



Leading European Nephrology

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European Renal Association – European Dialysis and Transplant Association

Risk prediction tools in nephrology

Precious instruments for risk stratification or just gadgets of electronic wizardry?

June 3, 2017

“Prediction is very difficult, especially if it’s about the future”. This famous quote attributed to quantum physicist and Nobel Prize winner Niels Bohr has lost nothing of its power since the last century. At least, this is the opinion of Professor Frido W. Dekker, Leiden, The Netherlands, which he will explain tomorrow in a pro-con-discussion at the 54th ERA-EDTA Congress in Madrid.

Professor Navdeep Tangri, Winnipeg, Canada, will most probably vigorously oppose. His working group developed the Kidney Failure Risk Equations (KFREs) to predict the need for dialysis and transplant in the next five years in patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD). “Since that time, we have extensively validated the KFREs and proven their accuracy in diverse patient populations. We believe the timing is now right to implement the KFREs in clinical practice, and will present case studies from different health settings showing their potential utility in improving clinical decision making and resource utilization”, explains Tangri. Tomorrow, Tangri will present a case study utilizing a threshold risk of 3 % over 5 years as a criterion for nephrology referral in primary care. In nephrology care thresholds of 20 % and 40 % over 2 years should serve as criteria for initiating dialysis modality education and access placement.

“Predictive models have unquestionable potential – and will lead us towards `precision nephrology´”, explains Professor Carmine Zoccali, Reggio Calabria, Italy. “The KFREs is one example, another is an proteomic instrument based on 273 peptides which is applied for the prediction of the risk for nephropathy in diabetic patients. It allows an earlier risk stratification than albuminuria.”

This brings us back to Niels Bohr: Wasn´t he one of the “Fathers” of modern quantum theory, a theory modern physics believe to have the most accurate predictive power? Prediction might be difficult, but not impossible!

Session 0.5

NDT Polar Views

Sunday, 17.00 – 18.30, Hall N101 – 102



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About ERA-EDTA

With almost 7,000 members, the ERA-EDTA ("European Renal Association – European Dialysis and Transplant Association") is one of the biggest nephrology associations worldwide and one of the most important and prestigious European Medical Associations. It supports basic and clinical research in the fields of clinical nephrology, dialysis, renal transplantation and related subjects. It also supports a number of studies as well as research groups and has founded a special "Fellowship Programme" for young investigators as well as grant programmes. In order to involve young nephrologists in all activities ERA-EDTA has the Young Nephrologists' Platform (YNP), a very active committee whose board includes members who are 40 years old or younger. Besides, it has established various working groups to promote the collaboration of nephrologists with other medical disciplines (e.g. cardiology, immunology). Furthermore, a "European Renal Best Practice" (ERBP) advisory board was established by the ERA-EDTA to draw up and publish guidelines and position statements. Another important goal of the ERA-EDTA is education: several series of CME-courses as well as the annual congress offer an attractive scientific programme to cover the need of continuous medical education for doctors working in the fields of nephrology, dialysis and transplantation. The association's journals, NDT (Nephrology, Dialysis, Transplantation) and ckj (Clinical Kidney Journal), are currently the leading nephrology journals in Europe; furthermore NDT-Educational is the online educational journal, open for free to all uses, of the Society as well as the very important and useful feature of NDT-Educational "Literature Review". The ERA-EDTA Registry is a large epidemiologic database comparing countries by assessing nephrology practice throughout Europe. ENP, the European Nephrology Portal, is the latest new initiative of ERA-EDTA: here all those interested in the activities of the Society can find everything that is done, all in one place! Finally, ERA-EDTA is member of the European Kidney Health Alliance (EKHA), a consortium of patients, nurses, foundations all related to renal issues that actively interacts with the European Parliament. For more information please visit www.era-edta.org