

Effect of Chronic Kidney Diseases on Physical Growth and Intelligence Quotient in Children and Adolescents at Assuit Children University hospital.

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Abstract

The prevalence of chronic kidney disease is increasing rapidly worldwide. The study **aimed** at assessing the effect of CKD on physical growth and intelligence quotient of children and adolescents at Assuit Children University Hospital. The study was descriptive comparative study. The study was conducted in Pediatric Nephrology and Dialysis Unit and pediatric nephrology Out-patient clinic in Assuit Children University Hospital. **Sample:** The study included 62 pediatric patients with chronic kidney diseases aged 2-18 years (CKD children) and 62 apparently healthy children aged 2-18 years who were collected from relatives of the CKD children (healthy children). There are **three tools** used for collecting data in the study, tool one is an assessment questionnaire sheet for children and parents which included sociodemographic data, past medical history and present medical history of the child. Tool two included anthropometric measurements which were plotted on Egyptian growth charts. Tool Three was stanford– Binet Intelligence Scale (SB 5). **The main results of study:** There are significantly higher subnormal percentiles in head circumference in CKD children compared to healthy children. There are very significantly higher subnormal percentiles in stature for age percentile, weight for age percentile and total, verbal and nonverbal I.Q in CKD children compared to healthy children. **Conclusion:** CKD negatively affect physical growth and intelligence quotient in children and adolescents at Assuit Children University Hospital. **Recommendations:** nurses must make sure the family schedules and keeps follow-up appointments to assess growth, developmental progress, and the effectiveness of treatment plan.

Key Words: *Chronic Kidney Diseases, Physical Growth, Intelligence Quotient, Pediatric, Nurses*

Introduction:

Prior to 2002, the term chronic renal insufficiency was used to characterize patients who had progressive decline in renal function, defined as a glomerular filtration rate (GFR) of less than 75 ml/min per 1.73 m² body surface area. Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is the new term defined by the National Kidney Foundation and Kidney Disease Outcome Quality Initiative (KDOQI) Children to classify any patient who has kidney damage lasting for at least 3 months with or without a decreased GFR or any patient who has a GFR of less than 60 ml/min per 1.73 m² lasting for 3 months with or without kidney damage (Whyte and Fine, 2008).

The prevalence of chronic kidney disease is increasing rapidly worldwide (El-Tayeb et al, 2010). The prevalence of CKD in the pediatric population is approximately 18 per 1 million (Kligman et al., 2011 and Axton and Fugate, 2009).

The presentation of CKD can be varied, either due to the primary renal disease or as a consequence of impaired renal function, with onset sometimes being silent with an insidious progression and symptoms only developing late in its course. Even with optimal care, many of these children go on to develop ESRF and require renal replacement therapy (Rashid et al., 2007).

The current CKD classification system described by the National Kidney Foundation's Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (NKF-K/DOQI) has helped remedy the situation. According to the K/DOQI scheme, CKD is characterized by stage 1 (mild disease) through stage 5 (ESRD) (Bradley et al., 2007).

Growth failure is a common yet complex problem of childhood chronic kidney disease caused by multiple factors encountered due to the primary disease or secondary to the renal impairment. The cause of growth failure in CKD is multifactorial with linear impairment being a final common pathway of various factors including the etiology of CKD, hormonal dysregulation, nutritional deficiency, metabolic acidosis, uremia, chronic anemia and persistent micro inflammation (Rashid et al., 2007).

Management of CKD prior to renal replacement therapy is thus conservative with the main aims being to slow down disease progression, optimize renal function and minimize complications secondary to CKD (Rashid et al., 2007).

Linear growth and neurocognitive development are two of the most important differences between adults and children (Greenbaum et al., 2009). Other disease-specific factors that likely mediate neurocognitive outcomes (e.g., anemia, hypertension, cardiovascular) and endorse the importance of

continued interdisciplinary research collaborations that will provide a better understanding of the mechanisms responsible for improved neurocognitive functioning after transplantation (Arlene et al., 2006).

Nursing care for patient with renal insufficiency and chronic renal failure is to observe the child for signs of progressive renal impairment. Make sure the family schedules and keeps follow-up appointments to assess growth, developmental progress, and the effectiveness of treatment plan. Family teaching for home management focuses on medication, a diet adequate in protein and calories to support growth, management of acute gastrointestinal illnesses to prevent dehydration, and care of the child with progressive renal insufficiency (Ball and Bindler, 2008).

Aim of the study

Assess the effect of chronic kidney diseases on physical growth and intelligence quotient of children and adolescents at Assiut Children University Hospital.

Research question: Do chronic kidney diseases negatively affect physical growth and intelligence quotient of children and adolescents?

Subjects and Method

Research design: Comparative research design was used to conduct this study.

Setting:-The study was conducted in Pediatric Nephrology and Dialysis Unit and pediatric nephrology Out-patient clinic in Assiut Children University Hospital.

Subjects:-

The study included 62 pediatric patients with chronic kidney diseases (convenient sample); 64.5% had nephrotic syndrome (32.3% had steroid dependant nephrotic syndrome, 16.1% had steroid resistant nephrotic syndrome and 16.1% had minimal change nephrotic syndrome), 6.5 % had chronic renal failure (not on dialysis), and 29% had end stage renal disease (on regular dialysis). As well 62 apparently healthy children who were collected from relatives of the CKD children (healthy children). CKD children were divided into two groups; CRF and ESRD group (n= 22) and nephrotic syndrome group (n=40).

Inclusion criteria: Children of both sexes, 2-18 years old with chronic kidney diseases.

Exclusion criteria:

Children presenting with massive edema, other chronic diseases that may affect growth such as tuberculosis, bronchial asthma, diabetes mellitus, congenital heart diseases and any neurocognitive impairments.

Tools of the Study:

Tool 1:- Assessment questionnaire sheet for children and parents developed by the researcher through reviewing related literature which includes:

1. Sociodemographic data of child such as name, age, sex, birth order, parents' education, family income, degree of relatedness between parents, number of siblings and residence.
2. Past medical history such as dehydration, hypotension, hypertension, congenital anomalies, severe burns, hemorrhage, post infectious glomerulonephritis and nephrotoxins.
3. Present medical history such as diagnosis, family history, duration of disease, stage, etiology and modes of presentation.

Tool 2:Anthropometric measurements sheet was used to record weight, stature, head circumference, chest circumference, skin fold thickness, mid-arm circumference, BMI, weight for age, stature for age, head circumference for age and BMI for age percentiles. Egyptian growth charts were used to plot growth measurements (DEMPU, 2008).

Tool 3:Stanford– Binet Intelligence Scale (SB 5). It is a standardized test that assesses IQ and cognitive abilities in children and adults. It provides comprehensive coverage of five factors of cognitive ability: Fluid Reasoning, knowledge, quantitative processing, visual-spatial processing and working memory (Gale Roid, 2003).

MeasureIQ Range	Category
145-160	Very gifted or highly advanced
130-144	Gifted or very advanced
120-129	Superior
110-119	High average
90-109	Average
80-89	Low average
70-79	Borderline impaired or delayed
55-69	Mildly impaired or delayed
40-54	Moderately impaired or delayed
25- 39	Severely impaired or delayed

Tool Three: Stanford– Binet Intelligence Scale (SB 5). It is a standardized test that assesses IQ and cognitive abilities in children and adults. It provides comprehensive coverage of five factors of cognitive ability: Fluid Reasoning, knowledge, quantitative processing, visual-spatial processing and working memory (Gale Roid, 2003).

Methods of data collection:

1. **Reviewing** of the related literature to assess the effect of chronic kidney diseases on physical growth and intelligence quotient of children and adolescents.
2. **An official permission** was obtained from the head of the selected departments (Assiut Children University Hospital) to collect the necessary data for the study
3. **Oral consent** was obtained from the children and parents to collect data after complete explanation of the purpose of the study. They advised of their right to withdraw from the study at any point, and that their participation status did not affect the care they received. Names were coded for data entry so that; their names could not be identified.
4. **Tools 1&2** were developed by researcher & tested for its content validity by five experts in the pediatrics field.
5. **A pilot study:** It was carried out on 10 children who suffered from CKD for testing the clarity and applicability of the study tools and estimate the length of time needed to fill the study tools. According to the results of the pilot study, the essential modifications were done and the final form was developed. Children of the pilot study were excluded from the sample.
6. **Field of the work:** The data were collected at four days of the week (Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Friday) during the period between September 2011 till June 2012 .The parents and their children were individually interviewed to fill the study tools at Pediatric Nephrology and Dialysis Unit and pediatric nephrology Out-patient clinic in Assiut Children University Hospital. The time used for filling study tools for

one child ranged between 75- 95 minutes for tool three and 15-20 minutes for tools 1 and 2 . Throughout the interview relative information was recorded in the designed study tools depending upon the response of the participant.

7. **Anthropometric measurements** for children were done and data was collected by the investigator through personal interviewing defined tools. Health resources administration standard was used to compare all growth parameters between CKD children and healthy children at < 5th; 5th- 95th and > 95th percentile.
8. Measuring I.Q for children with Stanford– Binet Intelligence Scale (full scale), fifth edition (SB 5 by the researcher after training for three weeks by specialist.

Statistical analysis:

The data obtained were reviewed, prepared for computer entry, coded, analyzed and tabulated. Data entry and analysis were done using SPSS version 16 statistical software package. Data were presented using descriptive statistics in the form of frequencies and percentages for qualitative variables, means and standard deviations for quantitative variables. Quantitative continuous data were compared using analysis of variance test in case of comparisons between two independent children. Using t.test in case of comparisons between two children. Using Chi. Square to determine significance for non-parametric variable. Using Pearson's correlation for numeric variable in the same children. For each test level of significance (P) was considered as follows:- no significance $p > 0.05$, significant difference at $p \leq 0.05$, significant difference at $p \leq 0.01$, significant difference at $p \leq 0.00$

Results**Table (1): Sociodemographic Characteristics of CKD and Healthy Children (No= 124).**

Items	CKD children		Healthy children		X ²	p- value
	No	%	No	%		
Age (years)						
2- < 6	10	16.1	14	22.6	0.876	0.831
6- < 10	16	25.8	15	24.2		
10- < 14	22	35.5	21	33.9		
14- 18	14	22.6	12	19.4		
Mean± SD	10± 4 years		9.6± 4 years			
Sex					0.000	1.000
Male	28	45.2	28	45.2		
Female	34	54.8	34	54.8		
Residence					1.091	0.296
Rural	51	82.3	56	90.3		
Urban	11	17.7	6	9.7		

Items	CKD children		Healthy children		X ²	p- value
	No	%	No	%		
Birth order					5.036	0.412
1 st	13	21	13	21		
2 nd	16	25.8	12	19.4		
3 rd	6	9.7	15	24.2		
4 th	11	17.7	8	12.9		
5 th	8	12.9	7	11.3		
>5 th	8	12.9	7	11.3		

Table (2): Percentage Distribution of CKD Children According to Etiology of CKD (No= 62).

Etiology of CKD	CKD children	
	No	%
Congenital abnormalities and hereditary conditions	12	19.2
Nephrotic syndrome	41	66.2
Multisystem conditions	3	4.8
Unknown	6	9.7

Table (3): Comparison of the Anthropometric Measurements in Both CKD and Healthy Children According to body mass index Percentile, Stature for Age Percentile, Weight for Age Percentile and Head Circumference for Age Percentile (No=124).

Items	CKD children		Healthy children		X ²	p- value
	No	%	No	%		
Body mass index percentile					1.687	0.640
Underweight (<5 th percentile)	13	21	8	12.9		
Normal weight (5 th - 85 th percentile)	47	75.8	51	82.3		
Overweight (> 85 th - 95 th)	1	1.6	2	3.2		
Obesity (more than 95 th percentile)	1	1.6	1	1.6		
Stature for age percentile					23.065	0.000***
Subnormal (<5 th percentile)	33	53.2	7	11.3		
Normal (5 th - 95 th percentile)	29	46.8	55	88.7		
Weight for age percentile					15.535	0.000***
Subnormal (<5 th percentile)	33	53.2	11	17.7		
Normal (5 th - 95 th percentile)	29	46.8	51	82.3		
Head circumference for age percentile					8.034	0.018 *
Subnormal (<5 th percentile)	3	4.8	0	0		
Normal (5 th - 95 th percentile)	59	95.2	57	91.9		
Abnormal (more than 95 th percentile)	0	0	5	8.1		

* = there is statistically significant difference at $p \leq 0.05$, ** = there is high statistically significant difference at $p \leq 0.01$, *** = there is very high statistically significant difference at $p \leq 0.001$

Table (4): Comparison between Anthropometric Measurements in Both CKD and Healthy Children (No=124).

Items	CKD children	Healthy children	p-value
	mean± SD	mean± SD	
Weight (kg)	25.919± 9.079	30.097± 12.961	0.04 *
Stature (cm)	123.645± 17.096	129.540± 22.198	0.05*
Head circumference (cm)	51.291± 1.883	52.032± 2.427	0.147
Chest circumference(cm)	63.694± 9.0488	63.815± 10.088	0.339
Mid-arm circumference (cm)	17.968± 3.609	18.766± 3.465	0.349

Items	CKD children	Healthy children	p-value
	mean± SD	mean± SD	
BMI (%)	16.487±2.566	17.090± 2.994	0.476
Skin fold thickness (mm)	8.669± 3.610	11.169± 4.995	0.002 **

* = there is statistically significant difference at $p \leq 0.05$, ** = there is high statistically significant difference at $p \leq 0.01$

Table (5): Percentage Distribution of Both CKD and Healthy Children According to Total Intelligence Quotient (No=124).

Total I.Q.	CKD children		Healthy children		X ²	p- value
	No	%	No	%		
120- 129 (superior)	1	1.6	3	4.8	33.640	0.000***
110- 119 (higher than average)	3	4.8	15	24.2		
90- 109 (average)	30	48.4	42	67.7		
80- 89 (lower than average)	23	37.1	2	3.2		
70- 79 (on the borders of retardation)	4	6.5	0	0		
55- 69 (mild retardation)	1	1.6	0	0		

*** = there is very high statistically significant difference

Table (6): Comparison between Verbal I.Q, Nonverbal I.Q and Total I.Q in Both CKD and Healthy Children (No=124).

Items	CKD children	Healthy children	p- value
	mean± SD	mean± SD	
Verbal I.Q	91.58± 12.831	104.34± 7.680	0.000***
Nonverbal I.Q	90.87± 10.883	105.32± 9.869	0.000***
Total I.Q	91.45± 10.531	104.87± 8.350	0.000***

***= there is very high statistically significant difference at $p \leq 0.001$

Table (7): Comparison between Anthropometric Measurements in Children with CRF and ESRD and Their Healthy Children According to Weight, Stature, Head Circumference, Mid-Arm Circumference, Chest Circumference, BMI and Skin Fold Thickness (No=44).

Items	CRF and ESRD children	Healthy children	p-value
	mean± SD	mean± SD	
Weight (kg)	28.532±7.143	34.136±12.474	0.074
Stature (cm)	130.545±12.53	136.136±17.396	0.228
Head circumference (cm)	51.889±1.811	52.705±2.383	0.208
Chest circumference (cm)	65.682±7.267	66.341±8.471	0.783
Mid-arm circumference (cm)	17.250±2.039	20.136±3.036	0.001***
BMI (%)	16.491±2.172	17.818±3.403	0.001***
Skin fold thickness (mm)	7.455±3.450	12.045±5.625	0.002**

** = there is high statistically significant difference at $p \leq 0.01$, *** = there is statistically significant difference at $p \leq 0.001$

Table (8): Comparison between Total I.Q, Nonverbal I.Q and Verbal I.Q in CRF and ESRD Children and Their Healthy Children (No= 44).

Items	CRF and ESRD children	Healthy children	p-value
	mean± SD	mean± SD	
Total I.Q	90.50± 12.546	104.27± 7.808	0.001 ***
Nonverbal I.Q	89.95± 12.116	104.9±8.837	0.001 ***
Verbal I.Q	90.59± 15.333	104.36± 7.234	0.001 ***

*** = there is very high statistically significant difference at $p \leq 0.001$

Table (9): Comparison Between Anthropometric Measurements in Children With Nephrotic syndrome and Their Healthy Children According to Weight, Stature, Head Circumference, Chest Circumference, Mid-arm Circumference BMI and Skin Fold Thickness (No= 80).

Items	Nephrotic Syndrome children	Healthy children	p-value
	mean± SD	mean± SD	
Weight (kg)	24.488± 9.774	27.875± 12.833	0.188
Stature (cm)	119.850± 18.192	125.913± 23.869	0.205
Head circumference (cm)	50.963± 1.861	51.663± 2.400	0.149
Chest circumference (cm)	62.600± 9.806	62.425± 10.721	0.939
Mid-arm circumference (cm)	18.363± 4.206	18.013± 3.489	0.687
BMI (%)	16.485± 2.785	16.690± 2.706	0.739
Skin fold thickness (mm)	9.338± 3.561	10.688± 4.617	0.147

Table (10): Comparison between I.Q, Nonverbal I.Q and Verbal I.Q in Nephrotic Syndrome Children and Their Healthy Children (No=80).

Items	Nephrotic syndrome children	Healthy children	p-value
	mean± SD	mean± SD	
Verbal I.Q	92.13± 11.404	104.33± 8.004	0.001***
Nonverbal I.Q	91.38± 10.270	106.00± 10.439	0.001***
Total I.Q	91.98± 9.377	105.20± 8.713	0.001***

*** = there is very high statistically significant difference at $p \leq 0.001$

Table 1 shows that nearly more than half of CKD children were females (54.8%) and the majority of them were living in the rural areas (82.3%) and the highest percentage of children suffering from CKD was between 10 to <14 years (35.5%). Regarding age mean± SD, it was 120.476± 47.653 months.

Table 2 shows that congenital abnormalities and hereditary conditions represent 19.2 %, nephrotic syndrome 66.2%, multisystem conditions 4.8% and unknown 9.7%.

Table 3 shows significantly higher subnormal percentiles (<5th percentile) in head circumference in CKD children compared to healthy children. There are very significantly higher subnormal percentiles in stature for age percentile (53.2% vs. 11.3% respectively) and weight for age percentile in CKD children compared to healthy children (53.2% vs. 17.7% respectively).

Table 4 shows means of head circumference, chest circumference, mid-arm circumference and BMI, no statistical significant differences were found.

Regarding weight of CKD and healthy children, there was a statistical significant difference (mean± SD= 25.919± 9.079 and 30.097± 12.961 respectively). Regarding height of CKD and healthy children, there was a statistical significant difference (mean± SD= 123.645± 17.096 and 129.540± 22.198 respectively). Regarding skin fold thickness there was a high statistical significant difference (mean± SD= 8.669± 3.610 and 11.169± 4.995 respectively).

Table 5 shows very high statistical significant differences between CKD and healthy children as regard total I.Q, 1.6% of CKD children and 4.8% of healthy children were superior (120- 129), 4.8% and 24.2% respectively had higher than average scores (110- 119). The highest percentage in CKD and healthy children (48.4% and 67.7% respectively) had

average scores (90- 109), 37.1% and 3.2% respectively were lower than average (80- 89), 6.5% and 0% respectively were on the borders of retardation (70- 79) and 1.6% and 0% respectively had mild retardation (55- 69).

Table 6 shows very high statistical significant differences between mean± SD of CKD and healthy children as regards total I.Q, non verbal I.Q and verbal I.Q.

Table 7 shows anthropometric measurements in children with CRF and ESRD and their healthy children; regarding to mean± SD of stature, weight, head circumference and chest circumference there were no statistical significant differences. Regarding to mid-arm circumference and BMI there were very high statistical significant differences (mean± SD of MAC (cm) were 17.250±2.039 and 20.136±3.036 respectively and BMI (%) were 16.491±2.172 and 17.818±3.403 respectively). Regarding to skin fold thickness there were high statistical significant differences (mean± SD were 7.455±3.450 and 12.045±5.625 respectively).

Table 8 shows very high statistical significant differences between mean± SD of total I.Q, nonverbal I.Q and verbal I.Q in CRF and ESRD children and their healthy children. Also there were very high statistical significant differences between mean± SD of I.Q in nephrotic syndrome children and their healthy children.

Discussion

It was observed that nearly more than half of CKD children were females (54.8%) and the majority of them were living in the rural areas (82.3%). This observation may be explained by that rural families are often from low socioeconomic strata, which in turn seek medical advice in the local unequipped health units or may delay seeking medical advice. Also this may be explained by more than half (58.1%) of mothers and 40.4% of fathers were illiterate/ read and write.

This finding is in contrast with those of **Ragab M and Ragab A, 2007** in Mansoura Children University hospital which stated that 32% were females and 68% were males. Also **Ahmadzadeh et al., 2009** in their study in Iran stated that, among 181 studied children, 58% were males and **Mohamed, 2008** found that 56.7% were males and 43.3% were females, 5% were living in urban and 95% were living in rural areas in studying 60 children 6- 12 years with nephrotic syndrome in Assiut children University Hospital.

In the current study the highest percentage of children suffering from CKD was between 10 to <14 years (35.5%). Regarding age mean± SD, it was 120.476±

47.653 months. These findings are consistent with those of **Hooper et al., 2011** which were 10- 13 years (33.4%) and in Zagazig university hospital a study was done on 15 pediatric patients with ESRD on regular hemodialysis between 5 and 14 years (mean age 10.6± 2.8 years) by **Youssef et al., 2012**. These findings are in contrast with those of **Mohamed, 2008** in which sociodemographic data showed that highest percent of school-age children with nephrotic syndrome (60 cases) between 6- 8 years were 48.3 % in Assiut Children University hospital.

In the present study congenital abnormalities and hereditary conditions represents 19.2 %, nephrotic syndrome 66.2%, multisystem conditions 4.8% and unknown 9.7%. In the other hand **Ahmadzadeh et al., 2009** in their study in Iran stated that congenital malformations and hereditary conditions were the commonest cause of CKD (67.6%), multisystemic diseases 4.3%, chronic glomerulonephritis 6.5%, and miscellaneous and unknown 10.8% for each one.

In the current study there are significantly higher subnormal percentiles (<5th percentile) in head circumference in CKD children compared to healthy children. There are very significantly higher subnormal percentiles in stature for age percentile (53.2% vs. 11.3% respectively) and weight for age percentile in CKD children compared to healthy children (53.2% vs. 17.7% respectively).

According to means of stature, head circumference, chest circumference, mid-arm circumference and BMI no statistical significant differences were found. These findings may be explained by age variations in two children, 66.1% of children were in first stage of CKD also the highest percentage (35.5%) was during the first year of diagnosis with CKD.

Regarding weight of CKD and healthy children, there was a statistical significant difference (mean± SD= 25.919± 9.079 and 30.097± 12.961 respectively). Regarding height of CKD and healthy children, there was a statistical significant difference (mean± SD= 123.645± 17.096 and 129.540± 22.198 respectively). Regarding skin fold thickness there was a high statistical significant difference (mean± SD= 8.669± 3.610 and 11.169± 4.995 respectively), these finding can be explained by pathophysiology of disease.

Anthropometric measurements in children with CRF and ESRD and their healthy children in the current study; regarding to mean± SD of stature, weight, head circumference and chest circumference there were no statistical significant differences. Regarding to mid-arm circumference and BMI there were very high statistical significant differences (mean± SD of MAC (cm) were 17.250±2.039 and 20.136±3.036 respectively and

BMI (%) were 16.491 ± 2.172 and 17.818 ± 3.403 respectively). Regarding to skin fold thickness there were high statistical significant differences (mean \pm SD were 7.455 ± 3.450 and 12.045 ± 5.625 respectively). Retarded growth can be explained by pathophysiologic changes of CKD (e.g., hypertension, anemia, hyperparathyroidism and growth hormone resistance) and decreased health care related to nutritional disorders.

In the current study, anthropometric measurements in children with nephrotic syndrome and their healthy children according to BMI, stature, weight, head circumference, chest circumference, mid-arm circumference and skin fold thickness, there were no statistical significant differences. These findings can be explained by all children with nephrotic syndrome had mild renal impairments, also may be due to variations in age of children in both children.

In the same line, **Foster and Leonard, 2004** stated that Mild-to-moderate deficits in triceps skin fold thickness have been reported in children with CKD. **Abudaif, 2004** studied 50 infants and children (**6 months- 14 years**) with chronic kidney diseases in Sohag University Hospital and stated that mean \pm SD of weight of patient with chronic renal diseases was significantly lower than that of the control subjects (**12.38 ± 6.12 and 17.76 ± 6.13 respectively, $P < 0.001$**), only 17 patients showed ideal weight for age and only 7 patients showed head circumference for age $< 5^{\text{th}}$ percentiles but, in the other hand **Abudaif, 2004** found that means and standard deviations of height, head circumference and mid-arm circumference of patient with chronic renal diseases was significantly lower than that of the control subjects (93.66 ± 18.53 , 47.89 ± 2.99 & 10.05 ± 3.9 respectively).

Also in the same line **Gupta et al., 2011** found that Kuwaiti patients with ESRF had a lower body mass index when compared with the controls. Moreover, **Bahbah et al., 2011** found that no statistical significant differences in height and weight between conservative children and their controls (mean \pm SD of weight = 12.73 ± 4.68 and 12.4 ± 3.56 respectively; mean \pm SD of height = 136.8 ± 28.89 and 147.1 ± 13.95 respectively). As regard dialysis and control children, they found high significant statistical difference between their weights ($P < 0.001$) and no significant statistical difference between their heights $p > 0.05$, mean \pm SD = **136 ± 12.08** and 147.1 ± 13.95 respectively, as regard conservative and control children, they found no significant statistical difference between their weights ($P > 0.05$) and no significant statistical difference between their heights (**$p > 0.05$**).

In the current study there are very high statistical significant differences between CKD and healthy

children as regard total I.Q, 1.6% of CKD children and 4.8% of healthy children were superior (120-129), 4.8% and 24.2% respectively had higher than average scores (110- 119). The highest percentage in CKD and healthy children (48.4% and 67.7% respectively) had average scores (90- 109), 37.1% and 3.2% respectively were lower than average (80-89), 6.5% and 0% respectively were on the borders of retardation (70- 79) and 1.6% and 0% respectively had mild retardation (55- 69). These findings may relate to the effects of disease chronicity, disease progression, age of onset, anemia, protein loss and hypertension.

There were very high statistical significant differences between mean \pm SD of CKD and healthy children as regards total I.Q, non verbal I.Q and verbal I.Q. There were very high statistical significant differences between mean \pm SD of total I.Q, nonverbal I.Q and verbal I.Q in CRF and ESRD children and their healthy children. Also there were very high statistical significant differences between mean \pm SD of I.Q in nephrotic syndrome children and their healthy children.

In the same line **Warady et al., 1999** reported a relatively intact I.Q, with 15 of 19 (79%) in the average range. In this children, 13 of 18 (72%) achieved average verbal I.Q scores, while only 10 (56%) scored in the average range in the nonverbal subtest in 19 children with a mean age of 6.6 ± 1.3 years who had ESRD from infancy, **also Brouhard et al., 2000** described a significantly lower I.Q in the children with kidney disease compared with their sibling controls, **Gipson et al., 2006** revealed a significant difference between the children in I.Q, with the typical children being significantly higher than the CKD children.

Also findings of **Duquete et al., 2007** suggested that children with CKD may be vulnerable to subtle, specific deficits in domains of attention relative to their typically-developing peers, results also suggested that this finding of specific attention problems may be particularly relevant for children with more severe levels of CKD. Moreover, **Amr et al., 2013** in their study at Mansoura University Children hospital on 24 children with CKD, and 12 children as controls between the ages of ten years and 15 years were assessed using the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (WISC). Mean scores in verbal, performance, and full scale I.Q were significantly lower in the predialysis and dialysis children than in the healthy children.

Conclusion

The present study concluded that children and adolescents with CKD had lower growth parameters and lower IQ scores compared to normal children.

Recommendations

1. Health education sessions should be conducted to mothers and children to improve the compliance to the prescribed treatment as well as to help them to adapt with their limitation of the disease and its management.
2. Early nutritional intervention and the prevention and treatment of metabolic deficits are key components in the preservation of growth in a child with CKD.
3. Awareness of individuals at an increased risk, along with early diagnosis and adequate management of many predisposing conditions could prevent progression to more severe renal disease which has potentially devastating effects on every aspect of a child's life.
4. The recognition that a child has growth failure in its most early stages and treating its causes will have a significant long term effect on the medical and psychosocial outcome of the child with CKD.
5. Educational and psychosocial supports are critical for children with CKD, and it may be important to monitor their cognitive functioning and academic progress over time.
6. Recombinant human growth hormone therapy should be introduced as early as possible when appropriate.

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