

Resource Summary Report

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Markers of endothelial dysfunction and arterial stiffness in patients with early-stage autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease: a meta-analysis

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Protocol Information

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Summary: Autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (ADPKD) represents the most prevalent life-threatening monogenetic hereditary kidney disease. Hypertension occurs early in the course of the disease and is linked to progressive decline of glomerular filtration rate, as well as with higher cardiovascular morbidity. Experimental studies support that both polycystin 1 and 2 are expressed in the cilia of endothelial and vascular smooth muscle cells, serving as mechanoreceptors that sense shear stress. Loss of polycystins may lead to reduced nitric oxide production, promoting vasoconstriction, renal hypoxia and functional decline. Several observational studies have recently evaluated endothelial damage in ADPKD patients by using surrogate markers, although no firm consensus exists about endothelial dysfunction and arterial stiffness in early-stage patients with preserved renal function. Therefore, a meta-analysis is planned in order to accumulate current literature evidence in the field and compare makers of endothelial dysfunction and arterial stiffness among early-stage ADPKD patients with preserved renal function and healthy controls.

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