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BACKGROUND

Hypovitaminosis D is well documented in patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) and has been associated with poor outcome even in the earlier stages of the disease. This condition should not be a problem in a tropical country which has abundant solar exposure.

OBJECTIVE

This study aimed to evaluate the prevalence of hypovitaminosis D in an outpatient population with CKD on conservative treatment from a nephrology clinic in northeastern Brazil and check the factors associated with this insufficiency and deficiency.

METHODS

This cross-sectional study included 270 patients with CKD at stages 2 to 5 within 4 years (jan/2010 to dec/2013). Were evaluated as the characteristics of gender (51.9% male), age (64.1 ± 16.5 years), creatinine clearance estimated by the Cockcroft-Gault formula (GFR: 30.8 ± 14.1 mL/minute) and etiologic diagnosis (diabetes 35,2%, hypertension 30%, glomerulonephritis 5.9%, other 21.9%, unspecified 7%). Serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D [25-(OH)D] was measured by chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay, and we analyzed the clinical and laboratorial variables related to patients with adequate levels of 25-(OH)D (> 30 ng/mL) and hypovitaminosis D (≤ 30 ng/ml). The following laboratory parameters were measured: calcium (Ca), phosphorus (P) and intact parathyroid hormone (iPTH).

RESULTS

Hypovitaminosis D was observed in 56.7% of patients, 51.5% had insufficiency (15 to 30ng/ml) and 5.2% deficiency (< 15 ng/ml). The risk factors for hypovitaminosis D were female gender (odds ratio: 1.77; 95% CI: 1.05 to 2.96; $p=0.030$), diabetes (odds ratio: 3.31; 95% CI: 1.84 to 5.96; $p<0.001$), GFR <30 mL/minute (odds ratio: 1.75; 95% CI: 1.04 to 2.93; $p=0.033$). The table below shows the comparative analysis of the groups.

	Hypovitaminosis D		p-value
	Yes	No	
Age (years)	66.67 \pm 16.21	60.83 \pm 16.41	0.004 *
25-(OH)D (ng/mL)	22.93 \pm 5.08	38.67 \pm 7.21	< 0.001 *
GFR (mL/min)	28.76 \pm 13.62	33.41 \pm 14.29	0.004 **
iPTH (pg/mL)	162.12 \pm 133.22	129.29 \pm 120.04	0.003 **
P (mg/dL)	3.76 \pm 0.81	3.55 \pm 0.67	0.024 *
Ca (mg/dL)	9.29 \pm 0.93	9.26 \pm 0.65	0.743 *

Results expressed in mean \pm standard deviation.
(*) Teste t Student (**) Teste de Mann-Whitney.

CONCLUSIONS

Hypovitaminosis D is highly prevalent among patients with nondialyzed CKD, even in a tropical country. Diabetes, female gender and poor GFR are risk factors for hypovitaminosis D. Hypovitaminosis D is associated with worse mineral and bone disease profile.

