

S2 Table. Stepwise procedure for the selection of the best-fit Bayesian model

Step	Model	DIC
1	$\log R_i = \alpha$	2079.4
2	$\log R_i = \alpha + U_i + V_i$	1756.0
3	Model 2 + median estimated GFR at RRT start	1746.9
4	Model 3 + prevalence of treated diabetes	1736.0
5	Model 4 + mean travel time to reach closest nephrologist	1723.5
6	Model 5 + FDep index	1722.3
7	Model 6 + percentage of incident patients 85 years and older	1723.1
8	Model 7 – ($U_i + V_i$)	1753.0

DIC=deviance information criterion

R_i =relative risk in township i, α =intercept, U_i =autocorrelation component in township i,

V_i =heterogeneity component in township i