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INTRODUCTION AND AIMS: Peritoneal dialysis (PD) is an important form of treatment for patients with late stage chronic kidney failure requiring renal replacement therapy; however, the percentage of patients treated with PD is still low in Europe and the rest of the world. This trend is difficult to explain considering that the clinical results obtained from PD in terms of patient survival are even better than those obtained from hemodialysis (HD) in the early years of the treatment. Among the potential causes of the underutilization of PD, the lack of adequate training has an important place.

METHODS: Theoretical and practical training of physicians and nurses was introduced in 2009. within Zvezdara University Medical Center for a period of two weeks. In addition, program of continuous quality improvement (CQI) on an annual basis was aimed of improving the standard of treatment and reducing method- related complications. Data were presented for every year since 2009 including number of patients, PD modality, modality-related complications and outcome.

RESULTS

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
PD, overall	95	113	119	147	153	170	179
HD, No	1242	1179	1206	1241	1291	1297	1309
PD penetration	7.1%	8.7%	9.0%	10.6%	10.6%	11.6%	12.0%

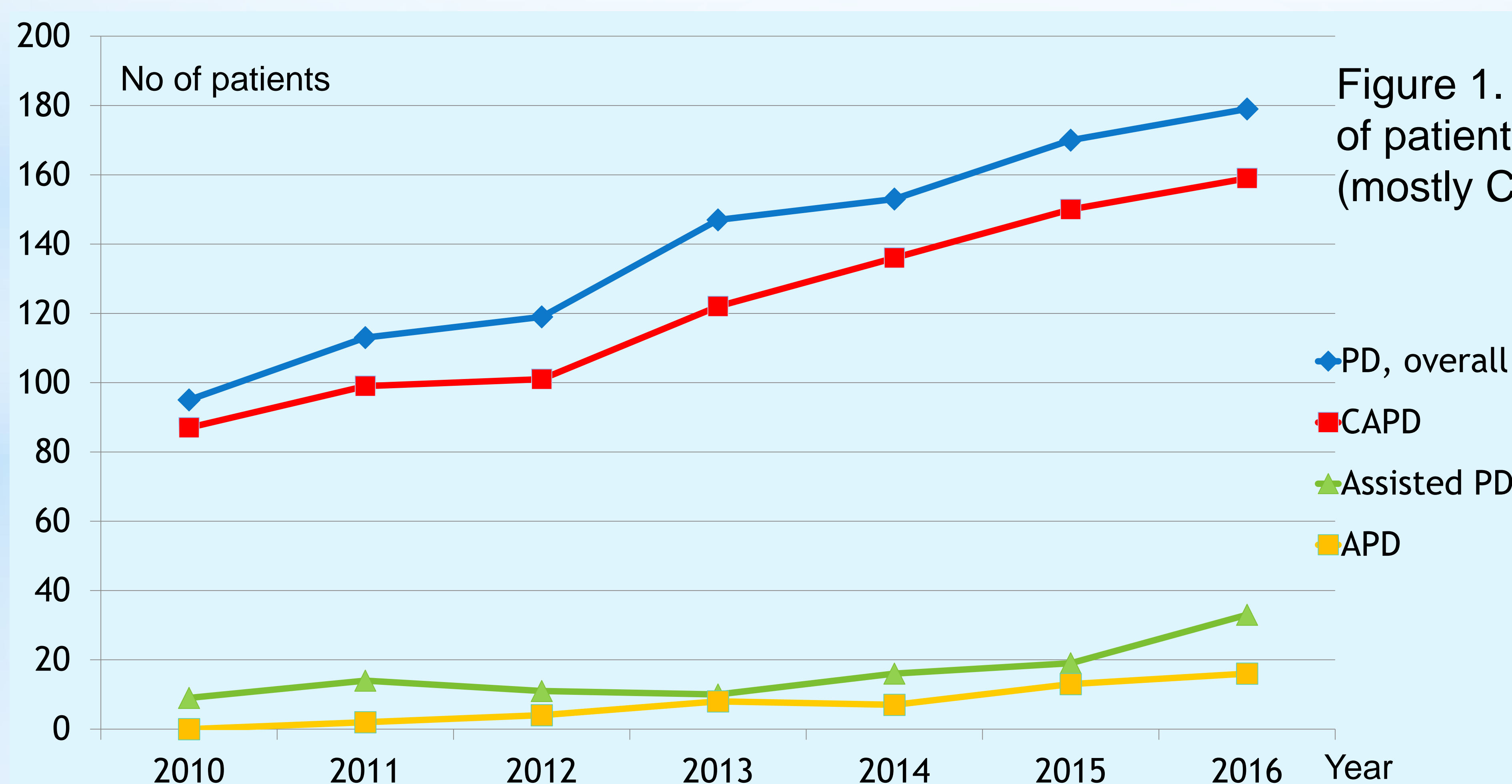


Figure 1. Annual increase in number of patients on peritoneal dialysis (mostly CAPD)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Peritonitis*	1/45.6	1/58.9	1/49.2	1/47.7	1/51	1/45.3	1/49.9
ES infection*	1/81.4	1/123.3	1/178.5	1/110.3	1/91.8	1/56.7	1/67.1
Tunnel infection#	0	3	0	3	6	9	7
Leaking#	0	1	1	2	1	2	3
Catheter malfunction#	3	1	3	4	4	2	8
Hernia#	0	2	1	3	3	3	3
Switch to HD#	0	1	0	0	1	7	8
Deaths, % of overall	11.6%	14.2%	12.6%	16.3%	11.8%	11.2%	16.8%

*1 episode/patientmonths, #overall number of episodes

CONCLUSION: National-based or regional-based program of PD penetration may significantly improve the attitude toward the PD and keep the standard of care on the high level. Although survival rate in our patients is in accordance with some other reports, it requires further improvement through the CQI process.