



BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242

Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: editorialoffice@wjgnet.com

http://www.wjgnet.com

ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Nephrology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 10667

Title: Gait speed and hospitalization among ambulatory hemodialysis patients: USRDS special study data

Reviewer code: 00503339

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Clearly stated study indicating that slow measured walking speed in dialysis patients can be used as a predictor of subsequent fracture and hospitalization for all causes. While this report contains information worth knowing, its significance would be greatly enhanced by the authors adding a brief comment as to the probable explanation for: 1. Why might being a member of the Black Race predispose to a greater risk of falls and/or hospitalizations than being of the White Race? Especially when thinking of how Black players form the majority of Professional Football and Basketball team players, it is difficult to understand why this subset, once on dialysis, copes with such an inferior future. 2. Given that approximately one-half of all study patients had Diabetes, a speculation as to how Diabetes might increase the risk of falls, fractures and hospitalizations in both slow and fast walkers is essential. Was it their hypoalbuminuria (as suggested in at least one study) or their peripheral + central neuropathy? Understandably, although the answer is not yet supportable by evidence, the postulated mechanism should be in mind while assessing future dialysis patients at risk.