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## Pilot Experience in Senegal with Peritoneal Dialysis for End-Stage Renal Disease ➔

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### Abstract

**Introduction:** Peritoneal dialysis (PD) is occasionally used in western sub-Saharan Africa to treat patients with end-stage renal disease (ESRD). The present study is a retrospective review of the initial six years' experience with PD for ESRD therapy in Senegal, a West African country with a population of over 12 million.

**Material and Methods:** Single-center retrospective cohort study of patients treated with PD between March 2004 and December 2010. Basic demographic data were collected on all patients. Peritonitis rates, causes of death and reasons for transfer to hemodialysis (HD) were determined in all patients.

**Results:** Sixty-two patients were included in the study. The median age was  $47 \pm 13$  years with a male/female ratio of 1.21. Nephrosclerosis and diabetic nephropathy were the main causes of ESRD. The mean Charlson score was  $3 \pm 1$  with a range of 2 to 7. Forty five peritonitis episodes were diagnosed in 36 patients (58%) for a peritonitis rate of 1 episode/20 patient-months (0.60 episodes per year). *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* were the most commonly identified organisms. Touch contamination has been implicated in 26 cases (57.7%). In 23 episodes (51%), bacterial cultures were negative. Catheter removal was necessary in 12 cases (26.6%) due to mechanical dysfunction, fungal or refractory infection. Sixteen patients died during the study.

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**Conclusion:** Peritoneal dialysis is a suitable therapy which may be widely used for ESRD treatment in western sub-Saharan Africa. A good peritonitis rate can be achieved despite the difficult living conditions of patients. Challenges to the development of PD programs include training health care providers, developing an infrastructure to support the program, and developing a cost structure which permits expansion of the PD program.

[Peritoneal dialysis](#)

[chronic renal failure](#)

[Dakar](#)

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