

THE INFLUENCE OF EARLY PERITONITIS APPEARANCE ON TECHNIQUE FAILURE FOR PERITONEAL DIALYSIS PATIENTS

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INTRODUCTION AND AIM: *“ The aim of this study was to evaluate the effect of time to first peritonitis appearance on Peritoneal Dialysis (PD) technique survival”*

Peritonitis appearance rate is related with technique failure and overall morbidity and mortality for peritoneal dialysis patients. However the impact of the early appearance of the first peritonitis episode on technique survival is unknown.

PATIENTS - METHOD : *“ This is a single center retrospective study of 319 patients conducted for the time period from 1994 to 2014 (20 years) with at least one peritonitis episode ”*

Patients' characteristics

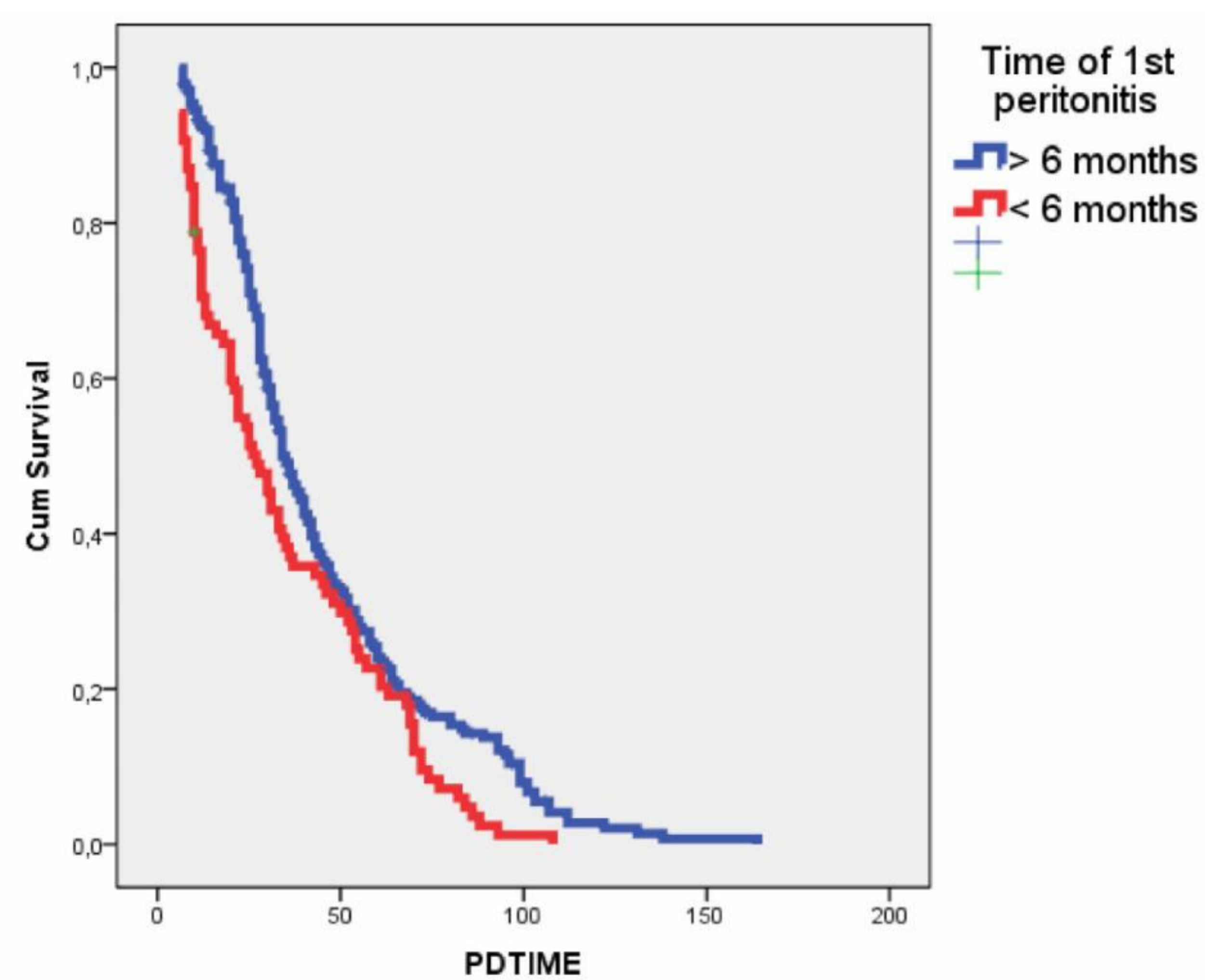
N= 319 (169 m + 150 f)	Mean values±SD
Age	67.5±12.9 years
PD duration	39.5±28.5 months
Mean peritonitis number per patient	2.08±1 episodes
Mean time to first peritonitis episode appearance	19.9±14 months

The patients were divided into two groups. In **group A** we included patients with time to first peritonitis episode **over 6 months** and **group B** below 6 months. Kaplan Meier method was used to investigate the effect of time to first peritonitis episode on technique survival

RESULTS: *Comparing the two groups (table 1) we did not find any statistically significant difference according to the age of our patients (p=0.585) while in group A more diabetic patients were included (p=0.032)*

Table 1

Group (n)	Age mean±SD	Diabetics / Non Diabetics	Time to 1 st Peritonitis mean±SD	N° Peritonitis mean±SD
Group A (234)	67.14±13.12	86 /148	26.05±19.8	1.54±0.01
Group B (85)	68.52±12.5	21 / 64	2.77±1.8	3.57±2.59



The patients **with delayed (>6 months) appearance** of the first peritonitis episode have shown a **statistically significantly higher technique survival** than those with earlier than six months
 Group A: 45±2.13 months
 Group B: 35.3±2.9 months
 (Log Rank p: 0.007).

Group B had also statistically significant **greater mean number of peritonitis episodes per patient** (p <0.001)

CONCLUSIONS:

The time to first peritonitis episode was significantly correlated with **peritoneal dialysis outcome**. Early in less than 6 months, peritonitis appearance was associated with greater peritonitis rates and inferior technique survival rates of peritoneal dialysis patients

