About this Release

This ninth report from the Scottish Renal Registry (SRR) follows the outline of previous reports and presents information about the causes, incidence, prevalence, distribution, methods of treatment and outcome of patients receiving renal replacement therapy (RRT) for established renal failure (ERF) between 1960 and 31 December 2012. It also presents audit data relating to measures of quality of treatment delivered from May 2013.

Key Points

- **Incidence:** In 2012 101 patients per million population (pmp) started RRT for ERF in Scotland. The incidence is similar to the past two years and no longer seems to be decreasing. The number and incidence pmp of patients aged ≥ 75 years when starting RRT continues to fall.

- **Prevalence:** On 31 December 2012 there were 4561 patients receiving RRT. Of these 52% of patients had a functioning kidney transplant, 42% were being treated with haemodialysis (HD) and 4% with peritoneal dialysis (PD). In contrast to numbers of new patients starting RRT, the number of prevalent patients is still rising.

- **Life expectancy:** The life expectancy of patients receiving RRT is shorter than that of the general population. The survival of patients was influenced by their age at the time of starting RRT and also by their primary renal diagnosis (PRD). Of those patients with diabetic nephropathy who started RRT over the past 25 years when aged between 45 to 64 years, mortality was 78% at 5 years and 96% at 10 years. In contrast, the life expectancy of a male from the general population aged 55 years is 24.7 years.

- **Kidney transplantation:** 228 patients received a kidney transplant in Scotland in 2012. 27% of kidney transplants performed 2008-2012 were from live kidney donors. Kidney transplants performed in 2011 had a 94% one year graft survival and 97.5% one year patient survival.

- **Vascular access for HD:** In May 2013, 77% of HD patients had an arteriovenous (AV) fistula which is regarded as the best form of vascular access for HD. The remaining 23% were using central venous catheters which are prone to infection. 46% of patients started HD via AV access in the first six months of 2013 and 42% started with AV access in 2012.
guidance is that at least 65% of incident patients should commence HD via AV access.

- **Mortality:** 2172 adult patients died while receiving RRT 2008-2012, 69% of them died in hospital. Cardiovascular disease was the most common cause of death in all age groups and for all RRT modalities.

**Background**

The Scottish Renal Registry (SRR) is a national registry which collects and analyses data for patients who receive RRT for ERF. Data has been collected from Scottish renal units since 1960, which is the year when regular and routine renal replacement therapy (RRT) for established renal disease (ESRD) started in Scotland.

All renal units in Scotland fully participate in the data collection of the SRR and all patients receiving RRT for ERF are registered. On 31 December 2012 there were nine adult and one paediatric renal units in Scotland with 25 satellite dialysis units between them.

Through the collection of national data, the SRR aims to improve the quality of renal services provided in Scotland through audit and peer review; plan for the provision of future renal services; undertake research including the production of basic demography and epidemiology statistics and helps support the training of medical staff.

Detailed information about the SRR computer hardware, software, analytic tools, the SRR office, staff, steering group, projects, data quality assurance, publications, security and confidentiality and details of how data are provided to external bodies are published on the SRR website [http://www.srr.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.srr.scot.nhs.uk)

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### Further Information

Further information can be found in the full report, on the Audit/Registry website or on the ISD website.

**About ISD**

Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up. Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves. [www.isdscotland.org/](http://www.isdscotland.org/)