



Hemodialysis Patients with COVID-19 in Lebanon (Fourth 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 October 5, 2020, 38 out of 80 hemodialysis units experienced cases of COVID-19 among their dialysis patients.

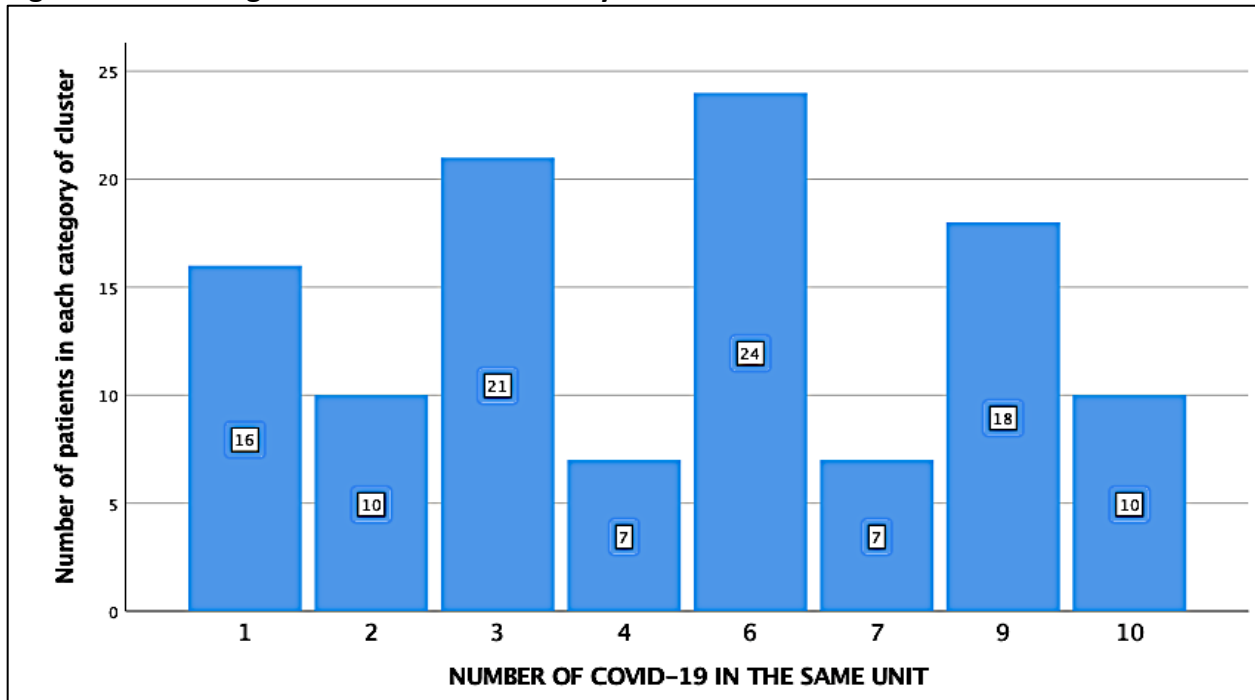
A total of 113 dialysis patients were diagnosed with SARS-CoV-2 infection across Lebanon and distributed as follows: 34 cases in Mount-Lebanon, 52 cases in the North, 18 cases in Beirut, 5 cases in Beqaa and 4 cases in the South.

Characteristics of these patients:

- Mean age: 62.94 ± 13.47 years
- 54.9% were males and 44.2% females
- 54.9% were diabetics

86% of these cases occurred in clusters of two to ten 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

Fifty-four patients or 48% of the total number of infected patients were admitted to a COVID unit. Rafic Hariri University Hospital, Dar el Amal Hospital, Dar El Shifa Hospital, Tripoli Governmental Hospital and Saydet Zgharta received the highest number of patients.

Outcome of patients

Eighteen out of the 113 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)
18 to 29	3	0%
30 to 39	2	0%
40 to 49	8	12.5%
50 to 59	25	0%
60 to 69	35	17.1%
70 to 79	33	18.2%
Above 80	7	71.4%
Total	113	15.9%