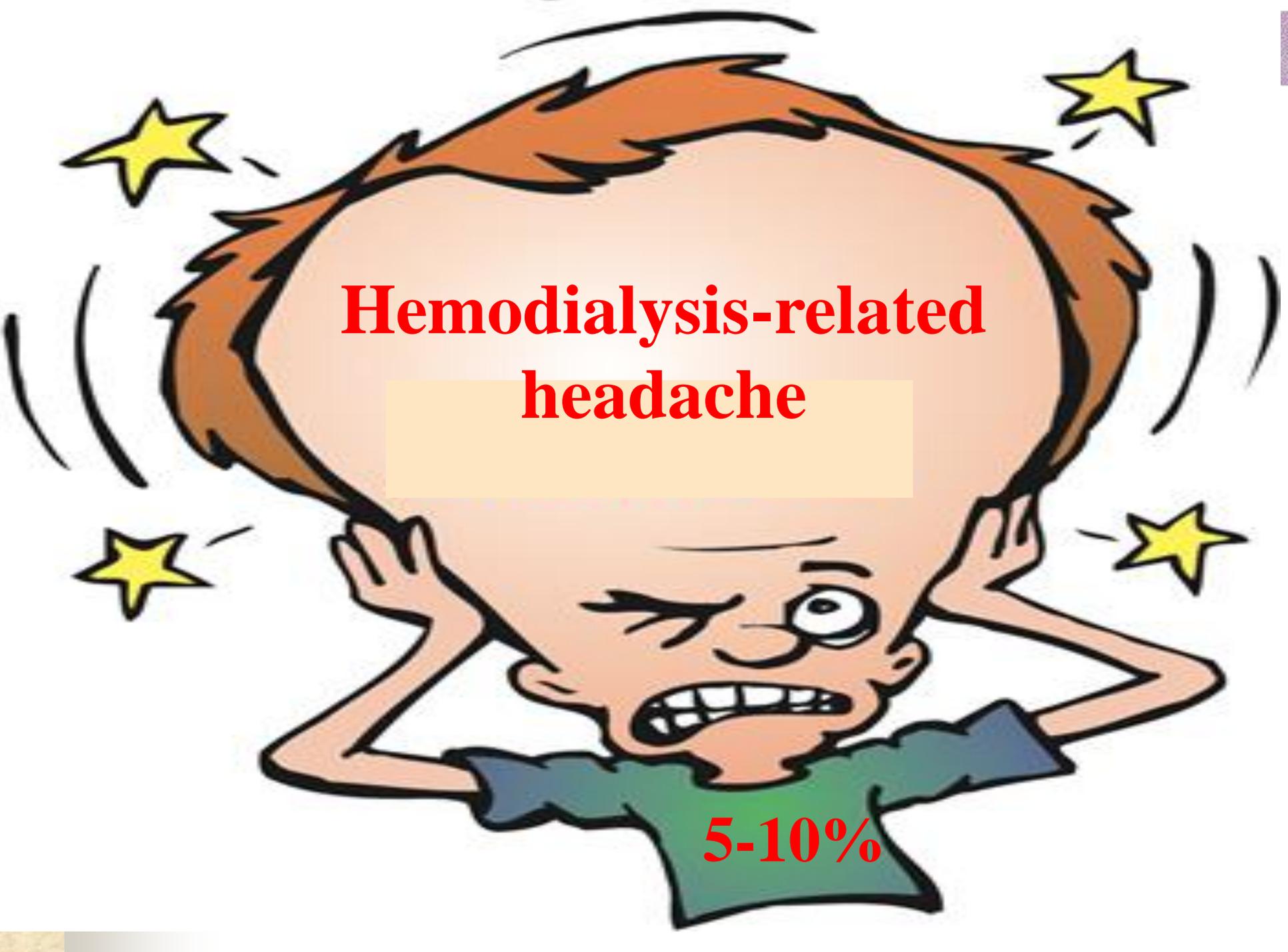
Lower extremities

Mechanisms:

- **Rapid ultrafiltration**
- **Intradialytic hypotension**
- **Tissue hypoxia**

Management of Cramps

- Minimize interdialytic wt gain & need for excessive UF, prevent dialysis hypotension, higher sodium dialysate, or sodium profiling.
- IV saline (normal or hypertonic); IV **50% dextrose** are very effective (but saline will contribute to HPN & volume overload)
- Local massage offers some relief
- **Carnitine** supplementation & **quinine sulphate** may help some pts. Quinine is best used 2 h before dialysis. **Vitamin E** (400iu)
- Some pts respond to **diazepam**, **carbamazepine**, **amitriptyline**, **phenytoin**, or alcohol



**Hemodialysis-related
headache**

5-10%

Hemodialysis-related headache

Diagnosis

Diagnostic criteria of dialysis headache

- A. At least 3 attacks of acute headache fulfilling criteria C and D
- B. Patient is on hemodialysis
- C. Evidence of causation demonstrated by at least two of the following
 1. Each headache developing during a hemodialysis session
 2. At least one of the following
 - a) Each headache worsening during the dialysis session
 - b) Each headache resolving within 72hr after the end of the dialysis session
 3. Headache episodes cease altogether after successful KT and termination of HD
- D. Not better accounted for by another The International Classification of Headache Disorders, 3rd edition diagnosis

Inadequate dialysis

Hypotension

Early manifestation of CKD

Fluid and electrolyte changes

Non-dialysis causes

Dialyzer reactions



NAUSEA

5-15%



VOMITING

Management of N&V, headache

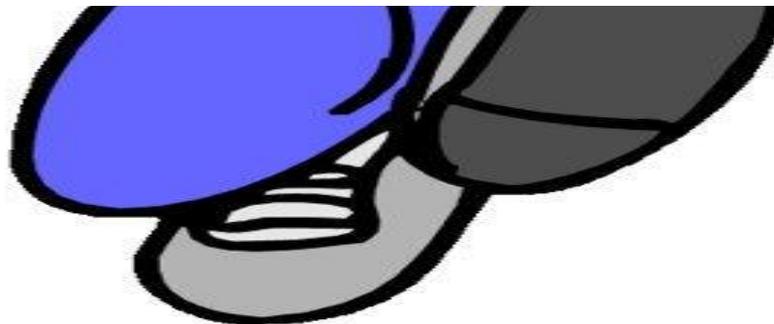
- Treat & prevent hypotension
- **Antiemetics & paracetamol** may help if not precipitated by hypotension
- Reduction of BFR (by 25-30%) during 1st hr of HD sometimes useful (but overall dialysis time must be lengthened to maintain dose of dialysis)
- Use bicarbonate rather than acetate dialysis



ITCHING

Diagnostic criteria

- 1 Pruritus appears shortly before the onset of dialysis, or at any time, without evidence of any other active disease that could explain the pruritus.
- 2 more than or equal to three episodes of itch during a period of <2 weeks, with the symptom appearing a few times a day, lasting at least few minutes, and troubling the patient.
- 3 Appearance of an itch in a regular pattern during a period of 6 months, but less frequently than listed above.



ITCHING

Pathogenesis

1) Abnormalities stemming from renal failure/dialysis

Pruritogenic substances

Uremic substances
Elevated serum Ca and P
Secondary hyperparathyroidism

Dialysis-related

Activation of complements by hemodialysis membrane
EOG sterilization
Drugs such as heparin

Allergic reactions

Mediators for Itching

Histamine, Substance P
Interleukin 1, 2
Tryptase, TNF- α

Itching

3) Abnormalities of itch control involving the CNS

Endogenous opioids

C fiber elongation in skin
Lowered Itch threshold
Skin hypersensitivity

Dry skin

Decreased water content in corneal layer
Diminished perspiration
Depressed sebaceous gland secretion

2) Abnormalities of the skin

ITCHING

Treatment

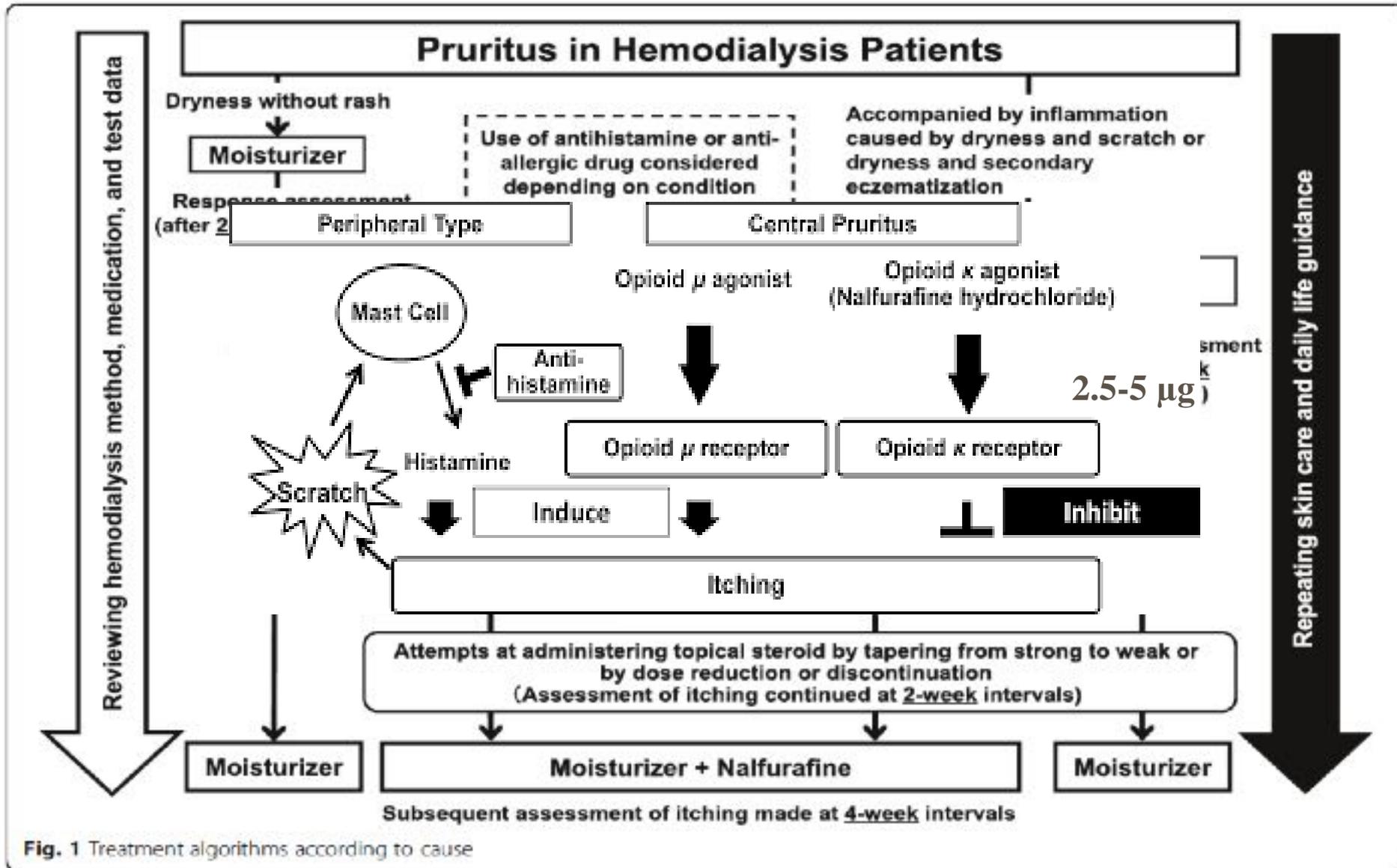


Fig. 1 Treatment algorithms according to cause

ITCHING

Treatment

Physical treatment

- **Phototherapy**
- **Acupuncture**
- **Sauna**

Dialyzer reactions



Dialyzer reactions

	Type A Anaphylactic	Type B Mild
Incidence	Rare (max 5/100000 dialyses)	Common (3-5/100 dialysis)
Onset	Usually 1 st min. Up to 30 min	30-60min
Symptoms	Moderate-severe Anaphylaxis Itching, urticaria, cough, abdominal cramps, dyspnoea, burning collapse, death	Mild Chest pain, back pain
Causes	Ethylene oxide (previously common, now rare; patients often have IgE anti-ethylene oxide antibodies) ACE inhibitors and AN69 membranes (activation of bradykini system by membrane amplified by ACEI) Bacterial contamination of dialysis in high flux dialysis Reused dialyzers (bacterial contamination, endotoxin, unknown causes) Heparin allergy (rare) Acetate dialysate	Unknown Complement activation?
Treatment	Stop dialysis immediately Clamp lines and discard Cardiopulmonary resuscitation if necessary Intravenous antihistamines, steroids and adrenaline (SC/IM) if severe	Exclude other causes of chest pain Supportive O2 Continue dialysis
Outcome	Can be fatal-seek cause	Symptoms usually resolve after 30-69 min

How Evil Are You?

HEMODIALYSIS



IDH

Cardiac arrhythmia

HAS

Cramps

Vomiting & nausea

Itching

Dialyzer reactions



Complications of hemodialysis

- EARLY RECOGNIZE
- TRY TO PREVENT
- APPROPRIATELY TREAT

How Evil Are You?



[TAKE THIS QUIZ](#)

Let's
Take a
Quiz

MCQ

1- Which of following statement is TRUE:

- A. Parenteral infusion of hypotonic saline is effective in treating dialysis cramps**
- B. Cerebral edema is not a consistent finding in dialysis disequilibrium syndrome**
- C. Optimal control of blood pressure in HD patients is via volume control, not the use of antihypertensive agents**
- D. None of the above**



MCQ

2- If inter dialysis wt gain is $>3\%$, the most prudent approach to ensuring patient safety is:

- A. Scheduling him for additional session**
- B. Increase the UFR**
- C. Decrease dialysate Na**
- D. None of the above**



MCQ

3- Which of the following is minimally dialyzable or nondialyzable medications:

- A. Angiotensin receptor blockers**
- B. Calcium channel blockers**
- C. Clonidine and carvedilol.**
- D. None of the above**





Thank
you!!