

Appendix 1

Table 1: Draft of initial appraisal tool (with example) for prospective studies

[illegible]

Table 2: Data extraction tool (with example) for articles addressing Question 1: Prognosis and Survival

Title	Primary Author / Year	Type of paper	Parameters studied	Population	Context	Methods	Main Findings / Comments
A clinical score to predict 6-month prognosis in elderly patients starting dialysis for end-stage renal disease	Couchod C; 2008	Clinical Research	6 – month mortality; using a calculated prognostic score	>75 yrs; Started dialysis between 2002 to 2006. N= 2500	Patients on dialysis	Prospective observational registry – based; tested prognostic variables, derived score; then validated	Median score was 2 points –mortality 17% ; Mortality varied from 8% to 70% according to score group

Table 3 Data extraction tool (with example) for studies answering Question 2(a) – factors influencing quality of life

Title (Year)	Primary Author	Type of paper	Factors studied	Population	Context	Methods	Main Findings / Comments
CKD in Elderly Patients Managed without Dialysis: Survival, Symptoms, and Quality of Life	Brown M; 2015	Clinical Research	Survival, Symptoms, quality of life	>75 yrs; Cons. versus dialysis at time of decision	Pre - dialysis clinics, Palliative renal clinics	Prospective observational	Non-dialysis patients had stable QOL compared to pre-dialysis patients

Table 4 Data extraction tool (with example) for studies answering Question 2(b) – Lived experience of dialysis / non-dialysis care

Title (Year)	Primary Author	Type of paper	Aim/Scope	Population	Context	Methods	Main Findings / Themes / Comments
Meaning, comprehension, and manageability of end-stage renal disease in older adults living with long-term hemodialysis.	Karolich R; 2010	Quantitative and Qualitative Research	The association between perceived meaning of chronic illness and adherence to treatment	100 'elderly' patients on dialysis	Dialysis clinic	Surveys; face-to-face interviews	Subjective meanings attached to illness influence how the illness is managed

Table 5 Data extraction tool (with incomplete example) for studies answering Question 3

Title (Year)	Primary Author	Type of paper	Aim/Scope	Population	Context	Methods	Main Findings / Themes / Comments
Discussions of the Kidney Disease Trajectory by Elderly Patients and Nephrologists: A Qualitative Study	Schell,J; 2012	Qualitative Research	To describe how nephrologists and older patients discuss and understand the prognosis and course of kidney disease leading to renal replacement therapy	11 nephrologists and 29 patients (aged > 65); with CKD or on dialysis	Pre - dialysis clinics, Palliative renal clinics	Focus groups; face-to-face interviews	Patient - reported themes were....