

## THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN UREMIC PRURITUS AND SERUM IL-31 LEVELS IN HEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS

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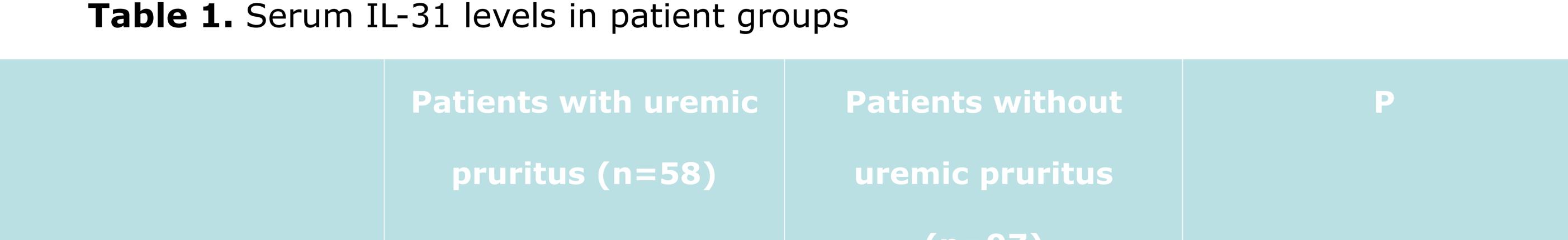
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**Introduction:** Uremic pruritus is a common condition in dialysis patient. The pathophysiology of uremic pruritus is unclear (1, 2). Interleukin 31 (IL-31) plays a major role in the development of pruritic skin diseases such as atopic dermatitis and allergic contact dermatitis (3, 4). In a study suggested that higher serum IL-31 levels in dialysis patients with pruritus as compared to those without pruritus (5). The aim of this study was to examine the association between uremic pruritus and serum IL-31 levels in hemodialysis patients.

**Methods:** A total of 155 patients undergoing regular dialysis for a minimum duration of 3 months were included in this study. Patients with active infection, cooperation problems, primary skin disorders, acute hepatitis or cholestatic liver disease, or active malignancy were excluded. Pruritus was measured using the Visual Analogue Scale (VAS), with a score range between 0 and 10. ELISA kits were used to measure serum IL-31 levels in all patients.

**Results:** Of the 155 participants were 60 female and 95 male. Average age of participants were 59.4  $\pm$  13.7 years. Uremic pruritus was present in 58 patients (37.4%). Patients with uremic pruritus had significantly higher IL-31 levels than those without pruritus (p < 0.001) (Table 1). Also, a positive correlation between VAS score and serum IL-31 levels was found (r= 0.594, p< 0.001).

**Conclusion:** Serum IL-31 levels are increased in hemodialysis patients with uremic pruritus. Further studies may provide more insight into new therapeutic mechanisms for the management of uremic pruritus.



		(n=97)	
IL-31 (pg/ml)	1.79 ± 0.22	1.48 ± 0.27	< 0.001

**Kaynaklar:** 1. Mathur VS, Lindberg J, Germain M, et al. A longitudinal study of uremic pruritus in hemodialysis patients. Clin J Am Soc Nephrol 2010; 5: 1410-9. 2. Pisoni RL, Wikstrom B, Elder SJ, et al. Pruritus in hemodialysis patients: international results from the dialysis outcomes and practice patterns study (DOPPS). Nephrol Dial Transplant 2006; 21: 3495-505.

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