

**SUPPLEMENTAL APPENDIX****Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease (ADPKD): Report from a Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) Controversies Conference**

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**ABSTRACT**

Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease (ADPKD) affects up to 12 million individuals and is the 4th most common cause for renal replacement therapy worldwide. There have been many recent advances in the understanding of its molecular genetics and biology, and in the diagnosis and management of its manifestations. Yet, diagnosis, evaluation, prevention and treatment vary widely and there are no broadly accepted practice guidelines. Barriers to translation of basic science breakthroughs to clinical care exist, with considerable heterogeneity across countries. The KDIGO Controversies Conference on ADPKD brought together a panel of multi-disciplinary clinical expertise and engaged patients to identify areas of consensus, gaps in knowledge, and research and health care priorities related to diagnosis, monitoring of kidney disease progression, management of hypertension, renal function decline and complications, end-stage renal disease, extrarenal complications, and practical integrated patient support. These are summarized in this report.

## INTRODUCTION

ADPKD, an inherited kidney disease that affects 12.5 million people worldwide in all ethnic groups, is responsible for up to 10% of patients in end-stage renal disease (ESRD), and is a major burden for public health.<sup>1</sup> It is characterized by relentless development and growth of cysts causing progressive kidney enlargement associated with hypertension, abdominal fullness and pain, episodes of cyst hemorrhage, gross hematuria, nephrolithiasis, cyst infections, and reduced quality of life (QOL).<sup>2,3</sup> Despite continuous destruction of renal parenchyma, compensatory hyperfiltration of the surviving glomeruli maintains renal function within the normal range for decades.<sup>4,5</sup> Only when the majority of nephrons have been destroyed, renal function declines, typically after the fourth decade of life, and ESRD eventually ensues. ADPKD is a systemic disorder affecting other organs with potentially serious complications such as massive hepatomegaly and intracranial aneurysm (ICA) rupture.<sup>1</sup>

Mutations in two genes (i.e., *PKD1* and *PKD2*) account for the overwhelming majority of ADPKD cases.<sup>6,7</sup> There is no convincing evidence for the existence of a third PKD gene.<sup>8,9</sup> Disease severity is highly variable, in part due to a strong genic effect.<sup>10,11</sup> Compared to *PKD1*, subjects affected with *PKD2* mutations have milder renal disease with fewer renal cysts, delayed onset of hypertension and ESRD by almost two decades and longer patient survival.<sup>10,12</sup> More recent studies have delineated a significant allelic effect in *PKD1* with milder disease associated with non-truncating compared to truncating mutations.<sup>13-16</sup> A previous gene linkage analysis of European families suggested that ~85% and ~15% of the cases were due to *PKD1* and *PKD2* mutations, respectively.<sup>17</sup> However, population-based studies from Canada and United States have documented a higher *PKD2* prevalence of 26% and 36%, respectively.<sup>18,19</sup>

Since polycystic kidney disease (PKD) has been known for over 300 years, it has been considered a rare and incurable disease.<sup>20</sup> With the medical advances of the last century, ADPKD is now diagnosed more frequently and there are several strategies through which QOL and life-span have improved. These include early detection and

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3 treatment of hypertension, lifestyle modifications, treatment of renal and extrarenal  
4 complications, management of chronic kidney disease (CKD)-related complications and  
5 renal replacement therapy (RRT). However, approaches to the diagnosis, evaluation,  
6 prevention and treatment of ADPKD vary substantially and at present there are no  
7 widely accepted practice guidelines. Basic and translational research on PKD has  
8 increased exponentially in the last three decades, particularly after the discovery of the  
9 *PKD1* and *PKD2* genes in 1994 and 1996,<sup>21</sup> respectively. Molecular genetic diagnosis in  
10 government approved labs is now available. Many therapeutic targets have been  
11 identified and tested in animal models and several clinical trials demonstrate  
12 encouraging results. The relatively low frequency of *de novo* mutations, dominant  
13 pattern of inheritance, accurate measurement of cyst burden through renal imaging, and  
14 slow disease progression make ADPKD an ideal candidate for nephroprotection.  
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26 The objective of this KDIGO conference was to assess the current state of knowledge  
27 related to the evaluation, management and treatment of ADPKD, to pave the way to  
28 harmonize and standardize the care of ADPKD patients, to identify knowledge gaps,  
29 and to propose a research agenda to resolve controversial issues. The following  
30 sections summarize the areas of consensus and controversy discussed by a global  
31 interdisciplinary expert panel on diagnosis; monitoring of kidney disease progression;  
32 management of hypertension, renal function decline and renal complications;  
33 management of ESRD including transplantation and dialysis; management of extrarenal  
34 complications; and practical integrated patient support. Additional information about the  
35 conference can also be found online at: <http://kdigo.org/home/conferences/adpkd/>.  
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## 48 1. DIAGNOSIS OF ADPKD

### 49 **Pre-symptomatic screening of patients at risk for ADPKD.**

50 ADPKD is a Mendelian autosomal dominant disorder where at-risk individuals have a  
51 50% chance of inheriting the disease. Pre-symptomatic diagnosis of adults at risk for  
52 ADPKD is most commonly performed by ultrasonography (US) which is inexpensive  
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3 and widely available.<sup>7</sup> Pre-symptomatic screening of at-risk children is not currently  
4 recommended based on the potential for adverse psychological consequences, denial  
5 of future insurance coverage, and the lack of evidence that such screening would  
6 improve outcomes. The possible implications of a positive diagnosis should be  
7 discussed beforehand and results clearly explained to the patient and to their parents in  
8 the case of minors.  
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16 Simple cysts occur more frequently with increasing age in the general population,  
17 therefore age-dependent US diagnostic criteria have been established for *PKD1*,<sup>22</sup> and  
18 subsequently refined and extended to evaluate at-risk adults of unknown gene type.  
19 “Unified Criteria” (Table 1) have been established for both diagnosis and exclusion of  
20 ADPKD.<sup>23</sup> Specifically, the presence of “a total of three or more renal cysts” for at-risk  
21 subjects aged 15-39 years and “two cysts or more in each kidney” for at-risk subjects  
22 aged 40-59 years are sufficient for a diagnosis of ADPKD. Conversely, the “absence of  
23 any renal cyst” is sufficient for disease exclusion only in at-risk subjects aged 40 years  
24 or older. These criteria were derived from a large cohort of at-risk subjects from *PKD1*  
25 and *PKD2* families by comparing their molecular genetic results and US findings using  
26 scanners with the capability of detecting cysts 1 cm or more in diameter.<sup>23</sup> High-  
27 resolution US using modern scanners which have imaging resolution enabling routine  
28 detection of renal cysts down to 2-3 mm will most likely result in a revision of the cyst  
29 number required for a diagnosis of ADPKD.  
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42 Subjects at risk for ADPKD are often evaluated as potential living kidney donors.  
43 Ultrasonography is a reasonable first test for excluding affected subjects. However, the  
44 “absence of any renal cyst” by conventional US is not sufficient for disease exclusion in  
45 at-risk subjects younger than 40 years of age without genetic information. As part of  
46 living donor evaluations, transplant centers include magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)  
47 or contrast-enhanced computerized tomography (CT). In this setting, the finding of a  
48 total of less than of 5 renal cysts by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is sufficient for  
49 disease exclusion.<sup>24</sup>  
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### Testing of symptomatic subjects at risk for ADPKD

Imaging with US, CT or MRI, depending on the clinical setting, is indicated in at-risk subjects who present with medical complications (e.g., abdominal/flank pain, hypertension, hematuria, proteinuria, or increased serum creatinine). The implications of a positive diagnosis should be discussed beforehand and results clearly explained to the patients and their parents in the case of minors. When US-based testing is performed, the Unified Criteria can be used for diagnosis and exclusion of ADPKD.<sup>23</sup> Whether these criteria can be extrapolated to CT (contrast-enhanced) or MRI for evaluation of at-risk subjects using the number of cysts measuring 1 cm or more in size is unknown.

A positive family history is absent in 10-15% of patients with ADPKD. A family history may be absent due to *de novo* mutations, mosaicism, mild disease from *PKD2* and non-truncating *PKD1* mutations, or unavailability of parental medical records.<sup>25</sup> Reviewing the medical records and US screening of parents and older relatives may be useful. In the absence of other findings to suggest a different cystic disease, a patient with bilaterally enlarged kidneys and innumerable cysts most likely has ADPKD. Otherwise, the differential diagnosis needs to be broadened to include other cystic kidney diseases (see Table 2). However, kidney size can be close to normal with low cyst number in ADPKD and therefore mutation-based diagnostic workup may be required. There is no consensus on a diagnostic algorithm that integrates clinical findings with renal imaging and molecular genetic testing.

Newborns or children with renal cysts comprise a heterogeneous diagnostic group of common and rare cystic disorders.<sup>7</sup> US is commonly used in this setting due to its non-invasiveness and may provide specific diagnostic clues (e.g., dysplastic kidneys, glomerulocystic disease, and tuberous sclerosis complex). Thorough clinical assessment for extrarenal manifestations (for syndromic forms of PKD or ARPKD) and careful review for family history of renal cystic disease are the most important first steps. US screening of the parents and/or grandparents should be considered in the setting of

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3 a negative family history. Consultation with a specialist with expertise in hereditary renal  
4 disease is strongly encouraged as genetic testing is often required.  
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### 9 **Molecular diagnosis of ADPKD**

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11 Historically, linkage analysis of polymorphic markers flanking the two disease genes has  
12 been used for a molecular diagnosis of ADPKD, but requires multiple (preferably 4 or  
13 more) affected family members to be informative.<sup>7</sup> Moreover, the test results are indirect  
14 and can be confounded by *de novo* mutations, mosaicism, and bilineal disease.<sup>8,9</sup>  
15 Presently, mutation-based screening by Sanger sequencing of all exons and splice  
16 junctions of the *PKD1* and *PKD2* genes is the method of choice for molecular diagnosis  
17 of ADPKD.<sup>19</sup> Linkage analysis is rarely performed except for screening embryos in pre-  
18 implantation genetic diagnostics (PGD) where genotyping several markers associated  
19 with the familial mutation can provide assurance against problems associated with  
20 screening a very small amount of DNA, such as allele dropout. *PKD1* is a large complex  
21 gene with its first 33 exons duplicated in six pseudogenes (*PKD1P1-PKD1P6*) with high  
22 sequence identity, making mutation screening highly challenging.<sup>6</sup> By contrast, *PKD2* is  
23 a single copy gene which is highly amenable to conventional mutation screening.  
24 Comprehensive screening for *PKD1* mutations is now possible using protocols that  
25 exploit rare mismatches between the duplicated region and the *PKD1P1-P6* loci for  
26 *PKD1*-specific PCR (polymerase chain reaction).<sup>19</sup> This approach, however, is labor-  
27 intensive and costly.<sup>6</sup> In sequencing-negative cases, multiplex ligation-dependent probe  
28 amplification (MLPA) can be used as a follow-up test to detect large gene re-  
29 arrangements in less than 5% of cases.<sup>26</sup>  
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47 To date, more than 1270 and 200 pathogenic mutations have been reported for *PKD1*  
48 and *PKD2*, respectively (<http://pkdb.mayo.edu>). These results indicate extensive allelic  
49 heterogeneity, especially for *PKD1*, with no apparent mutation “hot-spots” or common  
50 recurrent mutations. Up to 15% of patients with suspected ADPKD are mutation-  
51 negative despite a comprehensive screen. Some of these patients with very mild or  
52 asymmetric PKD of *de novo* onset may have somatic mosaicism resulting from a  
53 disease-causing mutation affecting an oligopotent progenitor cell during early  
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3 embryogenesis.<sup>27</sup> The hallmark of mosaicism is the presence of more than one  
4 genetically distinct cell line in an individual.<sup>27</sup> The difference between somatic and  
5 germline mosaicism is based on the findings of genetically distinct populations of cells in  
6 the somatic and germline tissues, respectively.<sup>28</sup> Mosaicism is a well-recognized cause  
7 of variable disease expressivity in more than 30 Mendelian disorders but one that is  
8 very difficult to diagnose by Sanger sequencing. However, Sanger sequencing of an  
9 affected offspring of the mosaic individual may uncover the pathogenic mutation. Recent  
10 advances in resequencing (i.e., Next-Generation Sequencing [NGS]) technologies have  
11 enabled high-throughput mutation screening of both *PKD1* and *PKD2* with a recent  
12 “proof-of-principle” study showing promising results.<sup>29</sup> The adaptation of this new  
13 technology to molecular diagnostics in ADPKD is expected to facilitate mutation  
14 screening while reducing the costs at the same time.<sup>30</sup>

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Marked discordant renal disease severity among affected family members has been  
well documented suggesting a role for both genetic and environmental modifiers.<sup>31-34</sup> In  
several of these families, two (homozygous or compound heterozygous) non-truncating  
mutations on different copies of *PKD1* have been found in affected subjects with  
atypical or severe renal disease while other family members with one non-truncating  
mutation have mild disease.<sup>13</sup> In other families, a truncating and a non-truncating  
mutation on different copies of *PKD1* or a non-truncating *PKD1* mutation in combination  
with a mutation in another cystogene (e.g., *HNF-1β* or *PKHD1*) has been found in  
patients diagnosed *in utero* or with severe renal disease.<sup>15,35</sup> Comprehensive mutation  
screening of *PKD1* and *PKD2* as well as other cystogenes has the potential to account  
for some of the within-family variability of disease severity, refine genotype-phenotype  
correlations and provide useful clinical prognostic information.<sup>10-16,35</sup>

### Current approach and indications of genetic testing

Most patients with ADPKD do not need molecular genetic testing. When indicated,  
gene-based mutation screening of *PKD1* and *PKD2* by Sanger sequencing followed by  
MLPA to detect gene rearrangement in sequencing-negative cases is the method of  
choice but is laborious and expensive.<sup>7</sup> Genetic testing may be considered in a number



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3 of settings: Equivocal or atypical renal imaging findings (e.g., early and severe PKD,  
4 markedly asymmetric PKD, renal failure without significant kidney enlargement, marked  
5 discordant disease within family, very mild PKD); sporadic PKD with no family history;  
6 PKD with syndromic features; and reproductive counseling.  
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12 Molecular genetic testing plays a greater role in childhood where PKD can be due to  
13 autosomal recessive polycystic kidney disease (ARPKD), ADPKD or a number of rare  
14 genetic diseases. Genetic testing of childhood PKD may be considered in cases of early  
15 and severe PKD and in PKD with syndromic features. Genetic testing in this setting  
16 requires consideration of diseases beyond ADPKD and should be performed by  
17 physicians/geneticists in centers with appropriate experience and expertise.  
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### 24 **Future role of molecular diagnostics in ADPKD**

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26 The role of molecular diagnostics in clinical medicine is rapidly evolving. Recent  
27 advances in NGS which provides high-throughput and comprehensive diagnostic  
28 screening at low cost compared to Sanger sequencing can be readily applied to  
29 ADPKD.<sup>29,30</sup> Recent studies that employed comprehensive mutation screening of *PKD1*,  
30 *PKD2* and other cystogenes (e.g., *PKHD1*, *HNF1β*) have identified allelic and genic  
31 interactions that can modulate renal disease severity in ADPKD.<sup>12-16</sup> Targeted or whole  
32 exome sequencing will likely play an important role in the molecular diagnostics of  
33 childhood PKD in the future. Standardized and informative reporting as well as  
34 physician education is needed.  
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### 44 **Pre-Implantation genetic diagnosis**

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46 PGD has been successfully applied in more than 300 genetic disorders for selecting  
47 healthy embryos created by in-vitro fertilization for implantation. Currently, PGD is most  
48 commonly used in severe genetic diseases with early manifestations such as cystic  
49 fibrosis, ARPKD, among many others.<sup>36-38</sup> PGD should be included in the discussion of  
50 reproductive choices with patients with ADPKD, but it is only available in certain  
51 countries and the acceptance of this technique is influenced by personal values as well  
52 as the severity of the disease.<sup>39-41</sup>  
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5 Identification of embryos harboring a pathogenic mutation requires a biopsy. The most  
6 common approach is the biopsy of cleavage-stage embryos in which one blastomere is  
7 removed from the embryo on day 3 of development. PCR amplification of DNA from a  
8 single cell is subject to two major pitfalls: (i) amplification failure and (ii) amplification of  
9 only one of the two alleles present in the cell, so called 'allele drop-out' which can lead  
10 to misdiagnosis.<sup>37,38</sup> A haplotype-based screening using flanking and intragenic  
11 microsatellite markers and multiplex PCR can be used to provide assurance against this  
12 complication and has been successfully applied to ADPKD.<sup>42</sup> An alternative biopsy  
13 method (blastocyst biopsy) targets the trophectoderm on day 5 of development.<sup>43,44</sup> This  
14 approach removes multiple cells for analysis without sacrificing any part of the embryo  
15 proper. The larger DNA yield compared to the single blastomere method facilitates the  
16 molecular diagnosis. It is usually combined with cryopreservation and thawed embryo  
17 transfer to allow more time for the genetic testing.  
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## 32 **2. MONITORING KIDNEY DISEASE PROGRESSION IN ADPKD**

### 33 **Clinical trials**

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37 Treatments proven to extend kidney survival in ADPKD do not currently exist. Ideally,  
38 treatment should start early, when the kidney parenchyma is relatively preserved.<sup>45</sup> At  
39 later stages, other pathologic mechanisms independent of ADPKD likely become  
40 dominant. Nevertheless, treatments in later stage disease are also important to  
41 preserve kidney function and their efficacy and safety should also be determined.  
42 Randomized clinical trials (RCTs) should ideally include patients with a high likelihood of  
43 disease progression. At early stages of ADPKD and for several decades, glomerular  
44 filtration rate (GFR) is normal and therefore not informative. However, kidney volume in  
45 relation to age<sup>2,3,46,47</sup> can identify patients with progressive disease.  
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55 Adopting GFR as an outcome in trials that include patients at early stages would require  
56 long periods of follow-up and are unrealistic. Conversely, change in total kidney volume  
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3 (TKV) or change in volume of specific kidney compartments may be a valid primary or  
4 secondary outcome. TKV is an accurate estimate of kidney cyst burden and associates  
5 with many renal manifestations of ADPKD including pain, hypertension, gross  
6 hematuria, and proteinuria or albuminuria. While there is broad consensus for the value  
7 of TKV as a prognostic biomarker, most regulatory agencies do not currently accept  
8 TKV as a primary endpoint in clinical trials for ADPKD.  
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### 14 15 16 **Total kidney volume**

17 TKV increases exponentially in virtually every ADPKD patient. The rate of increase is  
18 highly variable and unique for each individual. Average rates of increase of TKV in  
19 adults are 5-6%/year.<sup>2,48,49</sup> Elevated TKV, particularly when used together with age and  
20 kidney function, identifies individuals who are at highest risk for progression to  
21 advanced stage CKD and ESRD and conversely, those who will most likely never lose  
22 kidney function or progress to ESRD.<sup>46,47</sup>  
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30 TKV can be measured using a variety of imaging modalities (US, MRI and CT). Precise  
31 measurements of TKV necessary in clinical trials to assess the impact of therapeutic  
32 interventions over short periods of time<sup>50</sup> can be obtained by planimetry or stereology  
33 analysis of MR or CT images.<sup>51,52</sup> MRI and CT are equivalent with regard to precision  
34 and reproducibility,<sup>47</sup> but CT imaging is associated with radiation exposure. MRI  
35 measurements can be done using either T1 or T2 weighted images; however, T2  
36 weighted images provide information regarding total cyst volume and do not require  
37 gadolinium, eliminating the risk for nephrogenic systemic fibrosis.  
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45 Although less expensive, US measurements of TKV are operator-dependent, less  
46 reproducible and less precise, and can overestimate TKV compared to MRI and CT.<sup>53,54</sup>  
47 US measurement of TKV typically is calculated utilizing the ellipsoid equation  
48 ( $\pi/6 \times L \times W \times D$ ), by measuring maximum orthogonal length, width and depth of the  
49 kidney.<sup>55</sup> Although less precise, US has been used successfully to measure disease  
50 progression in studies with long periods of follow-up.<sup>56</sup> The ellipsoid equation can also  
51 be applied to kidney dimensions obtained from MRI or CT images for rapid calculations  
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3 of TKV that can be used to select study populations in clinical trials or to help clinically  
4 in the determination of prognosis.<sup>47</sup>  
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9 In clinical practice, imaging of the kidneys should be obtained as an initial evaluation of  
10 a patient with ADPKD. Radiology reports should be standardized for all imaging  
11 modalities and include a maximum kidney length, width and depth, and an estimate of  
12 TKV. Given that there is no currently approved medical therapy to slow disease  
13 progression, repeat measurements of TKV in asymptomatic patients are not currently  
14 indicated. When approved disease-modifying therapies become available or if lifestyle  
15 modifications are shown to alter disease progression, repeat imaging may become an  
16 informative tool.  
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### 24 **Other imaging parameters**

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26 Standardized reporting of imaging findings should also include the exact number of  
27 cysts when there are less than 10 in each kidney and the liver; minimal and maximal  
28 size of cysts in both organs; presence of complex cyst(s) and exophytic cyst(s); and the  
29 dominant pattern (i.e., cortical, medullary, or diffuse) for each kidney. However, the  
30 prognostic value of these data has not been adequately studied.  
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37 Other studies have underlined the importance of the non-cystic tissue as an indicator of  
38 disease severity. One group has taken advantage of advanced image processing  
39 techniques to subdivide non-cystic tissue on contrast-enhanced CT into two separate  
40 components, fully enhanced parenchyma and hypoenhanced (“intermediate”)  
41 compartment. The latter is thought to represent fibrotic tissue.<sup>57,58</sup> The ratio of  
42 intermediate volume relative to parenchymal volume significantly correlates with  
43 baseline and longitudinal changes in GFR. Several MRI technologies such as diffusion  
44 weighted and diffusion tensor MRI and MR elastography have been used to assess the  
45 state of the parenchyma in various renal conditions<sup>59,60</sup> but have not yet been evaluated  
46 in ADPKD.  
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56 Although the potential of MRI as a non-invasive method for measuring blood flow *in vivo*  
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3 is well-established, measurement of renal blood flow (RBF) by MRI is challenging.  
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5 Several technological innovations have made it possible to measure RBF accurately  
6 and reproducibly.<sup>61</sup> At present, the methodology to measure RBF is not widely available.  
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8 In the Consortium for Radiologic Imaging Studies of Polycystic Kidney Disease (CRISP)  
9 study, reduction in RBF measured by MRI paralleled the increase in TKV, preceded the  
10 decline in GFR and predicted disease progression.<sup>62,63</sup>  
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### 15 **Glomerular filtration rate**

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17 Estimation of GFR using equations including CKD-EPI and the MDRD equation (eGFR)  
18 is acceptable for clinical care of ADPKD patients. In specific circumstances,  
19 measurement of GFR (mGFR) using the clearance of inulin, iothalamate,  
20 diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid (DTPA) or iohexol is warranted. A case in point is  
21 the timing of a potential living kidney donation procedure in an ADPKD patient with an  
22 abnormal muscle mass for age and gender in whom eGFR may be unreliable. In this  
23 instance, it may be necessary to assess mGFR using one of the aforementioned “gold-  
24 standard” techniques.  
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34 Whether estimation of GFR by equations is adequate for use in clinical trials of ADPKD  
35 has been debated. One report questioned the reliability of eGFR using the MDRD and  
36 CKD-EPI equations to reflect actual GFR values and suggested that use of eGFR may  
37 fail to detect changes in kidney function over time.<sup>64</sup> This concern is based on the  
38 theoretical rationale that ADPKD is a tubular disease and that tubular secretion of  
39 creatinine may be different in this disease when compared to non-ADPKD individuals.  
40 Another study reported that tubular creatinine secretion was indeed increased in  
41 ADPKD patients when compared to healthy controls at similar mGFR level (measured  
42 by a “gold standard” method, in this case iothalamate).<sup>65</sup> However, this effect was  
43 limited to those with a high-normal mGFR. Consequently, in this study the CKD-EPI and  
44 MDRD Study equations performed relatively well in estimating GFR and change in  
45 eGFR. These conclusions are corroborated by a third study, which added that using  
46 cystatin C in combination with creatinine to determine eGFR might even be better.<sup>66</sup> In  
47 addition, the relationship between mGFR and eGFR in the MDRD Study where patients  
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3 had established renal insufficiency was not different in ADPKD as compared to other  
4 kidney disease populations. Therefore, eGFR is in general acceptable for clinical trials.  
5 When feasible, however, mGFR is preferable. Methods for mGFR are more  
6 cumbersome, associated with considerable costs, and impractical in clinical trials with a  
7 large number of participating centers. Whether a limited number of mGFRs outperforms  
8 a larger number of eGFRs to assess change in kidney function over time in clinical trials  
9 is an unanswered question. Importantly, when developing novel medical treatments, it  
10 should be investigated whether such treatments interfere with tubular creatinine  
11 secretion. When this is the case, baseline pretreatment eGFR should be compared with  
12 off-treatment eGFR after study completion, or mGFR should be used.  
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### 23 **Proteinuria**

24 Proteinuria (greater than 300 mg/day), occurs in approximately 25% of adults diagnosed  
25 with ADPKD,<sup>67</sup> but typically does not exceed 1 gm/day. Its origin and glomerular versus  
26 tubular pattern have not been thoroughly ascertained.<sup>68</sup> Presence and level of  
27 proteinuria are associated with larger TKV, faster decline of renal function and earlier  
28 onset of ESRD, and therefore have prognostic value. Maximum reduction in proteinuria  
29 in ADPKD is the treatment goal. Strategies to reach these goals include appropriate  
30 blood pressure control and use of inhibitors of the renin-angiotensin system including  
31 ACE inhibitors and angiotensin receptor blockers as in other chronic kidney diseases.<sup>69</sup>  
32 In patients with nephrotic range proteinuria, the presence of a second kidney disorder  
33 and a renal biopsy should be considered if access to renal parenchyma is feasible.  
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### 44 **Patient reported outcomes and QOL**

45 Instruments such as patient-reported outcome measures (PROM) are useful as end-  
46 points for clinical trials.<sup>50</sup> They can also be used to improve patient care but there are  
47 gaps in knowledge about their usefulness.<sup>70</sup> There is no current validated PROM for  
48 ADPKD. The physical and psychological burdens to ADPKD patients are significant, yet  
49 they are incompletely characterized and difficult to quantify. Patients with ADPKD have  
50 not been found to score differently from the general population in standardized  
51 questionnaires (SF36) evaluating QOL.<sup>70</sup> Since the SF36 questionnaire was developed  
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3 to evaluate individuals with more immediate life threatening disorders, it may not be  
4 sufficiently sensitive to characterize the domains of suffering in a chronic slowly  
5 progressive disease such as ADPKD. A large cohort (n = 1,043) of hypertensive ADPKD  
6 individuals enrolled in the Polycystic Kidney Disease Treatment Network HALT clinical  
7 trials who completed SF36 questionnaire and the Wisconsin pain survey prior to  
8 randomization revealed no reduction in mental or physical SF 36 scores compared to  
9 the general population.<sup>71</sup> In patients with early disease (eGFR >60mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>),  
10 there was no association between pain and height adjusted TKV (htTKV), except in  
11 patients with large kidneys (htTKV>1,000mL/m). Comparing across eGFR levels  
12 patients with eGFRs of 20-44mL/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup> were significantly more likely to report that  
13 pain impacted on their daily lives and had lower SF-36 scores than patients with eGFRs  
14 of 45-60 and ≥60mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>.  
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### 30 **3. MANAGEMENT of HYPERTENSION, RENAL FUNCTION DECLINE and RENAL** 31 **COMPLICATIONS** 32 33 34

#### 35 **Treatment of hypertension in the adult ADPKD population** 36

37 Patients with ADPKD are at increased risk for hypertension, cardiovascular events and  
38 cardiovascular mortality when compared to the general population.<sup>72,73</sup> The increase in  
39 blood pressure (BP) in this patient group has been attributed to several causes,  
40 including increased activity of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (RAAS), and  
41 increase in sympathetic tone and primary vascular dysfunction.<sup>74-78</sup>  
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48 At present, there is no consensus on whether disease-specific BP targets apply to  
49 ADPKD. At least, the general advice of the 2012 KDIGO Clinical Practice Guideline for  
50 the Management of BP in CKD should be followed, suggesting a BP target ≤140/90  
51 mmHg.<sup>79,80</sup> In accordance with this guideline, blood pressure targets should be  
52 individualized taking comorbidities into account. In conditions such as left ventricular  
53 dysfunction, ICA, diabetes or proteinuria, lower BP targets are advised (≤130/80  
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3 mmHg).<sup>79,80</sup> A RCT in 79 adult hypertensive patients with left ventricular hypertrophy  
4 indicated that strict BP control ( $\leq 120/80$  mmHg) versus regular BP control ( $\leq 140/90$   
5 mmHg) was more effective in reducing left ventricular mass.<sup>81</sup> The recently published  
6 results of the HALT PKD clinical trials suggest that blood pressure targets below those  
7 recommended by current guidelines may be advantageous in young hypertensive  
8 ADPKD patients with CKD stages 1 or 2 and without diabetes mellitus or significant  
9 cardiovascular comorbidities (see below).  
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17 Home BP monitoring is relatively easy to accomplish, cost-effective and expected to  
18 result in better treatment adherence and BP control than BP measurement during clinic  
19 visits only.<sup>82</sup> 24h ambulatory BP measurement (ABPM) can identify subjects who do not  
20 show a normal BP decrease during night time (non-dippers) and thus may benefit from  
21 more intensive antihypertensive drug treatment, or drug dosing during evening hours;  
22 this issue warrants further study<sup>83</sup>.  
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30 BP control can be achieved by lifestyle modification and medical treatment. Although  
31 not formally studied in ADPKD patients, it is expected that achieving or maintaining a  
32 “healthy” weight (i.e., body mass index (BMI) 20-25 kg/m<sup>2</sup>), undertaking an exercise  
33 program (aiming for at least 30 minutes 5 times per week), and lowering salt intake ( $\leq 90$   
34 mmol/day of sodium, corresponding to  $\leq 5$  g/day of sodium chloride and  $\leq 2$  g/day of  
35 sodium) will lower BP and consequently improve long-term cardiovascular outcome.  
36 The case for a salt-restricted diet is strengthened by observations that ADPKD patients  
37 have been shown to be sodium overloaded, have sodium-sensitive hypertension,<sup>75,84</sup>  
38 and the association between higher sodium intake and increased TKV in the CRISP  
39 study.<sup>85</sup>  
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49 It is generally accepted that agents that interfere with the RAAS should be first-line BP-  
50 lowering agents based on evidence of a hyperactive RAAS in ADPKD patients, the  
51 observation that these agents lower albuminuria and left ventricular mass more than  
52 other BP-lowering agents, and limited clinical evidence suggesting more renoprotection.  
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57 <sup>81,86-88</sup> Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor (ACEi) and angiotensin-receptor blocker  
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3 (ARB) are regarded equivalent, although formal evidence is limited, and either can be  
4 used at the discretion of the treating physician. A small study (n=20) suggests that the  
5 ARB telmisartan is equivalent to enalapril in lowering BP, but has more potent  
6 antiproteinuric, anti-inflammatory and antioxidative effects in ADPKD hypertensive  
7 patients with microalbuminuria.<sup>89</sup> RAAS blockade should be combined with a sodium-  
8 restricted diet to enhance the BP lowering, cardioprotective and potential renoprotective  
9 effects.<sup>87</sup> In the HALT PKD clinical trial, the administration of an ACE inhibitor alone was  
10 sufficient to achieve blood pressure control in the majority of patients, supporting the  
11 utilization of this class of antihypertensive agents as first-line blood pressure lowering  
12 agent. The utilization of an ACEi and ARB combination did not confer any additional  
13 benefit compared to an ACEi alone.<sup>49</sup> The place of mineralocorticoid receptor  
14 antagonists in ADPKD has not been ascertained and is worthy of study because they  
15 may exert anti-fibrotic effects<sup>88</sup> and interstitial fibrosis is an essential part of later stage  
16 ADPKD.<sup>45</sup>  
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30 There is controversy as to which second-line BP-lowering agents should be used. Large  
31 RCTs in non-ADPKD populations suggested that calcium channel blockers and diuretics  
32 may be preferred over beta-blockers for cardiovascular protection.<sup>87</sup> On the other hand,  
33 there are theoretical concerns that argue against using these agents in ADPKD.  
34 Calcium channel blockers may lower intracellular calcium concentration in collecting  
35 duct cells. This may result in an increase in tubular cell proliferation and fluid secretion,  
36 in turn leading to accelerated cyst growth and kidney function decline.<sup>89</sup> Diuretics  
37 increase plasma arginine vasopressin concentration (AVP), and there is experimental  
38 and clinical evidence suggesting that higher levels of AVP are also associated with more  
39 rapid kidney and cyst enlargement.<sup>90,91</sup> Furthermore, these agents may also increase  
40 uric acid and increase the activity of the RAAS in ADPKD, which in turn, could lead to  
41 accelerated disease progression. Comorbid conditions may influence the choice for a  
42 specific class. For instance, in patients with angina, beta-blockers may be preferred,  
43 and in subjects with prostate hypertrophy, alpha-blockers would be appropriate.  
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## Diagnosis and management of hypertension in pediatric patients

Vascular abnormalities in ADPKD are evident from a young age. Epidemiological studies indicate an increased risk for hypertension as well as increased left ventricular mass index (LVMI), even in children with BPs in the prehypertensive or “borderline” range.<sup>92,93</sup> It is therefore recommended to screen children with a family history of ADPKD for hypertension, despite ethical implications of positive findings.

The approach to hypertension screening is dependent on country-specific circumstances. For instance, in some countries, all children undergo regular medical check-ups (including BP measurement) at school. In other countries, children routinely visit a pediatrician and BP may be checked as part of routine well childcare. In countries where children are not regularly seen by a physician and/or BP measurements are not standard practice, it is advised that children with a family history of ADPKD have their BP checked by a practitioner with experience in BP measurement in children. There is no consensus at what age such screening should be started, nor what the frequency should be. Screening from the age of 5 years onward, with an interval of 3 years in cases in which no hypertension is found, seems prudent. The diagnosis of hypertension is made when systolic or diastolic BP is  $\geq 95$ th percentile for age, height and sex, in accordance with prevailing pediatric guidelines.<sup>94</sup>

When hypertension is diagnosed in children with a family history of ADPKD, ADPKD is the most likely underlying cause. Screening for other causes of secondary hypertension, therefore, will probably have limited utility and US will likely demonstrate polycystic kidneys. While establishing the diagnosis of ADPKD in a hypertensive child at risk for ADPKD may impact management (e.g., referral to specialist, choice of anti-hypertensive medication), it is important to recognize that the diagnosis may have significant psychological and economic consequences for the child and parents. Additional diagnostic testing, specifically US, should therefore be undertaken only after careful discussion of the possible consequences with the parents.

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3 Treatment of hypertension in the pediatric population should follow prevailing pediatric  
4 guidelines. Based on data from the adult population (outlined above) and limited clinical  
5 evidence in the pediatric population,<sup>95</sup> RAAS blockade by either an ACEi or ARB is  
6 preferred as first-line treatment but should be used with caution in female adolescents  
7 at risk for teen-age pregnancies because of their teratogenic effects even in the first  
8 trimester of pregnancy.<sup>96</sup>  
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### 14 15 16 **“Conventional” renoprotective treatments**

17 Most ADPKD patients develop progressive renal insufficiency that eventually leads to  
18 ESRD between 40 to 70 years of age.<sup>97</sup> While several renoprotective strategies have  
19 been identified in non-ADPKD CKD (e.g., strict BP control, RAAS inhibition and low-  
20 protein diets), testing of such interventions in ADPKD has led to disappointing  
21 results.<sup>81,98,99</sup> However, many of these studies were underpowered, had short periods of  
22 follow-up or included patients in early disease stages at low risk for progression and  
23 with relatively stable renal function, in whom it is difficult to detect potential beneficial  
24 effects.  
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33 Recently, the results of the HALT PKD clinical trials have been published.<sup>49,100</sup> In study  
34 A, 558 hypertensive patients with ADPKD (15 to 49 years of age, with an eGFR >60 ml  
35 per minute per 1.73 m<sup>2</sup>) were randomly assigned to either a standard blood-pressure  
36 target (120/70 to 130/80 mm Hg) or a low blood-pressure target (95/60 to 110/75 mm  
37 Hg) and to either lisinopril plus telmisartan or lisinopril plus placebo.<sup>49</sup> In study B, 486  
38 hypertensive patients with ADPKD (18 to 64 years of age, with eGFR 25 to 60  
39 ml per minute per 1.73 m<sup>2</sup>) were randomly assigned to receive lisinopril plus telmisartan  
40 or lisinopril plus placebo, with the doses adjusted to achieve a blood pressure of 110/70  
41 to 130/80 mm Hg.<sup>100</sup> Both studies showed that an ACE inhibitor alone can adequately  
42 control hypertension in most patients justifying its use as first-line treatment for  
43 hypertension in this disease. Study A showed that lowering blood pressure to levels  
44 below those recommended by current guidelines in young patients with good kidney  
45 function reduced the rate of increase in kidney volume (by 14%), the increase in renal  
46 vascular resistance, urine albumin excretion (all identified in CRISP as predictors of  
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3 renal function decline), left ventricular mass index, and marginally (after the first four  
4 months of treatment) the rate of decline in estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR).  
5 The overall effect of low blood pressure on eGFR, however, was not statistically  
6 significant, possibly because the reduction of blood pressure to low levels was  
7 associated with an acute reduction in eGFR within the first four months of treatment.  
8 Although these results may not be unanimously viewed as positive, they do underline  
9 the importance of early detection and treatment of hypertension in ADPKD. The addition  
10 of an ARB to an ACE inhibitor did not confer additional benefit.  
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19 Two observational studies have suggested that in ADPKD patients, the average age at  
20 start of RRT has increased considerably during the last two decades.<sup>101,102</sup> A recent  
21 study of ERA-EDTA Registry data on patients starting RRT between 1991 and 2010,  
22 spanning 12 European countries with 208 million inhabitants, also showed that mean  
23 age at onset of RRT among ADPKD patients (n=20,596) has increased, albeit  
24 considerably less than in the two aforementioned studies from 56.6 to 58.0 years.<sup>103</sup>  
25 While the RRT incidence did not change among ADPKD patients less than 50 years of  
26 age, it increased among older ADPKD patients (above the age of 70). These data  
27 suggest that the increased age of ADPKD patients at the onset of RRT may be  
28 explained by increased access of elderly to RRT, or by lower competing risk of mortality  
29 risk prior to the start of RRT, rather than the consequence of effective renoprotective  
30 therapies.<sup>104</sup> No changes in age or alterations in male to female ratio were observed  
31 among ADPKD patients who have started RRT in Catalonia between 1984 and 2009.<sup>105</sup>  
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44 Although a low-protein diet did not show an effect on the rate of renal function decline in  
45 ADPKD patients,<sup>99</sup> lowering protein intake to 0.8 g/kg/day is still recommended when  
46 eGFR is less than 30 ml/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> to avoid uremic complications in accordance with  
47 the 2012 KDIGO Guideline on CKD Evaluation and Management.<sup>79</sup> Prescribing a  
48 protein restricted diet should be done with appropriate patient education, preferably by a  
49 renal dietician, and patients on such a diet should be monitored for malnutrition,  
50 especially those patients with high total kidney and liver volumes, for whom dietary  
51 intake of nutrients may become insufficient.  
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### “Novel” ADPKD specific renoprotective treatments

Based on better knowledge of pathophysiological processes, a large number of novel targets for lifestyle and medical interventions have been proposed.<sup>106</sup> In the past decades, experimental and epidemiological studies have suggested a detrimental role of the antidiuretic hormone AVP in ADPKD. V2 receptor activation by AVP *in vitro* increases intracellular cAMP levels, and consequently is believed to lead to cyst formation and cyst growth.<sup>90,107-110</sup> Serum levels of AVP and its surrogate copeptin are elevated in ADPKD patients and their levels have been associated with disease severity in cross-sectional studies<sup>111</sup> and disease progression in longitudinal studies.<sup>91</sup> These observations provided the rationale to study interventions that inhibit this cAMP-mediated pathway via increased water intake or use of vasopressin V2 receptor antagonists.

While beneficial effects of increased water intake in ADPKD have been suggested by animal studies,<sup>112</sup> confirming clinical data in humans are lacking. Given the theoretical background and the evidence from experimental data, we advise patients to increase their water intake. There is a controversy on how to identify ADPKD patients that may benefit from increased water intake, and the level to which water intake should be increased. Some have advised to increase the intake of water to achieve an average urine osmolality of 250 mOsm/kg.<sup>113</sup> Whether an increase in water intake can be sustained over long periods of time remains to be determined.<sup>114</sup> The risk of hyponatremia has to be considered, particularly in patients who have impaired kidney function and are also on a sodium restricted diet and receiving diuretics or drugs that can inappropriately stimulate the release of vasopressin or potentiate its action, such as serotonin reuptake inhibitors and tricyclic antidepressants.<sup>113</sup> It should also be noted that a recent study in 34 patients failed to demonstrate a beneficial effect of increased hydration in ADPKD.<sup>115</sup> Because the study was not randomized, lasted only one year, and the patients in the high water group had a higher salt intake (reflected by higher urine sodium excretion), it needs to be interpreted with caution. Long-term randomized studies of enhanced hydration in ADPKD are needed.

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Given the importance of dietary interventions for the treatment of hypertension, as well as prevention of uremic symptoms and possibly to prevent renal function decline, we advise that dietary compliance be monitored with 24h urine collections to measure urine volume and excretions of sodium and urea nitrogen. Caffeine is a methylxanthine that increases intracellular cAMP levels in cultured ADPKD renal epithelial cells.<sup>116</sup> However, the clinical effects of caffeine restriction have been insufficiently investigated in ADPKD to support a firm recommendation on the limits of intake. A cross-sectional study of 102 ADPKD patients and healthy controls showed a low level of caffeine consumption by ADPKD patients likely due to awareness of the recommendation for caffeine restriction and no association between caffeine intake and kidney volume within the range of caffeine intake by ADPKD patients in this study (0-471 mg/day).<sup>117</sup> For now, avoiding high caffeine intake seems justified as a general principle.

There are exciting developments with respect to medical treatments to manage renal disease progression in ADPKD.<sup>118</sup> There is overwhelming evidence for enhanced mTORC1 signaling in PKD cystic tissues, and preclinical trials of mTOR-inhibiting rapalogs (sirolimus and everolimus) in rodent models have been mostly encouraging. At doses and blood levels achievable in humans, sirolimus and everolimus were effective in a rat model of PKD affecting proximal tubules<sup>119,120</sup> but not in a model of ADPKD affecting the distal nephron and collecting duct.<sup>121</sup> Mice tolerate much higher doses and blood levels than rats and humans, and these high doses of rapalogs were consistently effective in orthologous and nonorthologous mouse models.<sup>122,123</sup> However, the results of clinical trials in ADPKD stages with early, as well as later stage CKD have been discouraging,<sup>124,125,126</sup> likely because blood levels capable of inhibiting mTOR in peripheral blood mononuclear cells do not inhibit mTOR in the kidney.<sup>127</sup> Several strategies to overcome the systemic toxicity and limited renal bioavailability of rapalogs deserve further study.<sup>128-130</sup>

The TEMPO 3:4 trial studied the effects of the vasopressin V2 receptor antagonist tolvaptan in 1445 ADPKD patients with an estimated creatinine clearance  $\geq 60$  mL/min and a TKV of  $\geq 750$  mL.<sup>48</sup> This RCT demonstrated a significant beneficial effect on the

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3 rate of growth of TKV (-48%) and rate of eGFR decline (-26%) in patients with ADPKD.  
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5 Tolvaptan was approved in March 2014 by the regulatory authorities in Japan for the  
6 suppression of progression of ADPKD in patients with increased and rapid rate of  
7 increase in TKV.<sup>131</sup> In the United States the FDA requested the manufacturer of  
8 tolvaptan to provide additional data to further evaluate the efficacy and safety of this  
9 drug in patients with ADPKD.<sup>132</sup> Concerns raised during the initial review process  
10 included: 1) not accepting TKV as an established surrogate; 2) uncertainty introduced  
11 by missing data and a post-treatment baseline for the key secondary endpoint; 3)  
12 potential risk for hepatotoxicity; and 4) the “small” 1 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>/year (26%)  
13 improvement in renal function decline. Applications for approval of tolvaptan for the  
14 treatment of ADPKD are currently under review by the European Medicines Agency  
15 (EMA) and Health Canada.  
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26 Somatostatin analogues, such as lanreotide and octreotide, have been studied for their  
27 effects on liver volume in ADPKD patients with symptomatic polycystic livers. Three  
28 placebo controlled RCTs all indicated a favorable effect on this outcome, and also  
29 suggested beneficial kidney volume growth reducing effects and preservation of kidney  
30 function.<sup>133-136</sup> These trials were of short duration and included a relatively small number  
31 of patients. Therefore, they do not allow firm conclusions. The recently published  
32 ALADIN study<sup>137</sup> included 79 ADPKD patients with an eGFR  $\geq 40$  mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>  
33 randomized to intramuscular injections of octreotide-LAR or placebo. The primary  
34 outcome variable, a mean increase in TKV at three years of follow-up, showed  
35 numerically smaller growth in the octreotide-LAR group than in the placebo group (220  
36 versus 454 mL). The difference, however, was not statistically significant. A favorable  
37 effect was noted on the secondary outcome of kidney function, but this endpoint also  
38 did not reach statistical significance. These findings provide support for larger RCTs to  
39 test the protective effect of somatostatin analogues against renal function loss. At least  
40 one of such trials that includes 300 ADPKD patients with CKD stages 3a and 3b is  
41 ongoing.<sup>138</sup> Until the results of larger trials become available, somatostatin analogues  
42 should not be prescribed for renoprotection outside of a research study.  
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Lastly, an RCT of HMG-CoA reductase inhibition with pravastatin in ADPKD children with an estimated creatinine clearance  $\geq 80$  ml/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup> showed slower kidney volume growth and reduced loss of kidney function.<sup>139</sup> These promising data need confirmation also in the adult ADPKD population. A two-year, randomized open-label clinical trial of pravastatin in 49 adult ADPKD patients with all levels of renal function showed no significant differences in the rate of GFR decline or level of proteinuria between the active treatment and placebo arms despite a significant fall in total serum cholesterol in the pravastatin-treated patients.<sup>140</sup> Larger, longer duration studies are needed.

### **Hematuria and cyst hemorrhage**

Cyst hemorrhage or gross hematuria occur in approximately 60% of patients. Cyst hemorrhage can be associated with fever and differentiation from cyst infection may be difficult. Gross hematuria can result from cyst hemorrhage, nephrolithiasis, infection and rarely renal cell or urothelial carcinoma, but often no specific cause can be identified. In young individuals with ADPKD, gross hematuria is commonly seen following impact trauma associated with sports and physical activity. Hematuria is positively associated with increased kidney volume and cyst wall calcifications. Microscopic hematuria also occurs in ADPKD but its frequency has not been well defined.

Hematuria can be asymptomatic or painless, or it can associate with acute pain syndromes necessitating medical attention and narcotic analgesics. Episodes of cyst hemorrhage or gross hematuria are usually self-limited and resolve within 2 to 7 days. If symptoms last longer than 1 week or if the initial episode of hematuria occurs after age 50 years, investigation to exclude neoplasm should be undertaken. Rarely, bleeding can be persistent or severe, sometimes with extensive subcapsular or retroperitoneal hematomas, requiring hospitalization. Temporary discontinuation of RAAS inhibitors and diuretics to avoid acute kidney injury during an episode of acute cyst hemorrhage has been suggested.<sup>141</sup> The antifibrinolytic agent tranexamic acid has been used successfully to treat the hemorrhagic complications of ADPKD, but no controlled studies have been performed.<sup>142</sup>



## Nephrolithiasis

Nephrolithiasis and cyst wall calcifications are common in ADPKD. Increased urinary stasis and metabolic factors (reduced urine pH, ammonium excretion and urinary citrate) account for the increased frequency of stones.<sup>143-146</sup> Whether nephrolithiasis associates with an increased risk for renal insufficiency, as it has been reported in the general population, is uncertain.<sup>147</sup> CT is the best imaging technique for the detection and evaluation of kidney stones. Dual energy CT can differentiate uric acid from calcium containing stones.<sup>148,149</sup> Medical treatment of nephrolithiasis in patients with ADPKD is the same as in patients without ADPKD. Potassium citrate is the treatment of choice in the three stone-forming conditions associated with ADPKD: uric acid nephrolithiasis, hypocitraturic calcium oxalate nephrolithiasis, and distal acidification defects. Information on indications and results of surgical interventions for nephrolithiasis are limited to reports of center experiences and therefore subjected to substantial bias. Nevertheless these reports suggest that extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy and percutaneous nephrostolithotomy are successful in most cases without increased complications compared to patients without ADPKD.<sup>150</sup> Flexible ureterorenoscopy with laser fragmentation has also been used safely and effectively with less risk for traumatic nephron loss.<sup>151,152</sup>

## Management of renal cyst infection

Recent meta-analyses highlight the course and successful management of both renal and liver cyst infections.<sup>153</sup> The presence of fever, abdominal pain, and high sedimentation rate or level of C-reactive protein (CRP) should raise the suspicion of a cyst infection, but the differential diagnosis is broad and a definitive diagnosis is hindered by the lack of specificity of conventional imaging studies.<sup>154,155</sup> Blood and urine cultures may be negative and cyst aspiration for culture should be considered if a complex cyst in the right setting is identified. By some reports 18-Fluorodeoxyglucose-positron emission tomography (FDG-PET) is particularly helpful in identifying infected cysts,<sup>153</sup> but it is not widely available or reimbursed for this indication in some countries and there is no consensus on whether it provides additional information that changes medical decision making.<sup>156,157</sup> Lipid-permeable anti-microbial agents such as

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4 fluoroquinolones and trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, depending on sensitivity (if  
5 available), remain the standard treatment for cyst infections.<sup>158</sup> Once antibiotic therapy  
6 has been initiated, there is wide variability regarding duration of treatment and  
7 indications and timing of percutaneous or surgical draining; however extended antibiotic  
8 therapy is often warranted. Efficacy of antibiotic treatment and infection eradication are  
9 defined by the disappearance of fever, normalization of CRP levels, and at least two  
10 negative blood and/or urine cultures. Cyst infection may recur even after adequate  
11 periods of antibiotic therapy.  
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### 18 19 **Management of chronic pain**

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21 Kidney pain is common in patients with ADPKD and it can be severe and disabling.<sup>159-</sup>  
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23 <sup>161</sup> It may develop after an episode of acute pain and is likely maintained by aberrant  
24 activity of sensory and autonomic neurons innervating the kidney, renal pelvis and  
25 ureter. It has a negative impact on sleep, activity, mental status, and social  
26 relationships. Health care providers often fail to discuss pain during encounters with  
27 patients, leading to suboptimal management. Ongoing support to patients is essential  
28 for the management of chronic pain. Careful history taking and physical exam (location  
29 and characterization of the pain) are the initial steps.<sup>160,161</sup> Differential diagnosis should  
30 be sought by a multidisciplinary workup with radiologists, physical therapists, and pain  
31 specialists. Pre-medication therapy needs to be initiated with consultation of the patient  
32 and physical therapist. If needed, a sequential medication approach should be based on  
33 the WHO's pain relief ladder.<sup>160,161</sup> Percutaneous cyst aspiration is helpful as a  
34 diagnostic procedure to determine whether a more permanent intervention such as cyst  
35 sclerosis or laparoscopic cyst fenestration is worth pursuing.<sup>162,163</sup> Celiac plexus  
36 blockade, radiofrequency ablation, and spinal cord stimulation have also been used.<sup>164</sup>  
37 Thoracoscopic sympathectomy may be helpful in some patients with  
38 disabling pain but it is invasive and has potential complications such as pneumothorax  
39 and orthostatic hypotension.<sup>165</sup> Laparoscopic renal denervation has been helpful in a  
40 small series of patients.<sup>166</sup> Recently, percutaneous transluminal catheter-based  
41 denervation has also been shown to be effective for the treatment of kidney pain in  
42 single case reports and deserves further evaluation in ADPKD.<sup>167,168</sup>  
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## Reproductive issues

All women of reproductive potential should receive counseling including potential aggravation of polycystic liver disease (PLD) with increased estrogen or progesterone exposures. Counseling for both parents should also discuss the risk of passing on the disease to their offspring, and the risks to both the baby and mother should pregnancy take place. Preemptive discontinuation of RAAS inhibitors is necessary due to the potential teratogenicity and increased risk of acute renal failure in the developing fetus. Utilization of appropriate antihypertensive medications documented to be safe in pregnancy is important.

Most of the available information on maternal and fetal outcomes during pregnancy in ADPKD was collected retrospectively in the 1980's and 1990's.<sup>169,170</sup> In general, ADPKD women with normal BP and kidney function have a favorable course during pregnancy. Nevertheless, pregnancy induced hypertension and preeclampsia occur more frequently. These rates increase when hypertension is present prior to the pregnancy. Recent data indicate that preeclampsia is a risk factor for future development of ESRD in the general population, but its contribution to disease progression in ADPKD has not been studied.<sup>171</sup> Multiple pregnancies (> 3) have been reported to be associated with a greater risk for decline in kidney function in ADPKD.<sup>172</sup>

Similar to general CKD, ADPKD women with established renal insufficiency are at increased risk for early fetal loss, difficulty in controlling hypertension and accelerated loss of kidney function.<sup>173</sup> Because of ADPKD pregnancies are associated with a higher frequency of new onset hypertension, pre-eclampsia, intrauterine growth retardation and premature delivery, referral to a high-risk obstetrician is recommended especially in patients with hypertension or elevated creatinine level.

New fetal US technology and improved imaging, specifically with regard to fetal kidneys and liver, presents an opportunity for prenatal screening for ADPKD. Currently this is not recommended due to ethical concerns of assigning a diagnosis when no proven therapy is available; lack of data regarding the application of prognosis and diagnosis to

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3 abnormal kidney or liver fetal US findings; and limitations of semi-quantitative measures  
4 of amniotic fluid levels with regard to renal prognosis. Given the importance of the intra-  
5 uterine environment on terminal nephron differentiation and birth weight, a known risk  
6 factor for the development of CKD, further research into the role of intra-uterine  
7 environment in contributing to disease severity in ADPKD should be conducted.  
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#### 13 14 15 16 **4. MANAGEMENT of ESRD**

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18 ADPKD leads to renal failure in most affected individuals. While several aspects of  
19 ESRD management can be inferred from data in non-ADPKD patient populations, there  
20 are some issues which are specifically relevant for ADPKD patients.  
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#### 24 25 26 **Optimal choice of RRT**

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28 Kidney transplantation is the optimal choice of RRT in appropriate patients with ADPKD.  
29 This recommendation is based on the presumed applicability of data in the general  
30 ESRD population to ADPKD patients and on observational data in single centers and  
31 national or regional registries in France,<sup>174</sup> Denmark,<sup>102</sup> the US,<sup>175</sup> Italy,<sup>176</sup> and  
32 Catalonia.<sup>105</sup> Furthermore, the degree of comorbidity is generally lower in ADPKD than  
33 in other types of ESRD patients, and thus a higher percentage of the former is likely to  
34 benefit from renal transplantation. As for patients with other kidney disease etiologies, a  
35 direct comparison of the prognosis of transplanted and non-transplanted patients is  
36 difficult, due to strong selection bias. A comparison of the prognosis of transplanted  
37 patients with patients who are equally qualified for transplantation but still on the waiting  
38 list, has shown a benefit of transplantation in the general ESRD population.<sup>177</sup>  
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49 As in the general ESRD population, living kidney donation, ideally performed as  
50 preemptive transplantation is likely to be associated with best outcomes in ADPKD  
51 patients.<sup>178</sup> However, a direct comparison between the results of preemptive and later  
52 transplantation has not been performed in ADPKD patients and the time on dialysis  
53 associated with a worsening of prognosis is unknown. The long course of ADPKD, the  
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3 high level of family awareness and the predictable rate of loss of renal function facilitate  
4 arrangements for preemptive or at least early transplantation from a living donor. The  
5 limited number of potential donors in some affected families raises the question about  
6 donation priorities, in particular when children already have reduced kidney function at  
7 the time when one of their parents develops ESRD. Appropriate individual and family  
8 counseling is required to support decision making in such situations.  
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15 When transplantation is not an option, or for those waiting for transplantation, either  
16 hemodialysis (HD) or peritoneal dialysis (PD) are suitable treatment modalities.  
17 Although intra-abdominal space restrictions, increased risk for abdominal wall hernias  
18 and increased prevalence of colonic diverticula may pose challenges, ADPKD is not a  
19 contraindication for PD. The most convincing evidence supporting this conclusion  
20 comes from Hong Kong, where a general policy for starting ESRD therapy with PD is  
21 being implemented for all ESRD patients: ADPKD patients were not found to experience  
22 an increased risk of treatment failure.<sup>179</sup> Others have also reported the feasibility of PD  
23 in ADPKD.<sup>180,181</sup> Nevertheless determining risk factors for PD failure and complications  
24 based on patient history and measurements of total kidney and liver size and abdominal  
25 cavity volume are desirable to support rational decision making.  
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### 38 **Preparation for transplantation, nephrectomy prior to kidney transplantation**

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40 In preparing ADPKD patients for kidney transplantation, the removal of one kidney is  
41 frequently considered. However, nephrectomy in ADPKD patients, even when  
42 performed as elective surgery, is associated with significant morbidity, potential need for  
43 blood transfusions, and procedure-related mortality.<sup>158,182-185</sup> Therefore the indication  
44 should be based on a risk-benefit analysis and kidneys should not be routinely removed  
45 prior to transplantation. Hand assisted laparoscopic nephrectomy may be better  
46 tolerated, although conversion to open nephrectomy may be necessary for very large  
47 cystic kidneys.<sup>186-188</sup> Possible indications include recurrent and/or severe infection,  
48 symptomatic nephrolithiasis, recurrent and/or severe bleeding, intractable pain, and  
49 suspicion of renal cancer. Insufficient space for insertion of a kidney graft may represent  
50 an indication for native nephrectomy, but establishing this need is difficult and practices  
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3 vary widely, with pre-transplant nephrectomy rates between 3% and 100%.<sup>174,182,184,189</sup>  
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5 While no direct comparisons of different strategies are available, on average less than  
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7 one third of patients in published series undergo pre-transplant nephrectomy,<sup>174,189,190</sup> a  
8  
9 figure that may serve as a benchmark for transplant programs. The decision for or  
10  
11 against nephrectomy should also take into account that native kidney size typically  
12  
13 declines after transplantation.<sup>191</sup> Space considerations are usually an indication for  
14  
15 unilateral rather than bilateral nephrectomy. Experience with both, prior and  
16  
17 simultaneous nephrectomy has been reported<sup>189,192</sup> but both practices have not been  
18  
19 directly compared in a prospective and randomized fashion.

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21 Apart from the consideration of nephrectomy and, in very rare cases, combined  
22  
23 liver/kidney transplantation, the evaluation of ADPKD patients prior to transplantation is  
24  
25 the same as for non-ADPKD candidates. Some centers screen patients for ICA prior to  
26  
27 transplantation, but the risk-benefit relationship of this approach remains unknown.  
28  
29 Practice varies also with respect to screening for diverticular disease. Evaluation of BMI  
30  
31 needs to take into account the weight of severely enlarged organs.

### 32 33 34 **Post-transplant complications in ADPKD patients**

35  
36 There is no evidence to suggest that ADPKD patients should be treated with different  
37  
38 immunosuppressive protocols as compared to other transplant recipients.

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40 Overall, post-transplant morbidity appears not to be increased in ADPKD patients as  
41  
42 compared to other, non-diabetic transplant recipients. However, specific complications  
43  
44 have been reported to be more frequent, including new onset diabetes,<sup>174</sup>  
45  
46 gastrointestinal (GI) complications,<sup>193,194</sup> erythrocytosis,<sup>174</sup> urinary tract infections,<sup>174,195</sup>  
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48 thromboembolic complications,<sup>174</sup> and hemorrhagic stroke.<sup>196</sup>

### 49 50 51 **Use of kidneys from ADPKD patients for transplantation**

52  
53 Occasionally the question arises whether kidneys from a deceased ADPKD patient can  
54  
55 be offered for transplantation. Under specific circumstances the use of ADPKD kidneys  
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57 with acceptable kidney function and size is an option, provided there is fully informed  
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3 consent of the recipient. The success of such an approach has been reported.<sup>197</sup>  
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5 However, the optimal donor, organ, and recipient characteristics needed to make this an  
6  
7 acceptable strategy have not been defined.  
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### 11 **Risk for renal cancer in ADPKD with renal failure**

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13 The incidence of clinically significant renal cell carcinoma (RCC) in ADPKD patients on  
14  
15 dialysis or after transplantation is not known to be increased as compared to patients  
16  
17 with other kidney disease etiology.<sup>198,199</sup> A recent study from the Scientific Registry of  
18  
19 Transplant Recipients of 10,166 and 107,339 kidney recipients with and without  
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21 ADPKD, respectively, found no increased risk of RCC associated with this diagnosis.<sup>200</sup>  
22  
23 However, examination of ADPKD kidneys after nephrectomy of dialysis patients  
24  
25 revealed a 5% to 8% incidence of RCC, most measuring  $\leq 2$  cm in diameter.<sup>201,202</sup>  
26  
27 Although this observation raises concerns about the potential for malignant  
28  
29 transformation in ADPKD kidneys, there is currently insufficient evidence for systematic  
30  
31 screening in asymptomatic patients. Furthermore, the diagnostic value of non-invasive  
32  
33 US is limited in ADPKD kidneys and the appropriate screening methodology (i.e.,  
34  
35 contrast-enhanced CT) is associated with costs and potential harm. Given the increased  
36  
37 risk of nephrectomy in ADPKD patients, the optimal management of suspicious lesions  
38  
39 (i.e., observation vs. intervention) remains unknown and as such decisions should be  
40  
41 taken individually. In any case, visible hematuria requires evaluation of the entire urinary  
42  
43 tract for cause.

### 44 **Hemoglobin, BP, and lipid targets in ADPKD patients on dialysis**

45  
46 There is no evidence that therapeutic targets for BP, lipids or hemoglobin should be  
47  
48 different in ADPKD compared to other patients on dialysis. Due to better preserved  
49  
50 erythropoietin production, anemia is on average less severe in ADPKD patients than in  
51  
52 other CKD patients<sup>180</sup> and some patients spontaneously maintain hemoglobin levels  
53  
54 above current treatment targets without receiving ESAs.<sup>203</sup> In general such patients do  
55  
56 not appear to be at increased risk for thromboembolic complications. The threshold for  
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3 intervention by phlebotomy can therefore be higher than the hemoglobin target range of  
4 patients treated with ESAs.  
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### 8 9 **Anticoagulation**

10  
11 There is insufficient evidence to recommend a specific management of anticoagulation  
12 in ADPKD patients with ESRD. The history of bleeding and/or macrohematuria episodes  
13 should influence treatment decisions and trigger work-up in individual patients. Whether  
14 and to what extent the risk and/or severity of bleeding from ICA are increased by  
15 systemic anticoagulation is unknown.  
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## 20 21 22 **5. MANAGEMENT of EXTRARENAL COMPLICATIONS**

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24 ADPKD is a systemic disorder, associated with numerous extrarenal manifestations that  
25 can be a significant cause of morbidity and mortality.<sup>204</sup> ICA and PLD are among the  
26 most common and debilitating of these manifestations.  
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### 31 32 **Intracranial aneurysms**

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34 ICA rupture is one of the most serious complications of ADPKD, resulting in combined  
35 morbidity and mortality rates of 35-50%.<sup>205-207</sup> Given the safety and accuracy of current  
36 imaging methods for screening along with the availability of less invasive treatment  
37 modalities, early pre-symptomatic detection is desirable. However, major questions  
38 include: Is widespread screening for ICA of all patients with ADPKD justified? If not,  
39 which patients should be screened? If screening is negative, should patients be  
40 screened again and if so, at what time interval? When an unruptured ICA (UIA) is  
41 detected, what are the indications to intervene? If an UIA is recommended for  
42 conservative management, what are the recommendations for follow-up to reduce the  
43 risk of rupture?  
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53 There is limited information with respect to the natural history of ICA in ADPKD and  
54 most of our knowledge comes from small, single center observational studies. These  
55 studies suggest that the prevalence of asymptomatic ICA detected by magnetic  
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3 resonance angiography (MRA) among patients with ADPKD is ~9-12%, compared with  
4 ~2-3% in the general population.<sup>208-213</sup> The prevalence rates of ICA vary between ~20-  
5 27% in ADPKD patients with a positive family history vs. ~6% in those lacking a family  
6 history.<sup>208-212,214</sup>  
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11 There are no clear risk factors for ICA rupture in patients with ADPKD, other than family  
12 history of an ICA. The average age at ICA rupture is ~40 years, approximately 10 years  
13 earlier than in the general population.<sup>205,206,215-217</sup> Overall there appears to be no  
14 difference in the rate or size of ICA rupture between ADPKD and the general  
15 population.<sup>215</sup> One large international study of UIA (the ISUIA study) found that the rate  
16 of ICA rupture correlated with increasing size, location in the posterior vs. anterior  
17 circulation and prior history of subarachnoid hemorrhage.<sup>207</sup> Pre-symptomatic screening  
18 for ICA in the ADPKD population shows that 80-90% of ICA are in the anterior  
19 circulation of the circle of Willis, nearly all <7mm. If the findings from the ISUIA study are  
20 extrapolated to ADPKD, then most ICAs that are detected by pre-symptomatic  
21 screening would fall into a low risk category for rupture. However, there are reports of  
22 ICA rupturing at small sizes in ADPKD.<sup>205,214,215,217</sup> It has been suggested that small  
23 ICAs that form rapidly may be at the greatest risk for rupture soon after they develop.<sup>207</sup>  
24 Whether this process evolves differently in ADPKD is unknown.  
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37 It is often assumed that patients with ADPKD are not at increased risk of intracranial  
38 hemorrhage once they are on RRT. A retrospective analysis of the US Renal Data  
39 Service database, however, revealed that ADPKD is a significant predictor of this  
40 complication in ESRD, with an adjusted hazard ratio of 1.63 vs. non-ADPKD.<sup>218</sup> The  
41 authors observed that the increased risk did not manifest until approximately 3 years  
42 after starting dialysis and they surmised that the risk was mitigated after kidney  
43 transplantation.  
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49 ICA can be associated with mutations in both *PKD1* and *PKD2*.<sup>219</sup> Some series, but not  
50 others, have also reported that the median *PKD1* mutation position is more 5' (N-  
51 terminal) in individuals with a vascular phenotype compared with controls.<sup>219,220</sup>  
52 Additional analyses in larger cohorts would be needed to determine whether mutation  
53 class could be used reliably for risk stratification.  
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3 A decision making analysis based on the ICA prevalence and risk of rupture<sup>194,208</sup>  
4 revealed that screening the ADPKD population at age 30 would result in a gain of  
5 quality-adjusted life years only if the 5-year rupture rate exceeds 8.5%, a figure that is  
6 far higher than the actual rate reported in ADPKD.<sup>196</sup>  
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11 Based on the data summarized above, ADPKD patients with a family history of ICA or a  
12 personal history of ICA rupture should be screened for asymptomatic ICA. Patients with  
13 no or unknown family history should be counseled about the risks of ICA that are  
14 associated with ADPKD as well as the pros and cons of pre-symptomatic screening.  
15 Those individuals who remain anxious about their risk should be offered screening.  
16 Screening should also be considered in individuals with high-risk professions (e.g.,  
17 pilots) where ICA rupture might place lives of others at risk. Routine, long-standing  
18 headaches are not an indication for screening. However, the sudden occurrence of  
19 atypical, suddenly intense headache (often described as a thunder clap headache)  
20 possibly coupled with other neurologic symptoms, should be considered a neurologic  
21 emergency and requires urgent evaluation.<sup>206</sup>  
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31 Traditionally, angiographic methods have been the gold standard for diagnosis of ICA.  
32 However recent advances in technology and the desire to avoid iodinated contrast  
33 media in patients with renal disease have made MRI the screening method of choice. A  
34 recent study showed that 3D time-of-flight (TOF) MRA with a 3T magnet had a  
35 screening sensitivity of 67% for ICAs <3mm, 87% for those 3-5mm and 95% for those  
36 >5mm.<sup>221</sup> This was equivalent to the sensitivity of CT angiography where patients  
37 experience both radiation and contrast exposure. Therefore, TOF MRA without  
38 gadolinium enhancement, preferably with a 3T-imaging platform, should be used for  
39 pre-symptomatic screening.<sup>222</sup>  
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48 There is only one study that followed individuals with negative initial screening MRAs.  
49 Schrier et al. found that 2 out of 76 patients (one patient having a family history of ICA  
50 rupture) with a negative MRA developed an ICA on re-screening after 10 years.<sup>223</sup>  
51 Based on this limited evidence, it appears prudent that individuals with a positive family  
52 history and a negative screening MRA should be re-screened at 5-10 year intervals  
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3 while there is no need to re-screen those with a negative family history. Larger studies  
4 are needed to support this recommendation.  
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8 Management of UIA should be discussed with a multidisciplinary team including the  
9 treating nephrologist, neurosurgeon and interventional neuroradiologist. The size and  
10 location of the ICA, the general health and age of the affected individual, and the risk for  
11 rupture should determine the therapeutic approach.<sup>209,222</sup> Overall endovascular  
12 procedures appear to have lower associated morbidity and mortality in comparison with  
13 surgical approaches.<sup>222,224,225</sup> Nevertheless there remains concern with respect to the  
14 durability of coil embolization. Treatment is best performed in expert centers with large  
15 procedure volumes.  
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23 The natural history of UIA in ADPKD has been evaluated in a limited number of small  
24 studies,<sup>209,223,226</sup> suggesting that the risk of growth or rupture of small ICAs detected by  
25 pre-symptomatic screening in ADPKD patients is quite low. It is therefore reasonable to  
26 re-evaluate individuals with small untreated UIAs at intervals that are determined with  
27 neurosurgical consultation but usually ranging from 6 months (initially) to every two to  
28 three years (after stability has been established). Additional modifiable risk factors  
29 including smoking cessation, BP control, limited heavy alcohol use and control of  
30 cardiovascular risk factors such as hyperlipidemia should also be addressed. It is  
31 recognized that these risk factors for ICA have not been specifically evaluated in the  
32 ADPKD population<sup>227</sup>.  
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41 Despite the consensus of this panel that widespread screening for ICA is not indicated,  
42 other opinions are published,<sup>222</sup> and different attitudes exist across centers. Some  
43 centers screen ADPKD patients with either a *de novo* ADPKD (i.e., no family history) or  
44 an incomplete family history as well as those undergoing major elective surgery (e.g.,  
45 cardiac surgery, hepatic resection and kidney/liver transplantation) or before  
46 transplantation.  
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### 52 53 **Diagnosis of PLD and implications for contraception**

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55 Liver cysts are the most common extrarenal manifestation of ADPKD, with a prevalence  
56 >80% by the age of 30.<sup>228</sup> Liver cyst burden increases with age and is greater in women  
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3 compared with men. Approximately 20% of patients with ADPKD go on to develop  
4 symptomatic PLD.<sup>229</sup>  
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8 The use of liver imaging to determine the extent of PLD should be part of the initial  
9 assessment of all patients with ADPKD. Most patients with PLD are asymptomatic and  
10 can be managed conservatively.<sup>229,230</sup> Typically, liver involvement does not cause  
11 hepatic dysfunction. However, massive liver enlargement can result in compression of  
12 surrounding organs. Compressive symptoms include abdominal pain and distension,  
13 back pain, early satiety potentially causing malnutrition, gastroesophageal reflux,  
14 compromised lung function with dyspnea or recurrent pneumonia, and hepatic venous-  
15 outflow obstruction.<sup>229,231,232</sup> Additional complications include infections, cyst rupture,  
16 and hemorrhage.  
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24 A number of studies have shown that PLD tends to be more severe in women.<sup>228,233-236</sup>  
25 Risk factors for severe PLD include multiple pregnancies and use of exogenous  
26 estrogens. In one small prospective non-randomized study, polycystic liver volumes  
27 increased over one year in post-menopausal women taking estrogens.<sup>236</sup> There was  
28 consensus that exogenous hormones or hormone-containing contraceptives should be  
29 avoided in women who have symptomatic or severe PLD.  
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### 37 **What are the indications and modalities for intervention in PLD?**

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39 Treatment options for PLD include conservative management, surgical intervention, or  
40 medical therapy. The indications for intervention include symptomatic PLD with  
41 significantly diminished QOL. Several types of surgical approaches can be used to  
42 decrease cyst burden. The choice of a specific intervention should be tailored to the  
43 individual patient depending on liver anatomy, stage of PLD, concomitant renal disease  
44 and expertise of the medical center.  
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51 The surgical options that can be considered for PLD have been reviewed in detail.<sup>237</sup>  
52 Aspiration and sclerotherapy involve percutaneous drainage of a cyst with subsequent  
53 instillation of an agent such as ethanol that destroys cyst lining cells so that fluid is no  
54 longer produced. The main indication for aspiration and sclerotherapy is a large  
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3 dominant cyst that is causing symptoms. Fenestration involves drainage and  
4 surgical/laparoscopic deroofing of cysts. Multiple cysts can be drained at the same time  
5 using this procedure, although certain areas of the liver are not amenable to  
6 laparoscopic visualization. Partial or segmental liver resection can also be considered in  
7 severe, symptomatic PLD when one lobe is relatively spared and the vascular anatomy  
8 of the preserved liver is deemed suitable. This procedure can result in substantial  
9 morbidity. In one large series (N=124 cases) the perioperative morbidity and mortality  
10 were 63% and 3%, respectively.<sup>238</sup> Nonetheless liver resection can provide  
11 considerable and sustained symptomatic relief. In the same study, performance status  
12 had normalized or improved in ~75% of patients after a mean follow-up of 9 years.  
13 Given the complexity and risk of this surgery, partial hepatic resection should only be  
14 performed in centers that have extensive experience with this procedure.  
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25 Liver transplantation is a last option for selected patients with severe PLD who are not  
26 candidates for partial liver resection. This may be a particularly relevant option for  
27 ESRD patients who are candidates for renal transplantation. In some countries  
28 allocation of liver grafts is based strictly on the MELD (Model for End Stage Liver  
29 Disease) score, which doesn't accurately reflect liver disease severity in PLD. Since  
30 patients with severe PLD have intact liver synthetic function, they lack markers of liver  
31 dysfunction (e.g., international normalized ratio and serum albumin) that contribute to  
32 the MELD score, and thus priority on the liver transplant list is usually low. Data from the  
33 European Transplant Registry suggests that liver transplant outcomes in PLD patients  
34 are comparable to those of non-PLD liver recipients.<sup>239</sup> It must be noted that liver  
35 explantation can be challenging in patients with PLD if they develop adhesions as the  
36 result of prior liver procedures. Many transplant surgeons are reluctant to transplant  
37 patients who have previously had liver resection due to the potential for serious  
38 complications.  
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51 Transcatheter arterial embolization of hepatic artery branches that supply major liver  
52 cysts has been reported to decrease total liver volume in small series.<sup>240</sup> There is  
53 limited experience with this procedure at most centers and therefore larger, controlled  
54 studies are needed before this therapy can be recommended.  
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3 Somatostatin analogues are a promising new avenue to reduce liver cyst volume in  
4 PLD.<sup>233</sup> These agents bind to somatostatin receptors and are thought to act by  
5 decreasing cAMP levels in biliary epithelial cells. Two long-acting somatostatin  
6 analogues, octreotide and lanreotide have been tested in clinical trials and yield a small  
7 but reproducible and clinically significant decrement in liver volume over 1-2 years of  
8 treatment (~ -4% - -6%) compared with ~ 0% - +1.6% in placebo groups.<sup>135,136,241-244</sup>

9  
10 These agents have been relatively well tolerated, but with side effects including  
11 diarrhea, nausea, hyperglycemia and cholelithiasis. Several studies have suggested  
12 that most of the benefit is seen over the first year of treatment and that liver cyst volume  
13 begins to increase again once the drug is stopped.<sup>242</sup> The response to somatostatin  
14 analogues is quite variable but a pooled analysis suggests that women under the age of  
15 48 exhibit the most benefit.<sup>245</sup> Although a small retrospective study suggested that  
16 sirolimus used in the post-kidney transplant setting might slow PLD,<sup>246</sup> adding  
17 everolimus in a prospective fashion to octreotide did not confer any additional benefit.<sup>247</sup>  
18 Thus far, somatostatin analogues have not been approved by regulatory agencies for  
19 treatment of PLD and therefore can only be recommended for use in a clinical trial  
20 setting. If compassionate, off-label use is contemplated in highly symptomatic cases,  
21 then liver volume should be followed using MRI or CT to document efficacy.  
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### 38 **How to diagnose and treat liver cyst infections?**

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40 Liver cyst infections are a common complication of PLD that can pose diagnostic and  
41 therapeutic challenges.<sup>155</sup> Clinical features are non-specific and include fever, right  
42 upper quadrant tenderness and laboratory data consistent with inflammation.<sup>248,249</sup>  
43 Serum and cyst fluid CA19-9 levels have been reported to be elevated in liver cyst  
44 infection but the levels are variable and diagnostic cut-off values have not been  
45 established.<sup>155,250</sup> Based on retrospective data, optimal treatment includes drainage of  
46 the infected cyst(s) and appropriate antimicrobial therapy.<sup>251</sup> Sampling and culture of  
47 infected cyst fluid is important for guiding antimicrobial therapy. MRI and CT are not  
48 sufficiently specific for identifying infected cysts since chronic parenchymal injury is  
49 usually present at baseline.<sup>154,155</sup> There are reports showing that FDG-PET may be a  
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3 sensitive alternative for determining which cyst among many is infected.<sup>251-253</sup> The  
4 rationale for this approach is that metabolically active inflammatory cells take up high  
5 amounts of glucose. Patients with liver cyst infections may require a prolonged course  
6 of antibiotics to treat recurrent or persistent infections.<sup>154</sup> In general the choice of an  
7 antimicrobial agent will be guided by the culture results but antibiotics that have good  
8 cyst penetration such as fluoroquinolones are strongly advised.<sup>248</sup>  
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### 14 **Additional extrarenal manifestations**

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17 Extrarenal complications from ADPKD such as cardiac and vascular abnormalities and  
18 development of cysts in other organs have also been reported. These are discussed in  
19 greater detail below and summarized in Table 3.  
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24 *Cardiac valvular abnormalities.* Mitral valve prolapse is found in up to 25% of ADPKD  
25 patients.<sup>254,255</sup> Aortic insufficiency may be found in association with dilatation of the  
26 aortic root. Although these lesions can progress with time, they rarely require valve  
27 replacement.<sup>1</sup> Pericardial effusion can be detected in up to 35% of ADPKD patients, but  
28 it is well tolerated and usually clinically insignificant.<sup>256</sup> We do not recommend screening  
29 echocardiography in ADPKD unless a murmur is detected or there are other  
30 cardiovascular signs or symptoms.  
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37 *Extracranial aneurysms.* Dissections and aneurysms of many large arteries including  
38 ascending aorta,<sup>33,257</sup> popliteal,<sup>258</sup> coronary,<sup>259,260</sup> and splenic arteries<sup>261</sup> have been  
39 reported in ADPKD. Abdominal aortic aneurysms, however, do not appear to be  
40 increased in patients with ADPKD.<sup>262</sup> Clinicians should be aware that there may be a  
41 predisposition to a vascular phenotype in some ADPKD patients.  
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47 *Arachnoid membrane cysts* are found in 8 to 12% of ADPKD patients.<sup>263,264</sup> Arachnoid  
48 cysts are typically asymptomatic. In rare circumstances, arachnoid cysts have been  
49 associated with an increased risk for subdural hematoma.<sup>265-267</sup> Chronic subdural  
50 hematoma may present with headaches and focal neurologic deficits requiring surgical  
51 drainage.<sup>265</sup>  
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*Spinal meningeal cysts* are observed in 1.7% of ADPKD patients.<sup>268</sup> They rarely present with features of intracranial hypotension (orthostatic headache, diplopia, hearing loss, ataxia) that is caused by cerebrospinal fluid loss.

*Pancreatic cysts* are found in about 10% of patients with ADPKD.<sup>269</sup> They are usually asymptomatic but cystic compression of the pancreatic duct may rarely cause chronic pancreatitis.<sup>270</sup>

*Diverticular disease.* The prevalence of colonic diverticulosis in ADPKD may depend on renal status. In one series of ADPKD patients that had not reached ESRD, there was no increase in diverticulosis compared with controls.<sup>271</sup> However, in a smaller series of patients who had reached ESRD, diverticulosis was found in 50% (7 of 14) of ADPKD patients vs. 15% (13 of 86) of non-ADPKD controls.<sup>272</sup> In another retrospective study of ADPKD patients with ESRD, diverticulitis was found in 20% (12 of 59) of ADPKD patients versus 3% (4 of 125) in non-ADPKD controls.<sup>273</sup> There are case reports of diverticular disease in other regions of the GI tract as well.<sup>274</sup> We do not recommend routine screening for diverticulosis but one should be aware of a possible increased occurrence of diverticulosis in ADPKD patients who have reached ESRD.

*Abdominal hernias.* A retrospective study identified abdominal wall hernias (inguinal, incisional or para-umbilical) in 38 of 85 (45%) ADPKD patients on RRT vs. 8% in a matched non-ADPKD ESRD cohort.<sup>275</sup> This should be kept in mind when PD is contemplated in an ADPKD patient.

*Seminal vesicle cysts* are found in about 40% of male ADPKD patients but are not correlated with semen abnormalities.<sup>276</sup> Seminal vesicle cysts are rarely symptomatic and we do not recommend routine screening.

*Infertility.* A few studies have associated male infertility and sperm abnormalities (asthenozoospermia, defect in flagella) with ADPKD.<sup>276,277</sup> Whether infertility is more common in males with ADPKD remains unknown. Female infertility has not been associated with ADPKD.



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3 *Bronchiectasis.* In one retrospective analysis of 95 ADPKD patients, CT scan revealed  
4 radiographic bronchiectasis in 37% of the ADPKD group versus 13% of the CKD control  
5 group.<sup>278</sup> Bronchiectasis was generally mild with no clinical consequences. Therefore,  
6 we do not recommend routine screening and imaging should be guided by symptoms.  
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11 *Congenital hepatic fibrosis.* Congenital hepatic fibrosis complicated by portal  
12 hypertension, a constant association of ADPKD, is a rare but potentially life-threatening  
13 complication of ADPKD.<sup>279</sup> Increased liver echogenicity on US, decreased platelet  
14 count, enlarged left lobe of liver, or enlarged spleen should alert physicians to this  
15 possibility. While in these families liver cysts occur in multiple generations, the  
16 association with congenital hepatic fibrosis is restricted to single individuals or siblings,  
17 suggesting the importance of modifier genes. Upon diagnosis of an index case, siblings  
18 should be evaluated for this association.  
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## 29 **6. PRACTICAL INTEGRATED PATIENT SUPPORT**

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31 Despite ADPKD being the most common inherited kidney disease encountered by every  
32 nephrologist worldwide, there is a lack of knowledge about the needs of and care for  
33 patients outside the clinic environment and routine care.  
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### 37 **What should a doctor tell or give a patient at first diagnosis?**

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39 The first diagnosis contact between the patient and physician has major importance.  
40 Studies in cancer patients show that anxiety and distress can be lessened if the  
41 physician can recognize the patient's psychosocial needs and convey reassurance and  
42 support in that first consultation.<sup>280</sup> However, there are no studies about the ways to  
43 communicate about ADPKD to the newly diagnosed and how the latter react to the  
44 diagnosis. There is ample evidence to suggest that primary care providers (PCPs) do  
45 not have adequate training and knowledge about ADPKD and not all newly-diagnosed  
46 patients are referred automatically to a nephrologist. Furthermore, many nephrologists  
47 lack time and ability to explain the diagnosis and all its complex implications (e.g.,  
48 medical, personal, insurance, genetics, etc.).<sup>281</sup> Patient education programs and tools  
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3 for patients with CKD are available,<sup>282</sup> but there is little research about their  
4 implementation and effectiveness, and their relevance for ADPKD patients.  
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8 Evidence from one-to-one conversations or online community forums suggests that  
9 'shock' is a common reaction of the newly-diagnosed. A patient may feel 'sad' and  
10 sometimes 'angry' at not being told previously by a parent.<sup>283</sup> Individual patient  
11 responses will also vary widely according to personality and age, ranging from  
12 determination to learn everything about ADPKD to willingness to 'put it away' and forget.  
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18 There is consensus that all patients need simple, disease-specific information initially,  
19 including a printed material that could be read later or at home. Practical implications  
20 such as potential impact on work, insurance, lifestyle and family planning should be  
21 included. Where possible, patients should be automatically referred to local or national  
22 support groups, online references and be encouraged to find someone to talk to. Each  
23 consultation should be individualized, reassuring and tailored to the patient's literacy  
24 level and culture/language. Throughout the consultation, the physician should focus on  
25 the possibilities, not the problems, and retain a positive attitude.  
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33 Nephrologists should be familiar with the extrarenal associations of ADPKD and  
34 appropriately educate their patients. These have been covered above and will not be  
35 discussed in detail here. Women should be advised about the increased prevalence of  
36 PLD in women and that multiple pregnancies or exposure to estrogens may increase  
37 the risk for complications in those with many liver cysts.<sup>234</sup> Physicians should disclose  
38 the potential risk for cysts in other organs to provide reassurance and avoid  
39 unnecessary investigations. Despite evidence about the low risk of ICA, patients remain  
40 fearful particularly when there is family history of ICA rupture. Patients should be  
41 advised that common headaches are not due to an ICA/UIA. Conversely, if the  
42 headache is a 'thunderclap' type, seeking emergency medical advice is essential.  
43 Screening should be offered if the patient requires reassurance or is highly stressed  
44 about ICA risk.  
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3 Physicians should show empathy towards patients who present with pain. Pain should  
4 be addressed quickly to prevent the body becoming sensitized to it. Strategies for pain  
5 management in ADPKD have also been covered above.  
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### 10 **Family planning**

11 Family planning issues fall broadly into three areas: contraception/family planning,  
12 genetic counseling, and PGD/in vitro fertilization (IVF). Considerations include ethical,  
13 moral, legal, financial, and religious perspectives. Nephrologists and genetic counselors  
14 should be objective in their communication of information and options. A patient (and  
15 partner when relevant) should feel sufficiently informed and empowered to make their  
16 own decisions. Information about contraception should be provided and individualized,  
17 particularly on the risk of PLD in women. Female patients should be referred for a scan  
18 to ascertain the severity of the PLD.  
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27 For genetic counseling, consistent with current clinical practice, kidney imaging is  
28 considered sufficient. Patients should receive precise information about the extent of the  
29 disease. With increasing availability of genetic testing and clinical relevance of such  
30 testing for prognosis,<sup>16</sup> physicians and counselors will need to be trained to  
31 communicate the potential benefits and limitations of these analyses. Globally, there is  
32 a wide variation in awareness, provision and exclusion of reimbursement of genetic  
33 counseling services exists throughout the world.  
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40 The PGD/IVF subject is controversial but there was consensus that these services  
41 should be available to all patients. Cost should not be a consideration for refusal as the  
42 long-term cost to society of ADPKD is potentially significant. There is wide variation  
43 across countries (from tightly restricted to available and unregulated) in the licensing of  
44 PGD for ADPKD.  
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### 50 **Talking to children about ADPKD and deciding when to screen**

51 Parents with at-risk but undiagnosed children have three options: 1) screen the children  
52 as young as possible and disclose the results to the entire family; 2) screen and  
53 disclose results only to the parents; 3) do not screen. Parents have the right to choose.  
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4 It is preferable to be open with children if parents choose to disclose that one parent has  
5 ADPKD,<sup>284</sup> rather than face potential adverse consequences of diagnosis later in life.  
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7 Parents are advised to disclose the diagnosis to a child, strengthen their knowledge and  
8 set a good example by including the entire family in a healthy lifestyle program.  
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10 Adolescents in particular may experience a range of difficulties (with friendships,  
11 relationships, talking about ADPKD, bullying, self-worth, their future, and exclusion from  
12 sports) and in need of special support.  
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### 18 **What dietary and lifestyle modifications should be recommended?**

19 Patients with ADPKD are advised to avoid high salt/sodium intake, not smoke,<sup>285</sup> eat a  
20 healthy diet, keep hydrated, moderate their alcohol intake and take exercise.  
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22 Additionally, patients should be encouraged and supported to self-monitor their BP and  
23 weight. Physicians should explain the implications of blood test results and offer referral  
24 to a renal dietitian as necessary.  
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29 Despite general consensus on these recommendations, little is known about the  
30 effectiveness of these ADPKD-specific 'healthy' lifestyle modifications to delaying  
31 disease progression and about how to motivate patients to adhere to such a 'healthy'  
32 diet/lifestyle. The majority of ADPKD patients and families are confused about what they  
33 should, can and cannot eat or drink. It is recommended to have some measures of  
34 lifestyle change effectiveness studies, in order to encourage patient adherence.  
35  
36 Although there are a few PKD-friendly cookbooks available for all stages of the disease,  
37 more are needed and they should be offered in all languages. Renal dietitians tend to  
38 care for patients on dialysis who often follow very strict dietary regimens and the  
39 tendency is for negative messages, e.g., 'Don't eat this and that'. More comprehensive  
40 patient education, with focus on positive messages about diet and lifestyle are required.  
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42 An example would be "You can qualify for a transplant if you lose weight." Patient socio-  
43 demographics play a role in adherence<sup>286</sup> and this should be factored into  
44 dietary/lifestyle guidance. Where possible, patients could be self-empowered through  
45 web-apps and research into these types of patient support programs is encouraged.  
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3 Similarly, there is controversy about soy in the diet. It is known that soy is a suitable  
4 substitute for animal protein in CKD<sup>287</sup> (and ADPKD by extrapolation) but nothing is  
5 known about its action on PLD. There is a general lack of patient lifestyle guidance for  
6 PLD.  
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### 10 11 **Impact of hobbies and sports**

12 There is a large void of evidence on the impact of exercise in ADPKD patients.<sup>288</sup>  
13 Exercise is generally recommended, but an individual risk assessment should be  
14 carried out for concerns related to enlarged kidneys and/or liver and a disposition to cyst  
15 rupture. Historically, patients have always been told to 'avoid contact sports' but no  
16 definitions are given of these. A large retrospective study of 4.4 million 'athlete-  
17 exposures' in high school athletes with a single (non-ADPKD) kidney showed very few  
18 kidney related injuries.<sup>289</sup> Patients should be cautious of 'hard' contact sports, e.g.,  
19 American football or rugby, or other potentially problematic activities such as horseback  
20 riding, particularly when enlarged kidneys can be felt on physical examination. However,  
21 the final decision should be made by the patient or parents.  
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### 32 **Do we need to provide doctors with psychological guidelines for the care of** 33 **ADPKD patients?**

34 Physicians should actively listen and have empathy for psychological and emotional  
35 concerns of ADPKD patients, including anxiety about the condition and its impact on  
36 normal life, body image/dysmorphic issues, and sexual dysfunction. It is known that  
37 anxiety and depression are highly prevalent in CKD patients and are related to lowered  
38 life expectancy.<sup>290</sup> Dialysis disfigurement can lead to insecurity and relationship stress.  
39 Many couples split during these difficult times, further increasing stress and poor  
40 outcomes. Physicians should be trained in asking psychosocial questions to ADPKD  
41 patients. A set of indirect questions for healthcare providers may be developed to  
42 circumvent the difficulties inherent in asking such questions. Similarly, a set of prompts  
43 for these difficult conversations could also be developed for patients to ask their  
44 physicians.  
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There is a lack of knowledge and evidence about the impact of these psychological factors on the QOL of ADPKD patients. Some studies have shown that anxiety is present even in the newly diagnosed, symptomless patients.<sup>291</sup> Another study found depression in over 60% of ADPKD patients.<sup>292</sup> There is no validated tool to measure these factors in ADPKD patients. One study using the SF-36 tool concluded that it lacked the sensitivity and specificity to detect QOL changes, in particular the growing burden of cystic kidneys.<sup>70</sup> Strategies for managing anxiety exist for other chronic conditions<sup>293,294</sup> and should be tested in ADPKD.

### **Financial impacts of ADPKD: careers, income, life and health insurance**

Insurers' actuarial algorithms are out of date and do not take account of improvements in symptom management, especially hypertension.<sup>295</sup> There is inequitable access to insurance with international/regional variation. Diagnosed adults cannot purchase life insurance in many countries and positive diagnosis can impact ability to buy a house in some. Patients and physicians may not disclose it on forms but many insurers now explicitly ask about PKD or 'inherited conditions'. It is recommended that an up-to-date, 'standardized' and endorsed statement about ADPKD be produced that patients could use when dealing with banks, insurers, employees and health payers. This should be a global PKD community initiative.

### **Support for patients and families**

Nephrologists and PCPs should know where to refer patients for reliable and unbiased sources of information (Table 4) and patient support groups should raise and sustain awareness among healthcare providers of their websites. Patient groups should promote patient empowering. Patients should be encouraged to become their own advocates for care and to ask for support and information from their nephrologists. Studies of medical information available on the internet have suggested recommendations for providing up-to-date authoritative information written for the particular audience.<sup>296</sup> There is a gap in knowledge about the best sources of information, as up-to-date content is not available in all languages. More collaboration

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3 between worldwide patient groups is encouraged such as the potential development of  
4 a global 'PKD Portal'.  
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### 8 9 **Benefit of recognized 'PKD Center or Clinic' vs. single nephrologist**

10 There is consensus about the value of a multidisciplinary team approach to care, with all  
11 relevant specialties provided in one center or clinic to ADPKD patients. Benefits include:  
12 a) opportunities for patients to meet other patients; b) opportunities to publicize research  
13 studies and speed up recruitment to trials; c) potential for physicians to build up an  
14 expert network; d) potential for reduction in inefficiencies from multiple clinic  
15 appointments and fragmented care; e) potential for improved patient outcomes. There is  
16 evidence of integration benefits and impressive cost savings in the care of patients with  
17 rare diseases in general.<sup>297</sup>  
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26 There are challenges in the uneven geographical distribution of expertise and patients.  
27 Establishment of specialized services in centers of excellence would inevitably result in  
28 some patients having to travel long distances to attend. This difficulty could be  
29 addressed by the growth in telemedicine, which is implemented across a number of  
30 complex care specialties in the US and elsewhere.<sup>298</sup> A 'telenephrology' approach to  
31 care in CKD has been proposed and could be adapted for ADPKD.  
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### 40 **CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVES**

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42 As a major genetic disorder affecting up to 12 million individuals worldwide and the 4th  
43 most common global cause for RRT, ADPKD is of critical importance for nephrology  
44 and society at large. Improvements in the diagnosis and management of the disease  
45 manifestations paralleled general advances in medicine during the last century. More  
46 recently, improved understanding of the molecular genetics and biology of ADPKD have  
47 raised the hope that slowing renal disease progression or even making it  
48 inconsequential is within reach. Yet, approaches to the diagnosis, evaluation,  
49 prevention and treatment of the renal and extrarenal manifestations of ADPKD vary  
50 widely and there are no broadly accepted practice guidelines. Like other types of  
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3 inherited kidney disorders, challenges and barriers to the translation of breakthroughs in  
4 basic science to clinical care of patients with ADPKD exist, with considerable  
5 heterogeneity across various countries.<sup>299</sup> Similarly, the perceptions of the disease are  
6 also widely divergent between physicians and patients worldwide.  
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12 The KDIGO controversy conference on ADPKD represents the first global initiative that  
13 brought together a panel of multi-disciplinary clinical expertise and engaged patients  
14 from 20 countries to perform a detailed analysis of the literature and to identify areas of  
15 consensus, gaps in knowledge, and research and healthcare priorities. To this end, this  
16 conference report has proposed an extensive research agenda with the goal to close up  
17 these said gaps and resolve outstanding controversies (Table 5). Current knowledge  
18 and the large volume of ongoing clinical trials and large collaborative studies warrant  
19 the development of practice guidelines/best practice policies for ADPKD. Facing the  
20 identification of priorities for clinical research, there is a need for a global, academic  
21 network to prioritize, facilitate, coordinate and avoid duplication of such trials. Patient  
22 support organizations play a key role in closing the gap between disease understanding  
23 and the development of effective education tools, new treatments, and improved health  
24 policies.  
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**Table 1. Performance of ultrasound-based unified criteria for diagnosis or exclusion of ADPKD**

<b>Diagnostic confirmation</b>			
<b>Age (years)</b>	<b>PKD1</b>	<b>PKD2</b>	<b>Unknown gene type</b>
15-29	A total of $\geq 3$ cysts*: PPV=100%; SEN=94.3%	PPV=100%; SEN=69.5%	PPV=100%; SEN=81.7%
30-39	A total of $\geq 3$ cysts*: PPV=100%; SEN=96.6%	PPV=100%; SEN=94.9%	PPV=100%; SEN=95.5%
40-59	$\geq 2$ cysts in each kidney: PPV=100%; SEN=92.6%	PPV=100%; SEN=88.8%	PPV=100%; SEN=90%
<b>Disease exclusion</b>			
<b>Age (years)</b>	<b>PKD1</b>	<b>PKD2</b>	<b>Unknown gene type</b>
15-29	No renal cyst: NPV=99.1%; SPEC=97.6%	NPV=83.5%; SPEC=96.6%	NPV=90.8%; SPEC=97.1%
30-39	No renal cyst: NPV=100%; SPEC=96%	NPV=96.8%; SPEC=93.8%	NPV=98.3%; SPEC=94.8%
40-59	No renal cyst: NPV=100%; SPEC=93.9%	NPV=100%; SPEC=93.7%	NPV=100%; SPEC=93.9%

Abbreviations: NPV, negative predictive value; PPV, positive predictive value; SEN, sensitivity; SPEC, specificity.

\*Unilateral or bilateral.

**Table 2. Differential diagnosis of other renal cystic diseases**

Disorder	Inheritance	Family history	Clinical features
Autosomal recessive polycystic kidney disease (ARPKD)	AR	Siblings (25%)	~ 1 in 20,000. Neonatal deaths in 30%; Potter's phenotype; biliary dysgenesis (congenital hepatic fibrosis, intrahepatic bile duct dilatation), resulting in portal hypertension and cholangitis.
Renal cysts and diabetes syndrome (RCDA/ MODY 5 / HNF-1B*)	AD	Spontaneous mutations (often deletions) in 50%	Renal cysts or malformation in 90%, diabetes mellitus in 45%, hypomagnesemia in 40%, genital tract abnormalities in 20%, hyperuricemia in 20%, elevated liver enzymes in 15%
Tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC)	AD	Absent in two thirds of families	~1 in 10,000 live births. Skin lesions (facial angiofibromas, periungual fibroma, hypomelanotic macules, shagreen patch), >90%; cerebral pathology (cortical tuber, subependymal nodules, giant cell astrocytoma), 90%; renal (polycystic kidneys, angiomyolipomas), 50-70%; retinal hamartomas, 50%; lymphangioliomyomatosis.
PKD1-TSC contiguous gene syndrome	AD	Spontaneous presentation frequent	Presentation of severe ADPKD at an early age, with polycystic kidneys with renal angiomyolipomas frequently present after the first year of age.
von Hippel-Lindau syndrome	AD	~ 20% de novo	~1 in 36,000. Cerebellar and spinal hemangioblastoma; retinal angiomas; serous cystadenomas and neuroendocrine tumors of pancreas; pheochromocytoma; renal cell carcinoma.
Medullary cystic kidney disease (MCKD**)	AD	rare	Slowly progressive kidney disease; medullary cysts (but uncommon in families with type 2 MCKD [now known as ADTKD-UMOD]); hyperuricemia and gout (in type 2 MCKD [now known as ADTKD-UMOD]); small to normal sized kidneys.
Medullary sponge kidney (MSK)	Unclear	Familial clustering reported	~1 in 5000. Medullary nephrocalcinosis; kidney stones; "brush" or linear striations on intravenous pyelogram.
Simple renal cysts	Acquired	None	Common; increase in number and size with age. Normal renal function; normal-sized kidneys.
Acquired cystic kidney disease (ACKD)	Acquired	None	Common in patients with chronic renal failure or ESRD; multiple cysts associated with normal- or small-sized kidneys

Abbreviations: AD, autosomal dominant; ADTKD, autosomal dominant tubulointerstitial kidney disease; AR; autosomal recessive; ESRD, end-stage renal failure; MODY 5, maturity onset diabetes mellitus of the young type 5

\*Current designation is ADTKD-*HNF1B*

\*\*Use of the term MCKD is discouraged; formerly MCKD Type 1 should now be referred as ADTKD-*MUC1* and formerly MCKD Type 2 should now be referred as ADTKD-*UMOD*.

**Table 3. Other extrarenal manifestations of ADPKD**

Manifestation	Associated	% Affected	Screen	Comment
Cardiac valve abnormalities <sup>241-242</sup>	Yes	Mitral valve prolapse 25%	No	Screen only if cardiovascular signs/symptoms
Pericardial effusion <sup>243</sup>	Yes	Up to 35%	No	Screen only if cardiovascular signs/symptoms
Extracranial aneurysms <sup>244-48</sup>	Yes, case reports	Unknown	No	Clinicians should be aware of vascular phenotype in some patients
Arachnoid cysts <sup>250-254</sup>	Yes	8-12%	No	Possible increased risk for subdural hematoma
Spinal meningeal cysts <sup>255</sup>	Yes	1.7%	No	Rare cause of spontaneous intracranial hypotension
Pancreatic cysts <sup>256-257</sup>	Yes	10%	No	Usually asymptomatic
Diverticular disease <sup>258-262</sup>	Possibly in association with ESRD	~20-50% in ESRD	No	Increased incidence in patients who have reached ESRD
Abdominal hernias <sup>262</sup>	Yes	Unknown	No	
Seminal vesicle cysts <sup>263</sup>	Yes	~40%	No	Does not correlate with abnormal semen parameters
Male infertility <sup>263-264</sup>	Unknown	Unknown	No	Abnormal semen parameters reported
Bronchiectasis <sup>265</sup>	Possibly	37% in one series vs. 13% controls	No	One study only; mild, no clinical consequence
Congenital hepatic fibrosis (CHF) <sup>279</sup>	Yes, case reports, usually affecting only one generation within a family with ADPKD	Rare	No	Rare but potentially life-threatening; early diagnosis in siblings with ADPKD can be lifesaving with appropriate monitoring and treatment. By comparison, CHF is a constant feature in ARPKD.

Abbreviations: ADPKD, autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease; ESRD, end-stage renal disease

**Table 4. List of support information websites for ADPKD by country**

Australia	<a href="http://pkdaustralia.org">http://pkdaustralia.org</a>
Canada	<a href="http://www.endpkd.ca">http://www.endpkd.ca</a>
France	<a href="http://www.polykystose.org">http://www.polykystose.org</a>
Germany	<a href="http://www.pkdcure.de">http://www.pkdcure.de</a>
Italy	<a href="http://www.renepolicistico.it">http://www.renepolicistico.it</a>
Japan	<a href="http://www.pkdfcj.org">http://www.pkdfcj.org</a>
Netherlands	<a href="http://www.nvn.nl/nierziekten-en-behandeling/nierziekten/cystenieren">http://www.nvn.nl/nierziekten-en-behandeling/nierziekten/cystenieren</a>
Spain	<a href="http://airg-e.onmedic.org">http://airg-e.onmedic.org</a>
Switzerland	<a href="http://www.swisspkd.ch">http://www.swisspkd.ch</a>
UK	<a href="http://www.pkdcharity.org.uk">http://www.pkdcharity.org.uk</a>
USA	<a href="http://www.pkdcure.org">http://www.pkdcure.org</a>

**Table 5. Gaps in knowledge and research agenda in ADPKD**

Topic areas	Gaps in knowledge or outstanding questions	Research agenda
<b>DIAGNOSIS</b>		
Presymptomatic diagnosis in individuals at 50% risk	Factors driving the decision process: Risks (variability of life and disability insurance in different countries) and uncertain benefits of early diagnosis (particularly in children and in different prognostic subgroups).	Studies to better define the natural history of ADPKD in childhood, including different prognostic subgroups (i.e., by mutation screen and/or TKV) and to evaluate the potential clinical benefits of early screening.
Symptomatic diagnosis in individuals at 50% risk	Impact of changing resolution of imaging technologies on diagnostic criteria.	Development of criteria based on number and size of cysts and image resolution.
Diagnosis in newborns and children, or in adults with multiple renal cysts without a family history of ADPKD	Lack of evidence-based algorithms integrating clinical findings with renal imaging and molecular genetic testing.	Development of a diagnostic algorithms based on large cohorts of newborns, children and adults.
Exclusion of diagnosis in living kidney donors at risk	Is the NPV of MRI or contrast-enhanced CT (obtained during the evaluation of kidney donors) higher than that of US?	Development of MRI- and CT-based diagnostic criteria for ADPKD.
Use of PGD in ADPKD	What are the barriers for access to PGD and the reliability of <i>PKD1</i> mutation detection in PGD?	Survey ADPKD patients and physicians on awareness and attitudes towards PGD, and identification of access barriers.  Examine the performance of single (blastomere) and multiple (trophectoderm) cell biopsies to diagnose ADPKD.
<b>MONITORING KIDNEY DISEASE PROGRESSION</b>		
Total kidney volume and other volumetric parameters as prognostic biomarkers	Do specific volumes (cyst, parenchyma, intermediate) and cyst patterns (number, distribution, complexity, etc) add to the value of TKV?	Further evaluation of existing large imaging collections.
Functional MRI as an early prognostic biomarker	Is RBF measured by MRI useful to monitor disease progression?	Standardization of RBF measurements and further studies to ascertain their value.



Total kidney volume as a clinical trial endpoint	Is TKV an adequate endpoint for RCTs at early stages of the disease? Under what conditions?	Evaluation of RCTs to determine under what conditions TKV can be used as an adequate endpoint.
Total kidney volume in clinical practice	What should be included in a standard clinical report?	Assessment of available TKV rendering from clinically obtained renal images by CT, MRI and US.
Glomerular filtration rate	What is natural history of GFR during the course of ADPKD? Is there a phase of hyperfiltration? When does GFR start declining?	Large patient cohorts with many years of follow-up to define the pattern of change in GFR over time.
Estimated GFR versus measured GFR	Under which conditions is mGFR superior to eGFR in clinical trials for ADPKD? Is there an added value of eGFR equations using cystatin C?	Clinical trials comparing mGFR and eGFR when feasible. Validation of cystatin C measurements in ADPKD.
Functional nephron mass or renal reserve capacity	No validated method to measure functional nephron mass is currently available.	Develop and validate methods to measure functional nephron mass or renal reserve capacity to be used to assess renal outcome in RCTs especially in early stage disease.
Proteinuria and albuminuria	Source and pathogenesis of proteinuria and albuminuria in ADPKD. Does it add value to other prognostic indicators?	Inclusion of proteinuria and/or albuminuria to monitor response to therapy and their value as secondary outcomes in clinical trials.
Other biomarkers	What is the diagnostic and prognostic value of proteomic and metabolomics signatures in ADPKD?	Evaluate non-traditional urine and serum markers in ADPKD on a variety of platforms including metabolomics and proteomic assessments.
Quality of life	Appropriately sensitive QOL questionnaires that capture the physical and psychological stresses of patients with ADPKD do not exist.	Development and validation of methodologies and questionnaires.

<b>MANAGEMENT OF HYPERTENSION AND RENAL MANIFESTATIONS</b>		
Hypertension	<p>Preference for ACEi or ARB as first-line treatment since excellent BP control can be achieved in majority of patients with ADPKD.</p> <p>No consensus on second-line antihypertensive agents. Inconclusive evidence for antihypertensive treatments extending renal survival.</p>	<p>Clinical trials of antihypertensive agents and strategies to define second-line agents and value of aldosterone antagonists.</p> <p>Do patients with early ADPKD or with left ventricular hypertrophy benefit from low blood pressure targets?</p> <p>Compare the value of home and 24hr versus office BP measurement.</p>
Pediatric hypertension	No consensus on the age when formal screening for hypertension should be started or on what the frequency of screening should be.	<p>Studies to ascertain the value of early detection and treatment of hypertension.</p> <p>Determine whether prehypertension (BP 90-95th or even 75-95th percentile) should be treated.</p>
Dietary interventions	<p>Unproven benefit from dietary interventions in ADPKD.</p> <p>Should 24hr urine collection and analysis be used to monitor compliance?</p>	<p>Epidemiologic studies and RCTs of dietary interventions. Is increased hydration renoprotective? How to identify patients who will benefit? What should the amount of water intake be? How to monitor whether water intake is sufficient? Feasibility of maintaining increased hydration long-term?</p> <p>What type of fluid to drink? How much caffeine is harmful?</p>
Potential renoprotective therapies	When and how should hyperlipidemia or hyperuricemia be treated?	Determine whether statins slow kidney volume growth and reduce loss of kidney function in adults. Evaluate whether treating hyperuricemia slows disease progression.
Novel therapies	Disconnect between rates of progress in basic research and preclinical studies and their translation into clinical trials.	Clinical trial networks to facilitate the prioritization and implementation of RCTs.

Renal/cyst hemorrhage and hematuria	<p>Lack of a standardized protocol for the evaluation of cyst hemorrhage and gross hematuria.</p> <p>Prevalence, significance and evaluation of microscopic hematuria.</p> <p>Role for tranexamic acid to treat hemorrhagic complications?</p>	<p>Prospective RCT of tranexamic acid to treat the hemorrhagic complications of ADPKD.</p> <p>Observational studies to define the prevalence and significance of microscopic hematuria.</p>
Nephrolithiasis	Does it increase the risk for renal function decline?	Conduct epidemiological and registry studies to examine this potential association.
Renal cyst infection	<p>Lack of evidence-based algorithms to guide evaluation and treatment.</p> <p>Differences in availability of or reimbursement for FDG-PET.</p>	<p>Multicenter, cooperative studies to ascertain the value of FDG-PET and biomarkers for diagnosis and management.</p> <p>Adequacy of different duration and routes of antibiotic administration.</p> <p>Indications for and added value of cyst drainage procedures.</p>
Chronic pain	Pathogenesis is not well understood. Long-term efficacies of cyst decompression and renal denervation are not well defined.	Studies addressing pathogenesis and management. Clinical trial of catheter-based renal denervation.
Pregnancy: Maternal outcomes	Information on maternal outcomes mostly collected retrospectively from 1980s and 1990s.	<p>Multicenter, cooperative, prospective study of ADPKD pregnancies: Maternal outcomes, effects on kidney and liver cyst burdens and on renal function.</p> <p>Effects of pre-eclampsia on renal outcomes.</p>
Pregnancy: Fetal outcomes	Information on fetal outcomes mostly collected retrospectively from 1980s and 1990s.	Multicenter, cooperative, prospective study of ADPKD pregnancies: Fetal outcomes; effects of intrauterine environment on ADPKD severity.
<b>MANAGEMENT OF ESRD</b>		
Choice of RRT	Feasibility of PD in ADPKD patients.	Determine risk factors for PD failure and complications based on history and TKV/TLV size and abdominal cavity volume.

<p>Preparation for transplantation: Indications for and timing of native nephrectomy</p>	<p>No objective criteria for nephrectomy before transplantation.</p> <p>No prospective randomized comparison of prior vs. simultaneous or post-nephrectomy.</p> <p>Effect on residual renal function is unknown.</p>	<p>Development of objective criteria for nephrectomy.</p> <p>RCT comparing prior against simultaneous or post-transplant nephrectomy for volume space restriction; alternative strategies for kidney size reduction (e.g., embolization, laparoscopy).</p> <p>Assess impact of unilateral nephrectomy on residual kidney function.</p>
<p>Post-transplantation complications</p>	<p>Isolated reports, specific complications reported.</p>	<p>Registry analysis on incidence of complications in ADPKD vs. non-ADPKD and impact on long-term outcomes.</p>
<p>Using ADPKD kidneys for transplantation</p>	<p>No definition of donor, organ and recipient criteria.</p>	<p>Defining criteria for using ADPKD kidneys for transplantation; follow-up after transplantation should be collected in a global registry.</p>
<p>Risk for renal cancer in ADPKD with renal failure</p>	<p>No evidence for systematic screening in asymptomatic patients. Optimal management of suspicious lesions is unknown.</p>	<p>Long-term registry studies on the development of clinically significant RCC in dialysis and transplant patients with ADPKD.</p>
<p>Anticoagulation</p>	<p>Whether and to what extent the risk/severity of bleeding from ICAs is increased by systemic anticoagulation is not known.</p>	<p>Determine incidence and severity of kidney-related bleeding complications in ADPKD patients receiving systemic anticoagulation on dialysis and transplantation.</p>

**MANAGEMENT OF EXTRARENAL COMPLICATIONS**

<p>Intracranial aneurysm</p>	<p>Limited information on natural history of ICA in ADPKD.</p> <p>What factors trigger their formation and rupture?</p> <p>At what age should MRA screening be initiated in high-risk patients?</p> <p>What anti-hypertensive therapy is indicated in patients with ICA?</p> <p>Are the morbidity and mortality of newer therapeutic approaches (e.g., endovascular coiling) the same as in the ADPKD population?</p>	<p>Prospective multicenter/international observational studies of ADPKD individuals with ICA, coupled with PKD mutation analyses and GWAS.</p> <p>Decision analysis addressing cost, safety, and efficacy of MRA screening and therapeutic interventions.</p> <p>Prospective study of ICA screening in ADPKD patients undergoing pre-transplant evaluation or major surgery.</p>
<p>Polycystic liver disease</p>	<p>Lack of defined criteria for massive PLD, of data on how liver size correlates with symptoms and of a validated tool to measure QOL for use in clinical trials.</p> <p>Disagreement over how hormone-containing contraceptives should be utilized in young women and the effect of pregnancy on ADPKD.</p> <p>No genetic modifiers (aside from gender) or risk factors influencing PLD severity have been identified.</p>	<p>Studies to define the effects of hormonal therapies (including low-dose oral contraceptives, topical estrogens, and hormonal replacement therapy in postmenopausal women) on liver cyst growth.</p> <p>Studies to correlate liver size with symptoms and validation of a QOL instrument.</p>
<p>Polycystic liver disease: Cyst infection</p>	<p>Lack of rigorous diagnostic criteria and poor understanding of risk factors for liver cyst infection.</p> <p>Sensitivity and cost effectiveness of FDG/PET CT or CA19-9 for diagnosis of cyst infection.</p> <p>No data on liver cyst penetration of newer antibiotics. No prospective studies to define the best method to treat liver cyst infection including duration of antibiotic treatment.</p>	<p>Prospective studies to define diagnostic criteria, risk factors, optimal duration of antibiotic treatment, and risk of relapse/recurrence for liver cyst infection.</p> <p>Rigorous studies testing the sensitivity/specificity of various diagnostic tools (CA19-9, FDG/PET CT) for liver cyst infection.</p> <p>Studies of cyst penetration of newer antibiotics.</p>

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Polycystic liver disease: Treatment of symptomatic or severe disease	Need to individualize treatment.  Barriers to liver transplantation for severe PLD in some countries.	Further development of objective criteria for individualization of treatment and evaluation of outcomes
9 10 11	Additional extrarenal manifestations	Often unrecognized	Further education of physicians and patients.
12	<b>PRACTICAL INTEGRATED PATIENT SUPPORT</b>		
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Information for patients and proper diagnostic pathway	How to best inform patients about diagnosis? What about implementation, relevance and effectiveness of CKD education programs and tools for ADPKD?	Production of a standardized diagnostic care pathway with endorsement by an appropriate body; effectiveness of this pathway in improving outcomes should be ascertained.
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	Family planning	Heterogeneity and lack of knowledge in this area; need to integrate genetics, PGD/IVF options.  What is the psychological impact of diagnosis at an earlier age?	Production of a comprehensive family planning guide, with research on outcomes. Role of peer-to-peer support networks and youth counselors for children and adolescents.
28 29 30 31 32 33	Talk to children about ADPKD	How to support adolescents?  How to manage the undiagnosed, at-risk child?	Development of communication tools and observation studies to evaluate the effectiveness of such interventions.
34 35 36 37 38	Dietary and lifestyle	Effectiveness of lifestyle changes	Observational and intervention studies on lifestyle and dietary changes (e.g., water intake, long-term consequences, adequacy of monitoring).
39 40 41 42	Pain management	Efficacy of new techniques for pain relief (e.g., denervation)	Examine the efficacy of renal denervation.
43 44 45	Hobbies and sports	Impact of exercise in ADPKD patients.	Observational studies, registries.
46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60	Psychology of ADPKD patients	Impact of psychological factors in ADPKD.  Lack of validated tools or strategies for managing anxiety and depression.	Develop specific tools to measure the psychological impact of ADPKD. Test efficacy of strategies to manage anxiety and depression.

Polycystic liver disease	Impact of oral contraception and hormone replacement therapy. Effect of non-estrogen based contraceptives. Impact of other lifestyle measures and diet.	Investigate impact of hormones on PLD.
Financial impact of ADPKD	Mortality data in ADPKD patients, long-term effects of improved care. Impact of social inequalities.	Cohort and registry studies to address the effect of changing care modalities on the survival of ADPKD patients.  Development of a standardized and endorsed statement about ADPKD that patients could use it when dealing with banks, insurers, employees and health payers.
PKD centers	Lack of criteria and no study on potential benefit in terms of care and costs.	Defining criteria for expert centers; studies of the potential benefit in terms of patients and cost outcomes.  Research on telenephrology approach to ADPKD.
Patient-reported outcome measures	Usefulness of PROM in care management; specific tools needed for ADPKD.	Global initiative to create a uniform ADPKD PROM.

Abbreviations: ACEi, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; ADPKD, autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease; ARB, angiotensin-receptor blocker; BP, blood pressure; CKD, chronic kidney disease; CT, computerized tomography; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; FDG-PET, fluorodeoxyglucose-positron emission tomography; GFR, glomerular filtration rate; GWAS, genome-wide association studies; ICA, intracranial aneurysm; IVF, in vitro fertilization; mGFR, measured glomerular filtration rate; MRA, magnetic resonance angiography; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; NPV, negative predictive value; PD, peritoneal dialysis; PGD, preimplantation genetic diagnosis; PKD, polycystic kidney disease; PLD, polycystic liver disease; PROM, patient-reported outcome measures; QOL, quality of life; RBP, renal blood flow; RCC, renal cell carcinoma; RCT, randomized controlled trial; RRT, renal replacement therapy; TKV, total kidney volume; TLV, total liver volume; US, ultrasound

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