

GRUPPO CARDIO-NEFRO-METABOLICO ASUGI:
FOCUS FINERENONE

FINERENONE: DATI DI NEFROPROTEZIONE

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EPIDEMIOLOGY

Epidemiology of chronic kidney disease: an update 2022

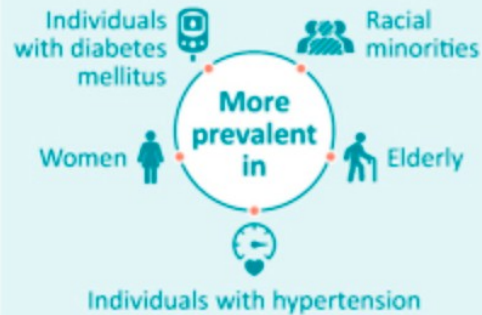
kidney
INTERNATIONAL
supplements



Extremely common

843,6 Million
in 2017

Approximately **1 in 10**



Increasing death rate

+41.5% 1990 to 2017



Rank in cause of death

Large burden in
low- and middle-income countries



Among the **top 10 causes** of death
in Singapore, Greece, and Israel

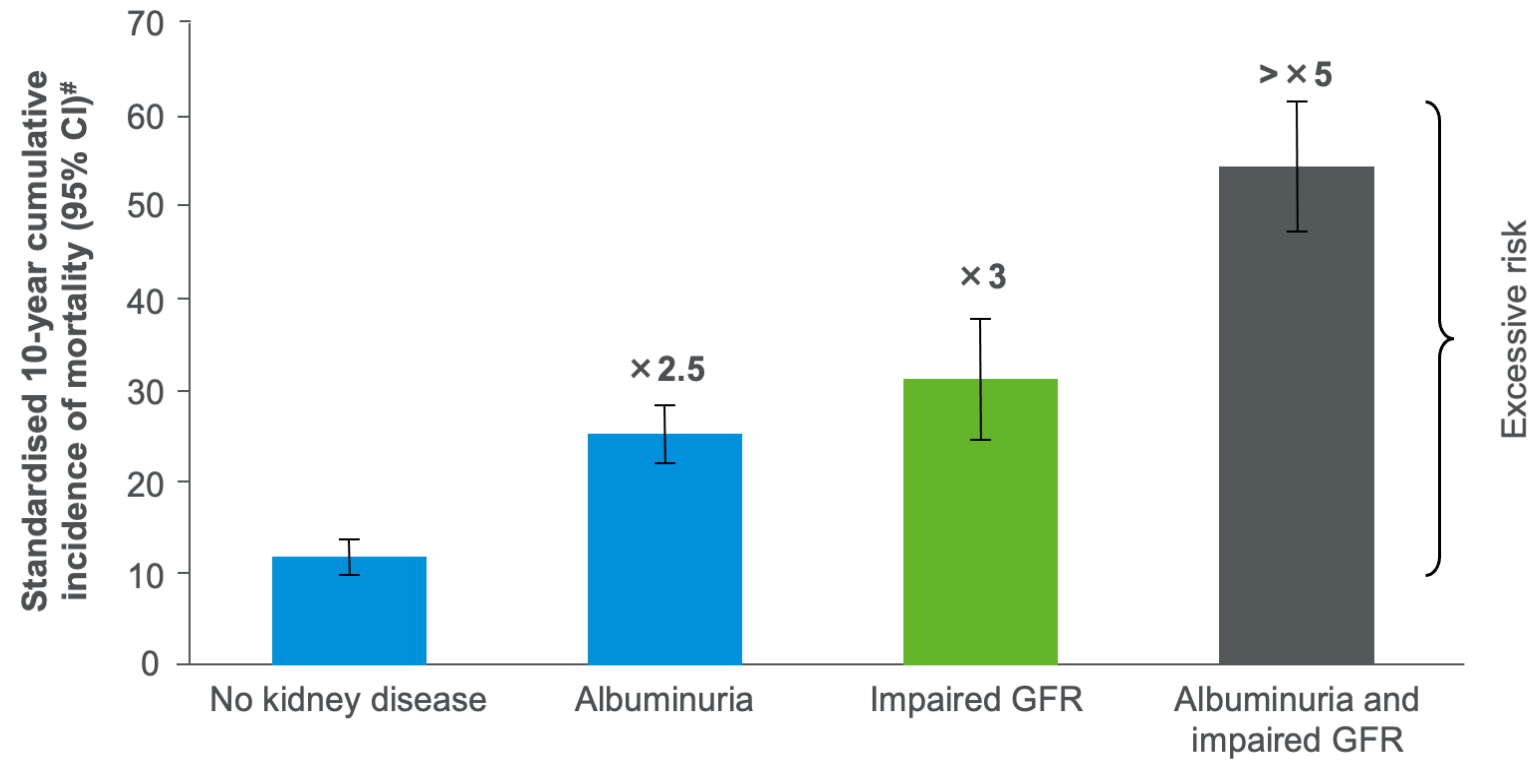
Kovesdy, 2022

CONCLUSION

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) occurs frequently and has devastating consequences. This should prompt major efforts to develop preventative and therapeutic measures that are effective. The aim of these measures should be lowering the incidence of CKD and slowing its progression.

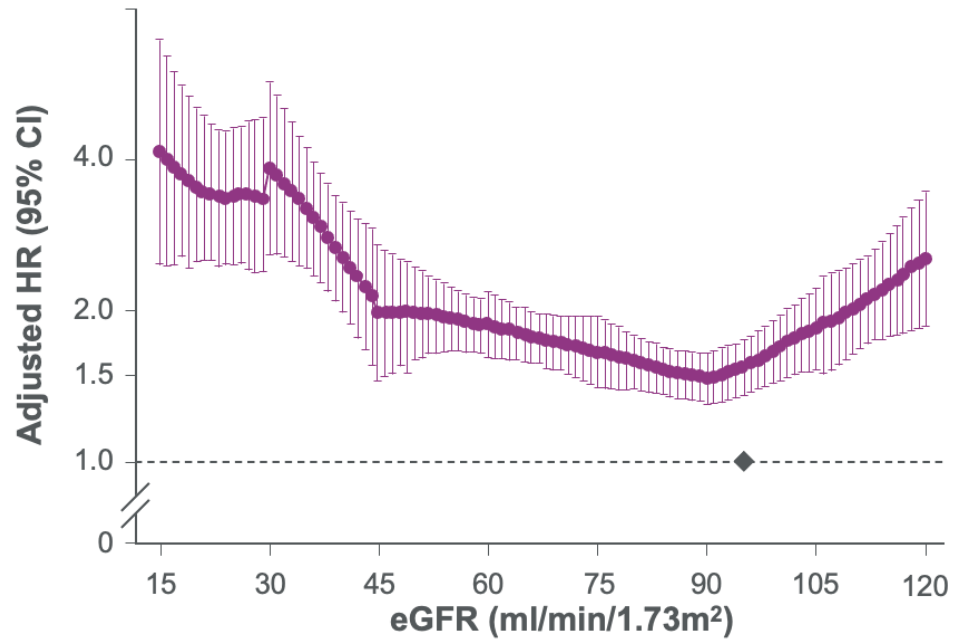
PROGNOSIS

Standardised 10-year cumulative incidence of CV mortality by diabetes and kidney disease status in 15,046 participants*

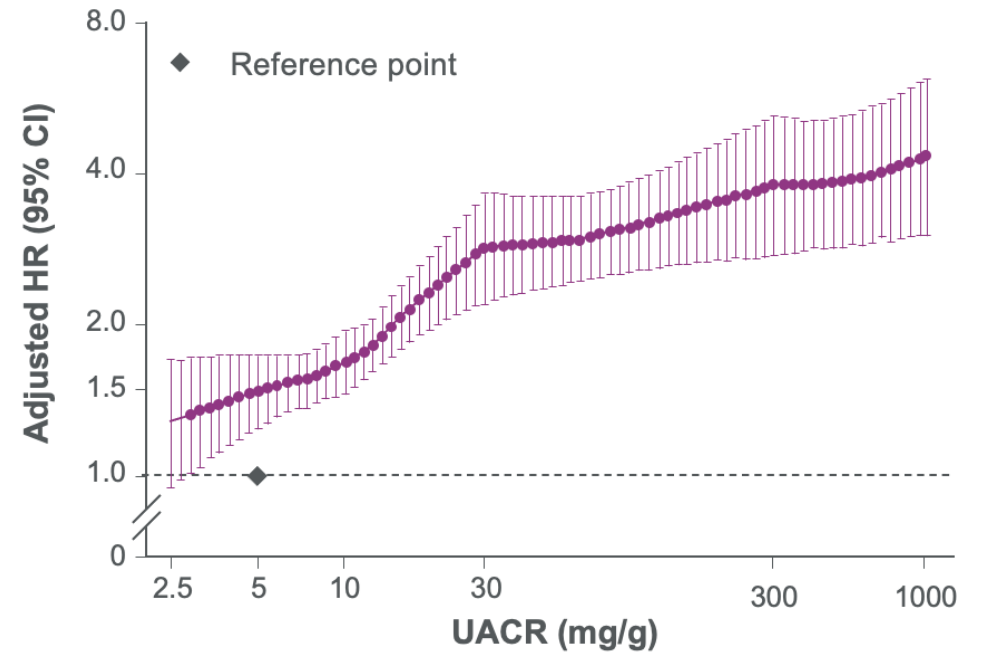


PROGNOSIS

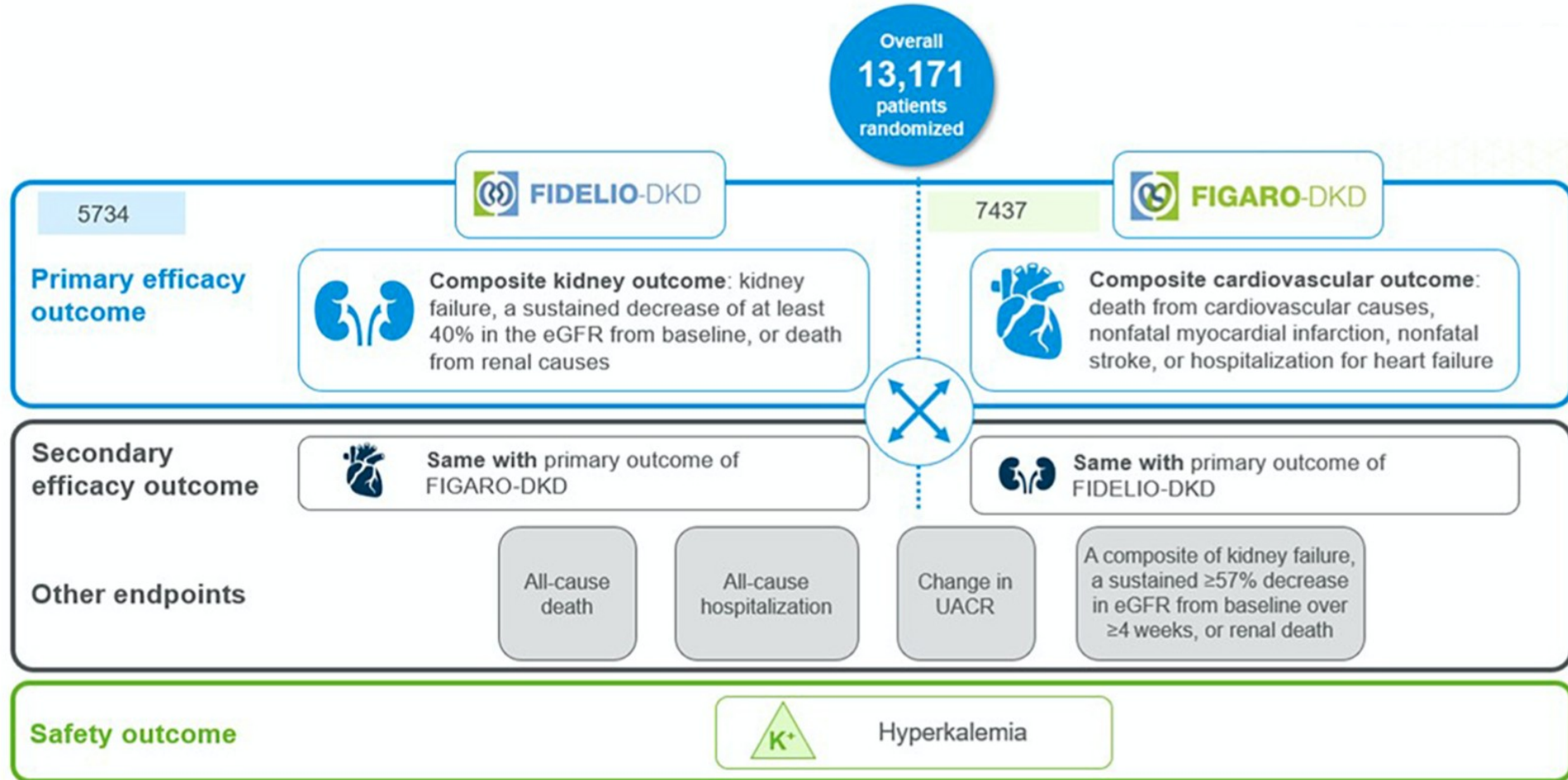
CV mortality according to eGFR



CV mortality according to UACR



FIDELIO-DKD and FIGARO-DKD



FIDELIO-DKD and FIGARO-DKD








			Persistent albuminuria		
			A1 Normal to mildly increased	A2 Moderately increased	A3 Severely increased
GFR (mL/min/1.73m ²)			<30 mg/g	30-300 mg/g	>300 mg/g
G1	Normal or high	≥90			FIGARO-DKD
G2	Mild decrease	60-89			
G3a	Mild-moderate decrease	45-59		Overlapping population	FIDELIO-DKD
G3b	Moderate-severe decrease	30-44			
G4	Severe decrease	15-29			
G5	Kidney failure	<15			

- UACR ≥30–<300 mg/g and eGFR ≥25–<90 ml/min/1.73 m²*
- UACR ≥300–<5000 mg/g) and eGFR ≥60 ml/min/1.73 m²

- UACR ≥30–<300 mg/g and eGFR ≥25–<60 ml/min/1.73 m² and history of diabetic retinopathy[§]
- UACR ≥300–<5000 mg/g and eGFR ≥25–<75 ml/min/1.73 m^{2†}

FIDELIO-DKD
 Finerenone in reducing kidney failure and disease progression in DKD

FIGARO-DKD
 Finerenone in reducing cardiovascular mortality and morbidity in DKD

 Patients	Mainly Stage 3-4 CKD		Mainly Stage 1-2 CKD
1 Primary outcome	 ↓ 18% decrease in CKD progression (HR 0.82; 95% CI 0.73–0.93)		 ↓ 13% decrease in CV mortality and morbidity (HR 0.87; 95% CI 0.76–0.98)
2 Secondary outcome	 ↓ %14 decrease in CV mortality and morbidity (HR 0.86; 95% CI 0.75–0.99)		 ↓ %13 decrease in CKD progression (HR 0.87; 95% CI 0.76–1.01) (not significant)
 Safety	Favorable safety profile: small and manageable hyperkalemia risk with minimal clinical effect		

NNT a 3 anni: 42

FIDELIO-DKD: RESULTS OF THE SUBANALYSIS

Gravità della CKD

Efficacia simile nei vari sottogruppi di pazienti, indipendentemente dallo stadio della CKD (stadi 3a, 3b o 4). Tuttavia, l'effetto era più evidente nei pazienti con **proteinuria più elevata** e **riduzione dell'eGFR più significativa**.

Riduzione della proteinuria

La riduzione della proteinuria (UACR) è stata significativa con finerenone rispetto al placebo. I pazienti con una maggiore riduzione dell'albuminuria hanno mostrato una correlazione con una progressione più lenta della CKD

FIGARO-DKD: RESULTS OF THE SUBANALYSIS

Effetti in base allo stadio della CKD

I pazienti con stadi più precoci di malattia renale (eGFR ≥ 60 ml/min/1,73 m²) hanno mostrato benefici significativi, sia in termini di riduzione degli eventi cardiovascolari che di rallentamento della progressione della CKD. Anche nei pazienti con CKD più avanzata (eGFR < 60 ml/min/1,73 m²), finerenone ha mantenuto un'efficacia notevole

Riduzione della proteinuria e correlazione con gli esiti renali e cardiovascolari

I pazienti che hanno mostrato una riduzione più marcata della proteinuria hanno avuto una progressione più lenta della CKD e un rischio ridotto di eventi cardiovascolari.

FIDELITY POOLED ANALYSIS

Inclusion/exclusion

- ✓ T2D + CKD
- ✓ eGFR ≥ 25 mL/min/1.73m²
- ✓ Serum [K⁺] ≤ 4.8 mmol/L
- ✓ Maximum tolerated labeled dose of RAS
- ✗ HFrEF (NYHA class II-IV)

Protocol



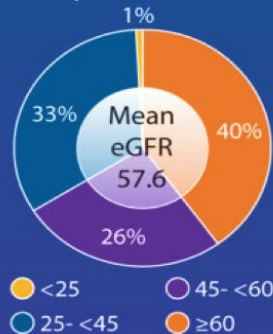
Outcomes

- CV composite:** Time to CV death, non-fatal MI, non-fatal stroke, or HHF
- $\geq 57\%$ kidney composite:** Time to kidney failure, sustained $\geq 57\%$ decrease in eGFR, or renal death

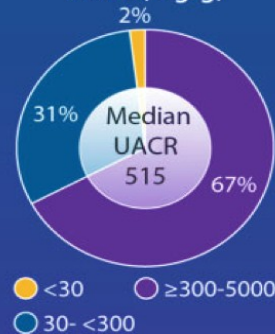
Baseline characteristics

- Median age: 65 years
- ♂ 70% ♀ 30%
- RAS inhibitors: 99.8%
- Statins: 72.2%
- HbA1c: 7.7%
- BP: 137/76 mmHg
- Prior HF: 7.7%

eGFR (mL/min/1.73 m²)



UACR (mg/g)



Few hyperkalemia-related discontinuations occurred



Results

	HR (95% CI)	p-value	Risk ↓		HR (95% CI)	p-value	Risk ↓
Endpoint CV composite	0.86 (0.78 – 0.95)	0.0018	14%	Kidney composite	0.77 (0.67 – 0.88)	0.0002	23%
HHF	0.78 (0.66 – 0.92)	0.0030	22%	Dialysis	0.80 (0.64 – 0.99)	0.040	20%

Conclusion

Finerenone on top of standard of care reduces the risk of clinically meaningful cardiovascular and kidney outcomes in patients with type 2 diabetes over a broad spectrum of chronic kidney disease

FIDELITY: RESULTS OF THE SUBANALYSIS

Efficacia in base agli stadi della CKD

Finerenone ha dimostrato di essere efficace in tutti gli stadi della malattia renale, ma con un effetto maggiore nei pazienti con albuminuria elevata e funzione renale più compromessa (eGFR più basso).

Analisi in base alla velocità di filtrazione glomerulare (eGFR)

I benefici di finerenone sono stati osservati indipendentemente dal livello di eGFR al basale. Tuttavia, i pazienti con eGFR più basso hanno avuto una maggiore riduzione del rischio di progressione della CKD

Riduzione della proteinuria e correlazione con gli esiti renali

La riduzione del rapporto albumina/creatinina urinaria è emersa come un indicatore importante dell'efficacia del trattamento

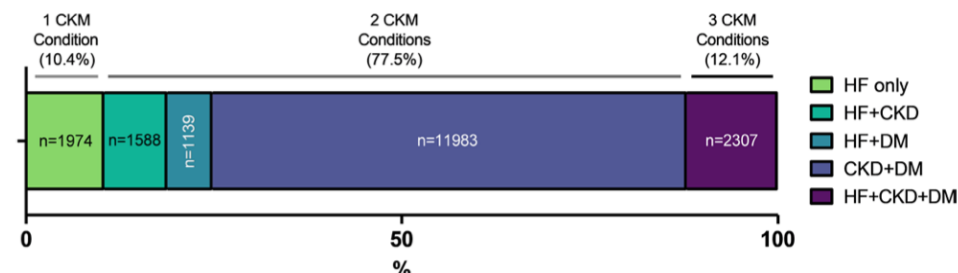
Finerenone in heart failure and chronic kidney disease with type 2 diabetes: FINE-HEART pooled analysis of cardiovascular, kidney and mortality outcomes

FINE-HEART (n=18,781 with Available Data)

				UACR (mg/g)		
				A1	A2	A3
				Normal to Mildly Increased	Moderately Increased	Severely Increased
				<30	30 to <300	≥300
Estimated GFR (mL/min/1.73m ²)	G1	Normal or High	≥90	2.0%	1.8%	6.1%
	G2	Mildly Decreased	60-89	9.1%	9.0%	15.6%
	G3a	Mildly or Moderately Decreased	45-59	5.2%	9.9%	11.3%
	G3b	Moderately or Severely Decreased	30-44	3.0%	8.5%	12.7%
	G4	Severely Decreased	15-29	0.6%	1.6%	3.6%
	G5	Kidney Failure	<15	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

KDIGO Risk Categories			
Low	Moderate	High	Very High
11.1%	16.0%	34.6%	38.3%

Baseline CKM Status in FINEHEART

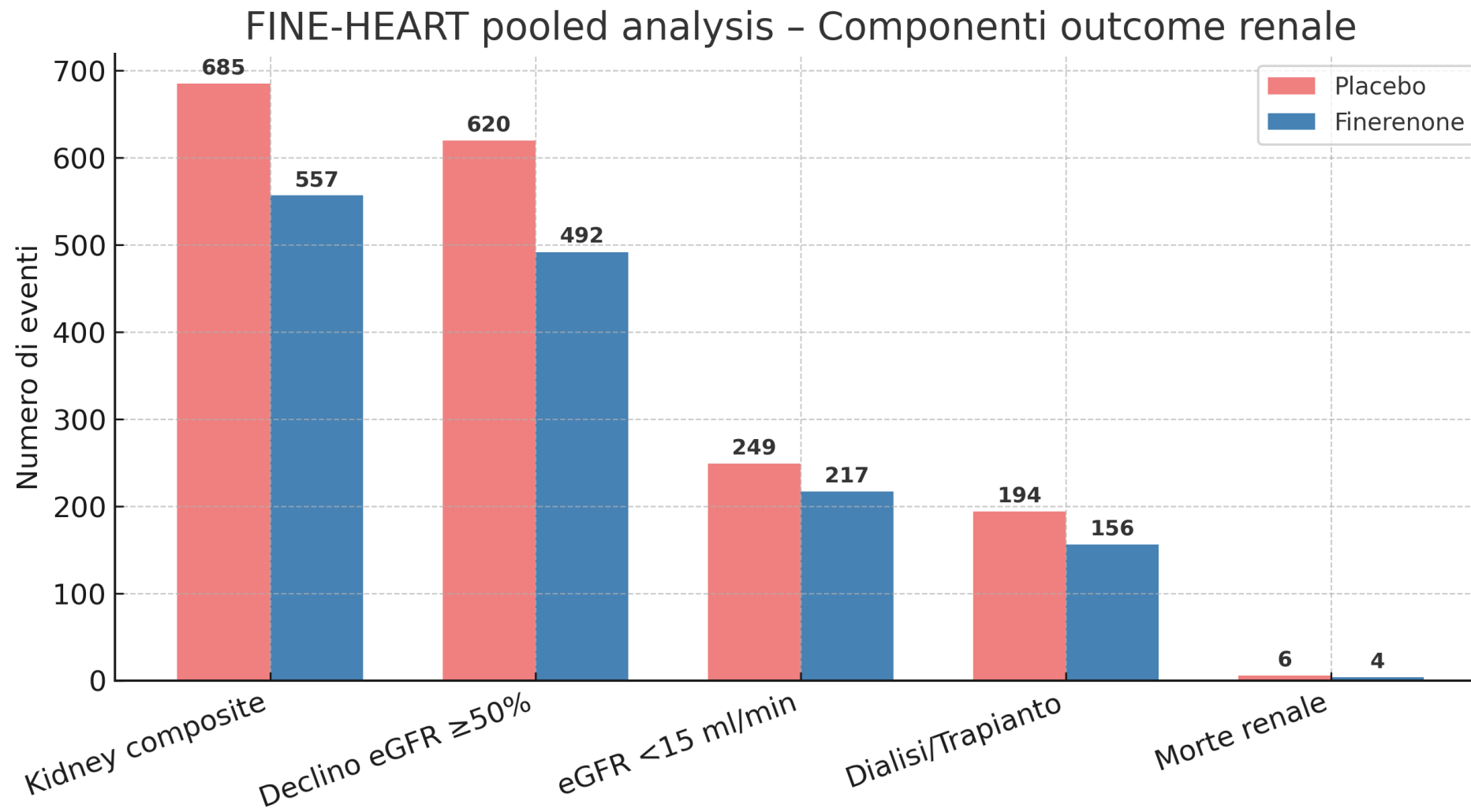


eGFR (mL/min/1.73m ²)	44.3 ± 12.6	67.8 ± 21.7	62.1 ± 19.7
<u>eGFR Category</u>			
< 25 mL/min/1.73m ²	135 (2.4%)	27 (0.4%)	32 (0.5%)
25 to < 45 mL/min/1.73m ²	2973 (52.5%)	1251 (17.1%)	1300 (21.7%)
45 to < 60 mL/min/1.73m ²	1896 (33.5%)	1530 (20.9%)	1556 (25.9%)
≥ 60 mL/min/1.73m ²	656 (11.6%)	4519 (61.7%)	3113 (51.9%)
Baseline UACR (mg/g)	853 [446-1636]	309 [108-741]	18 [7-67]
<u>Albuminuria Category</u>			
A1 (< 30 mg/g)	23 (0.4%)	207 (2.8%)	3511 (60.6%)
A2 (30 to < 300 mg/g)	682 (12.1%)	3399 (46.4%)	1712 (29.5%)
A3 (≥300 mg/g)	4954 (87.5%)	3720 (50.8%)	574 (9.9%)

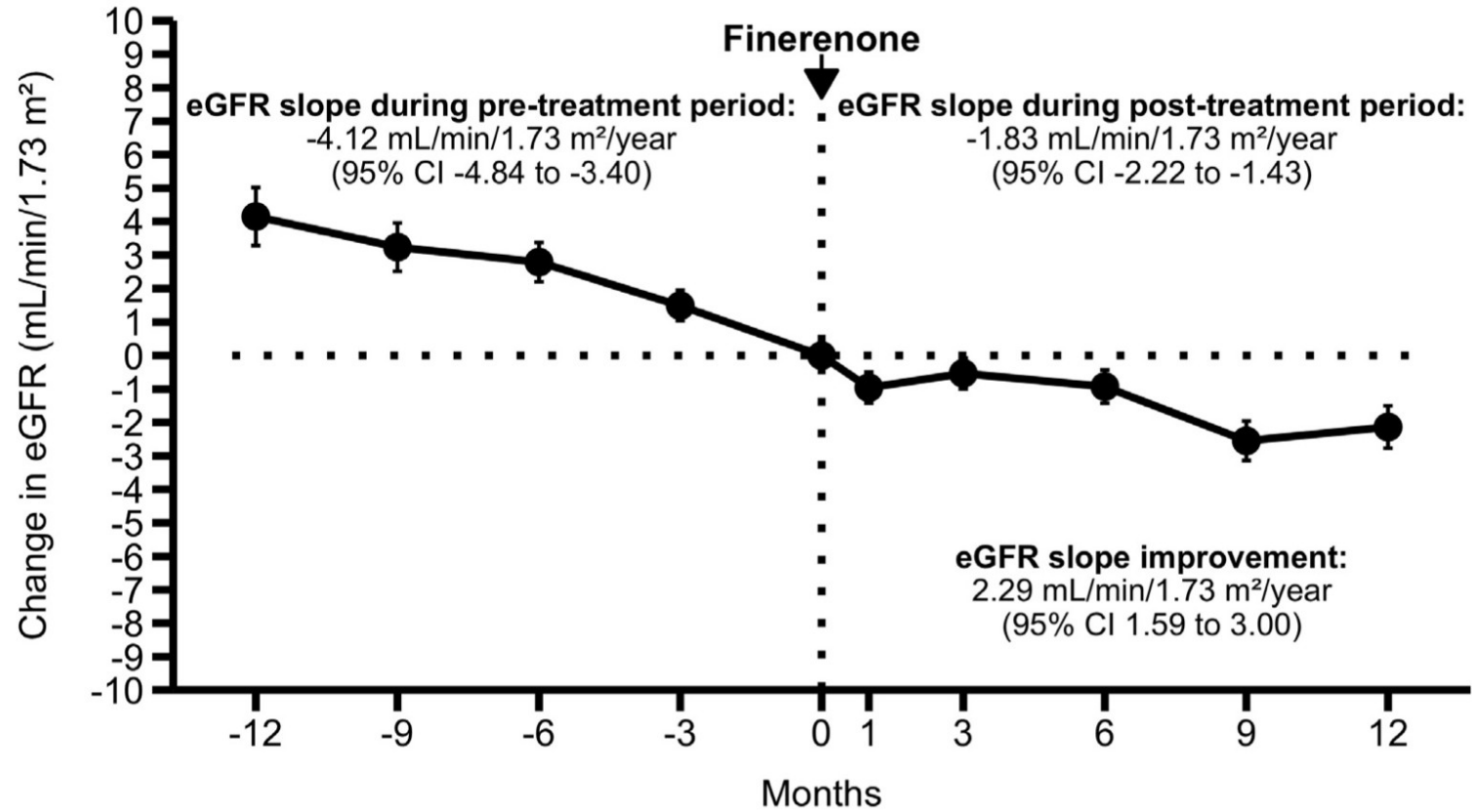
Background Medication Use

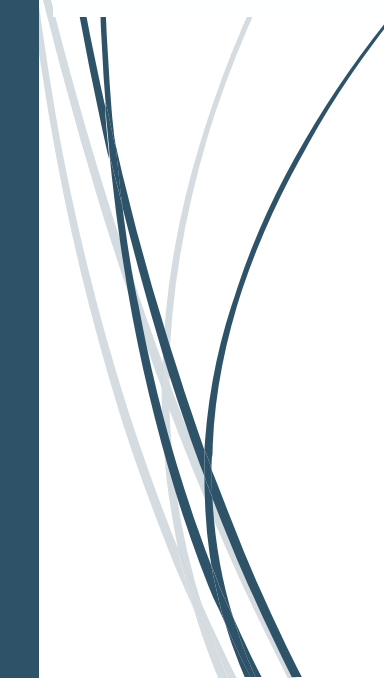
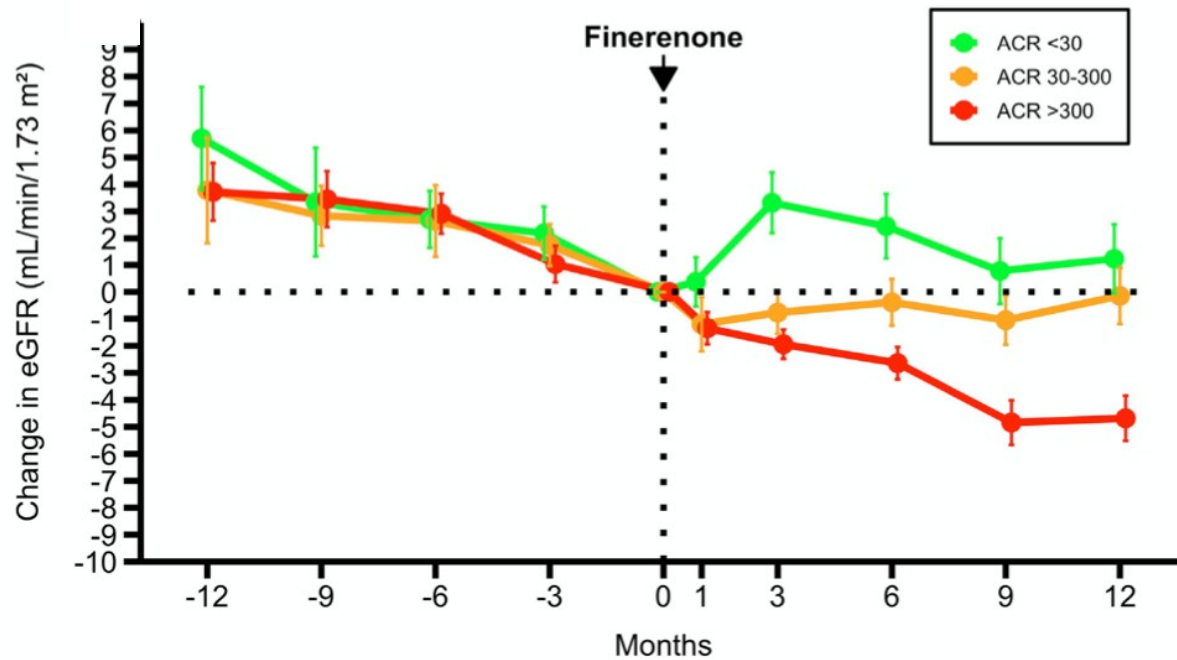
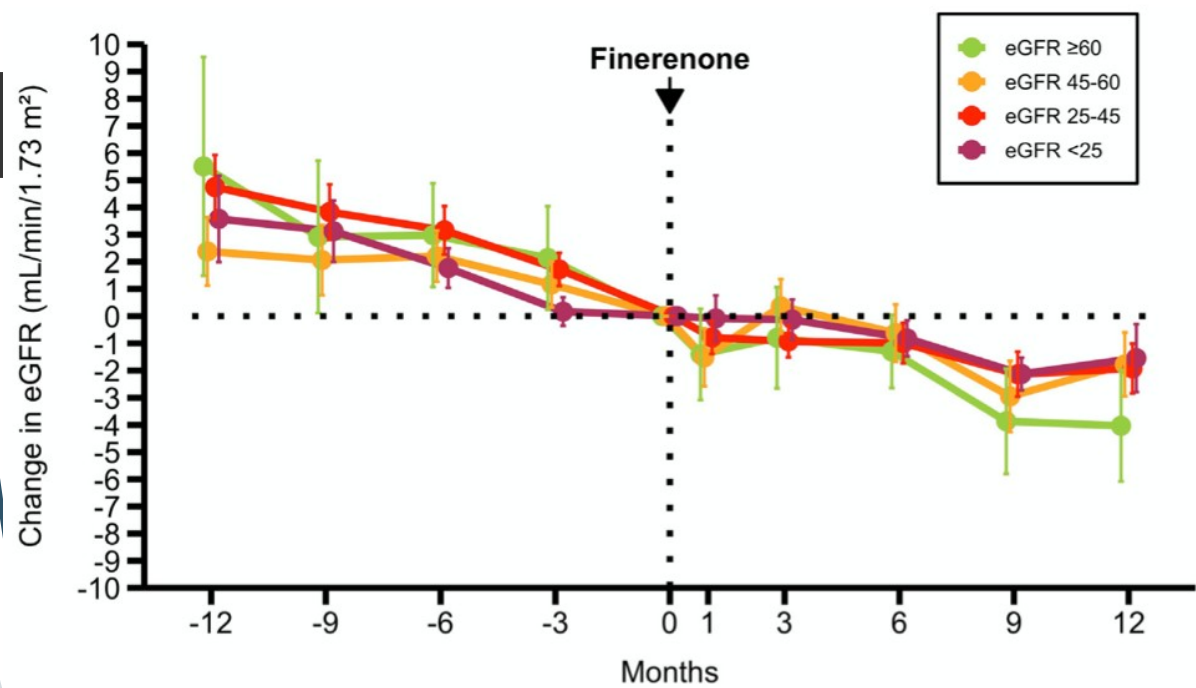
Diuretics	3209 (56.7%)	3492 (47.7%)	5930 (98.8%)
ACEi/ARB/ARNI	5648 (99.8%)	7319 (99.9%)	4759 (79.3%)
Aspirin	2787 (49.2%)	3581 (48.9%)	1948 (32.5%)
Statins	4208 (74.3%)	5179 (70.7%)	4050 (67.5%)
SGLT-2 Inhibitors	258 (4.6%)	615 (8.4%)	817 (13.6%)
GLP-1 Receptor Agonists	393 (6.9%)	550 (7.5%)	167 (2.8%)
Potassium Lowering Therapies	136 (2.4%)	46 (0.6%)	13 (0.2%)

Components of the kidney composite endpoint



Finerenone and Estimated GFR Slope in Type 2 Diabetes and CKD, *Kidney International (2025)*





Finerenone with Empagliflozin in Chronic Kidney Disease and Type 2 Diabetes: CONFIDENCE TRIAL

CONFIDENCE Trial: Finerenone and Empagliflozin in Chronic Kidney Disease and Type 2 Diabetes

Reduction in UACR (at 180 d)

Combination	-52 %
Finerenone	-32 %
Empagliflozin	-29 %



Early and Sustained Effect

≥ 30/40/50% Responders

Combination	Finerenone	Empagliflozin
70 %	52 %	flozin
64 %	36 %	44 %
55 %	27 %	27 %



Acute Kidney Injury
9,3 %

Safety

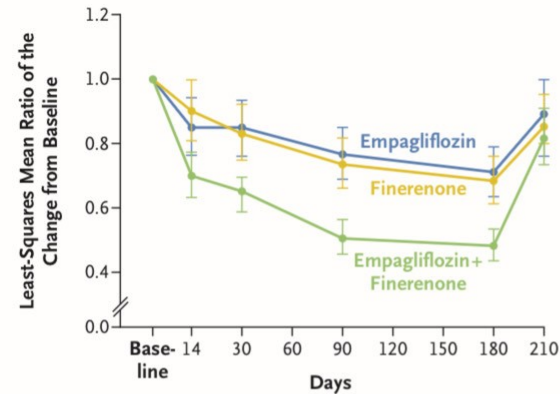


Hypotension



Hyperkalemia

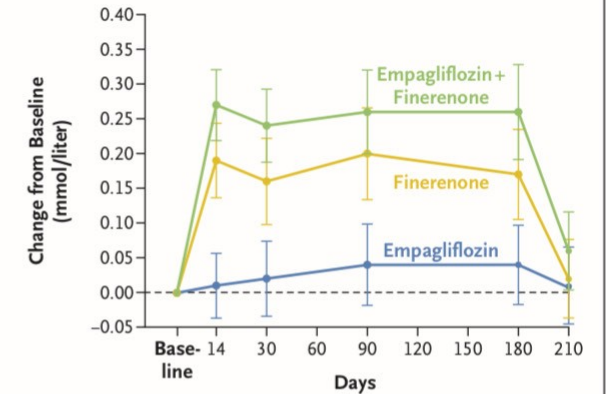
A Change in Urinary Albumin-to-Creatinine Ratio



No. of Patients

	Baseline	14	30	90	180	210
Finerenone	258	247	248	237	236	227
Empagliflozin	261	254	252	246	238	232
Empagliflozin+finerenone	265	248	253	248	240	238

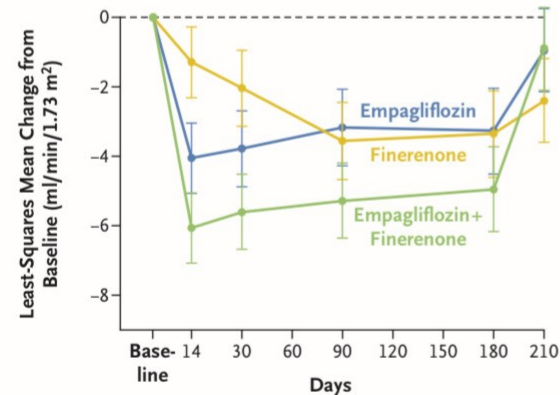
B Change in Serum Potassium Level



No. of Patients

	Baseline	14	30	90	180	210
Finerenone	264	250	252	242	240	235
Empagliflozin	266	260	254	250	244	245
Empagliflozin+finerenone	267	253	261	254	244	253

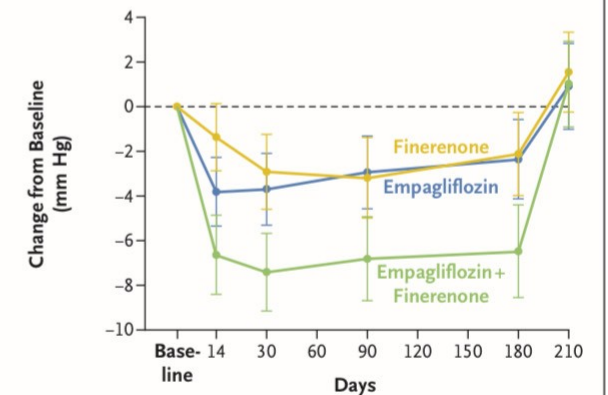
C Change in eGFR



No. of Patients

	Baseline	14	30	90	180	210
Finerenone	262	250	251	243	239	234
Empagliflozin	265	258	255	249	242	243
Empagliflozin+finerenone	269	253	261	254	243	253

D Change in Systolic Blood Pressure



No. of Patients

	Baseline	14	30	90	180	210
Finerenone	264	257	256	248	244	243
Empagliflozin	266	261	259	253	247	248
Empagliflozin+finerenone	268	255	262	256	247	253

Combination therapy: an upcoming paradigm to improve kidney and cardiovascular outcomes in CKD” (Nephrol Dial Transplant 2025)

BACKGROUND

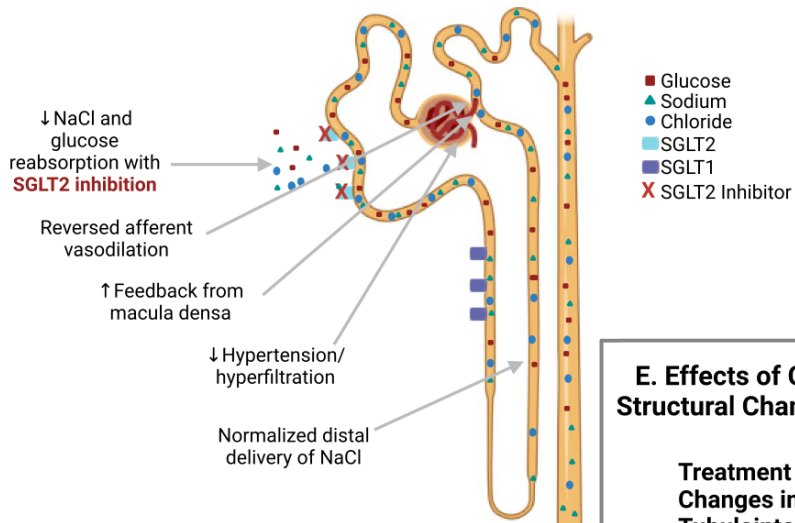
- La CKD è in forte crescita a livello globale, trainata soprattutto dal diabete e dall'obesità.
- CKD, diabete e CVD condividono meccanismi patogenetici comuni → concetto di sindrome cardio-reno-metabolica (**CKM**).
- Negli ultimi anni sono emerse nuove terapie che hanno rivoluzionato lo standard of care: SGLT2i, GLP-1RA (e GIP/GLP-1RA), Finerenone (nsMRA); Altri in sviluppo: aldosterone synthase inhibitors, endothelin antagonists.

Razionale della combinazione

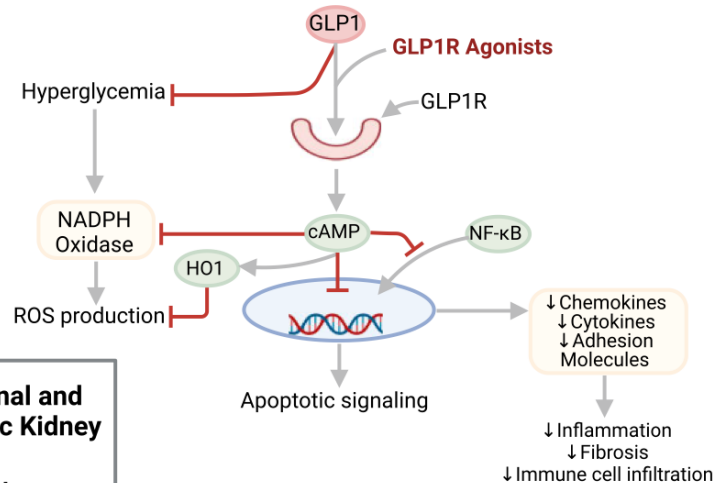
- Ogni classe agisce su meccanismi differenti ma complementari → potenziali effetti additivi o sinergici su reno- e cardioprotezione.
- La combinazione può ridurre gli effetti collaterali

•→ EVIDENZE PRE CLINICHE E CLINICHE: riduzione più marcata di proteinuria, fibrosi e miglioramento della sopravvivenza.

A. SGLT2 Inhibitor Effects



B. GLP-1RA Effects

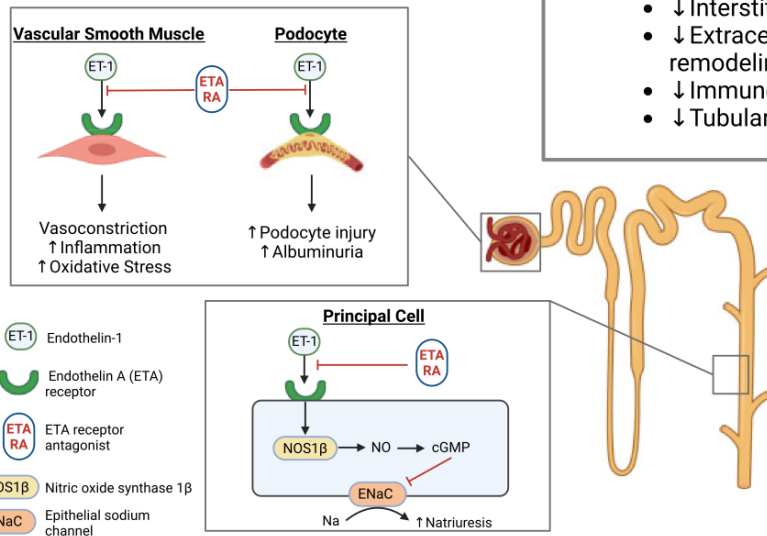


E. Effects of GDMTs on Functional and Structural Changes in the Diabetic Kidney

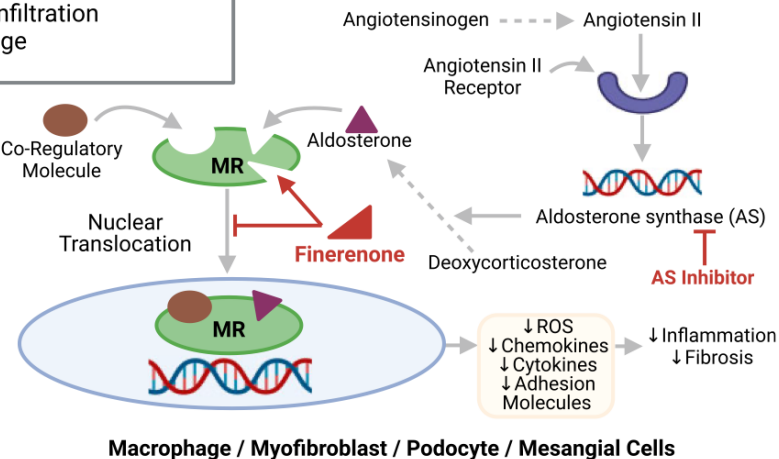
Treatment Effects on Structural Changes in the Glomerulus & Tubulointerstitium:

- ↓ Glomerular hypertension
- Restoration of podocytes
- ↓ Interstitial fibrosis
- ↓ Extracellular matrix remodeling
- ↓ Immune cell infiltration
- ↓ Tubular damage

C. ETA Receptor Antagonist Effects



D. ns-MRA and Aldosterone Synthase Inhibitor Effects



Efficacy and safety of finerenone in non-diabetic CKD patients, *BMC Nephrology*, Li et AL., 2025

Studio retrospettivo, single-center, real-world (Xiamen University Hospital, Apr 2023–Giu 2024).

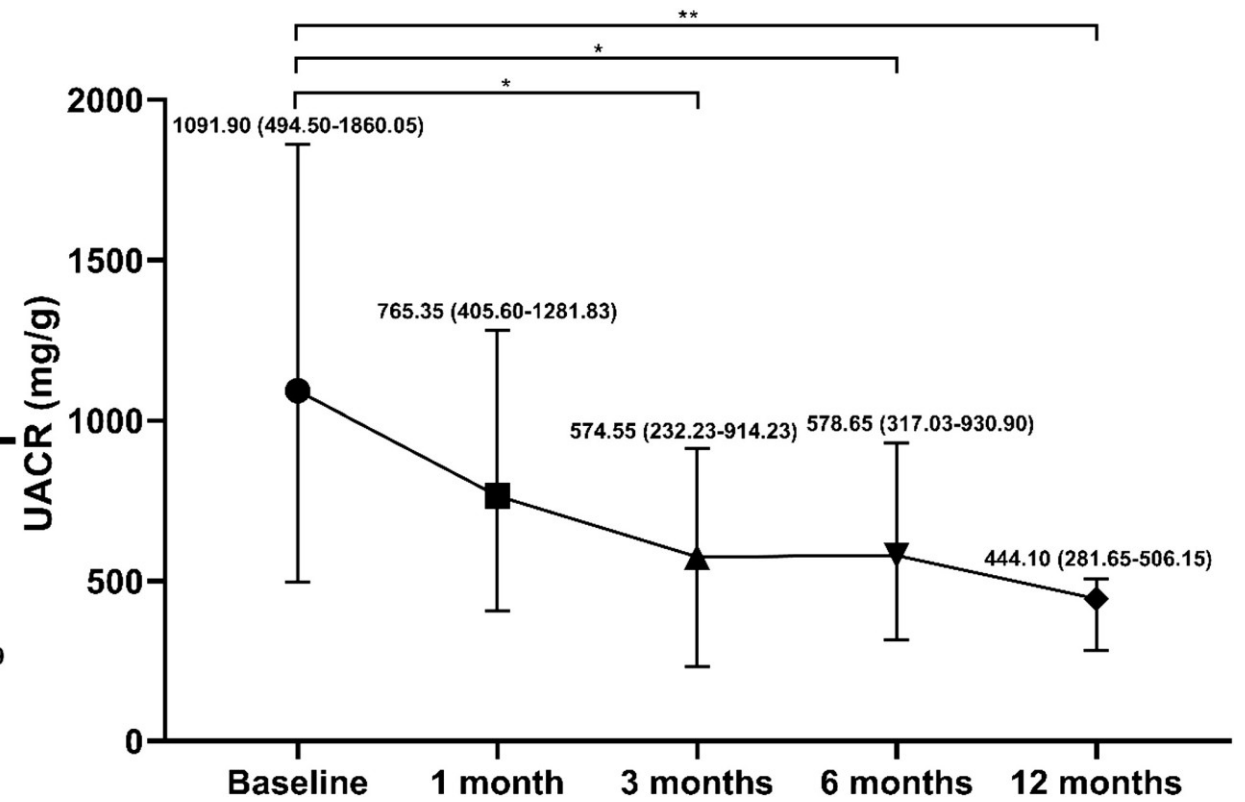
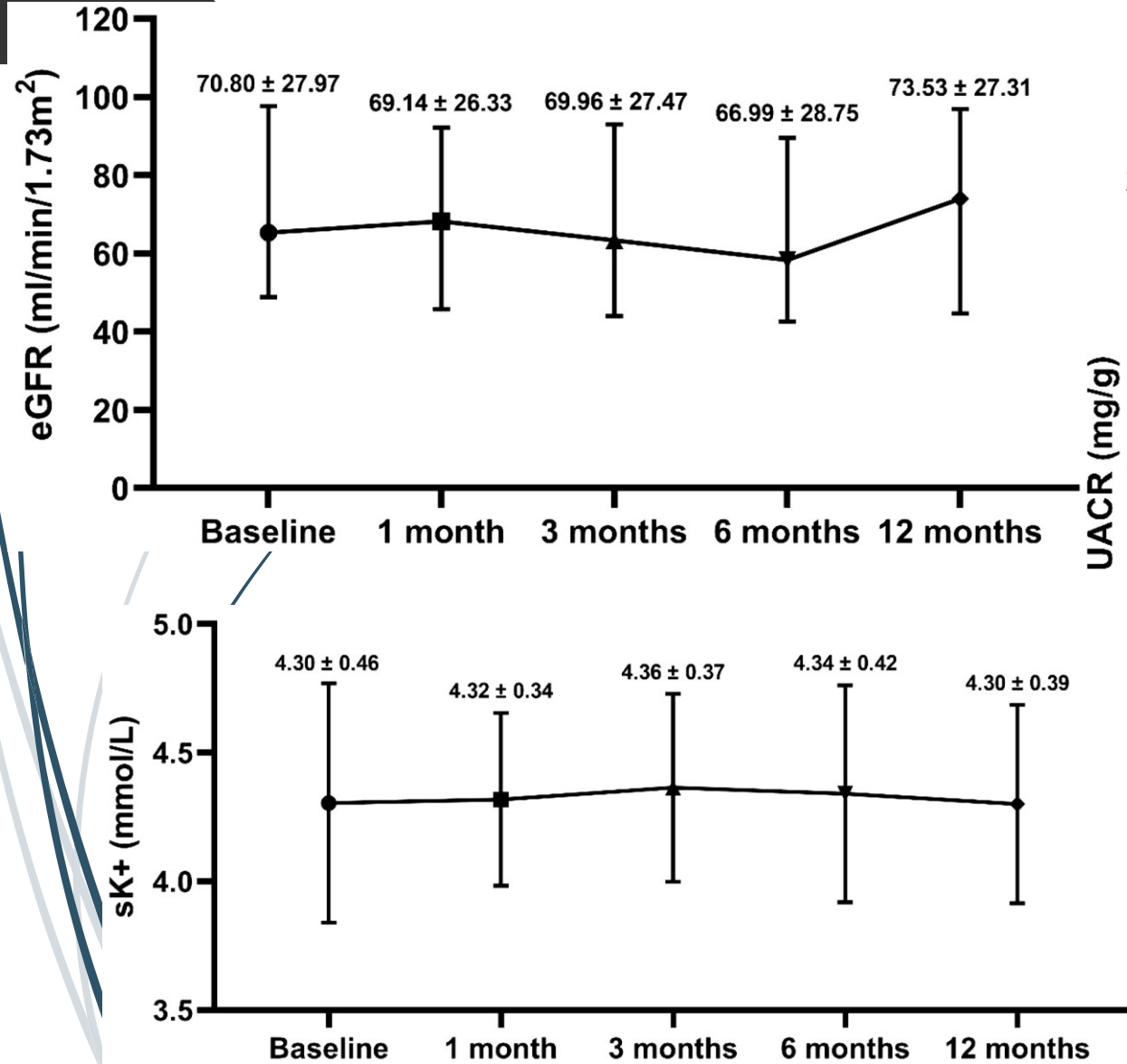
→ **37 pazienti non diabetici con CKD** (età media 48,8 anni; 56,8% maschi).

- Diagnosi prevalenti: IgA nephropathy (54,1%), membranous nephropathy (24,3%)
- RASi e SGLT2i (già usati nel 67,6% dei pazienti)
- Outcome principali: UACR, eGFR, potassio sierico (sK+)
- Follow-up: 1, 3, 6, 12 mesi.

Risultati

- **UACR**: riduzione mediana di $-664,95$ mg/g a 12 mesi ($P=0.002$); $-60,9\%$ rispetto al baseline.
- **eGFR**: stabile nel tempo (nessuna differenza significativa vs baseline).
- **Potassio**: rimasto nel range di normalità (3.5–5.5 mmol/L); nessuna sospensione per iperK.
- Subgroup:
 - IgAN → trend di riduzione non significativa.
 - MN → riduzione significativa del 75,7% a 12 mesi

Efficacy and safety of finerenone in non-diabetic CKD patients, *BMC Nephrology, Li et AL., 2025*



Trends in Steroidal MRA Prescriptions by Nephrologists after Approval of the Nonsteroidal MRA Finerenone for CKD, JASN 2025

→ Valutare se l'approvazione FDA di finerenone (2021) abbia influenzato i pattern prescrittivi di sMRA da parte dei nefrologi USA

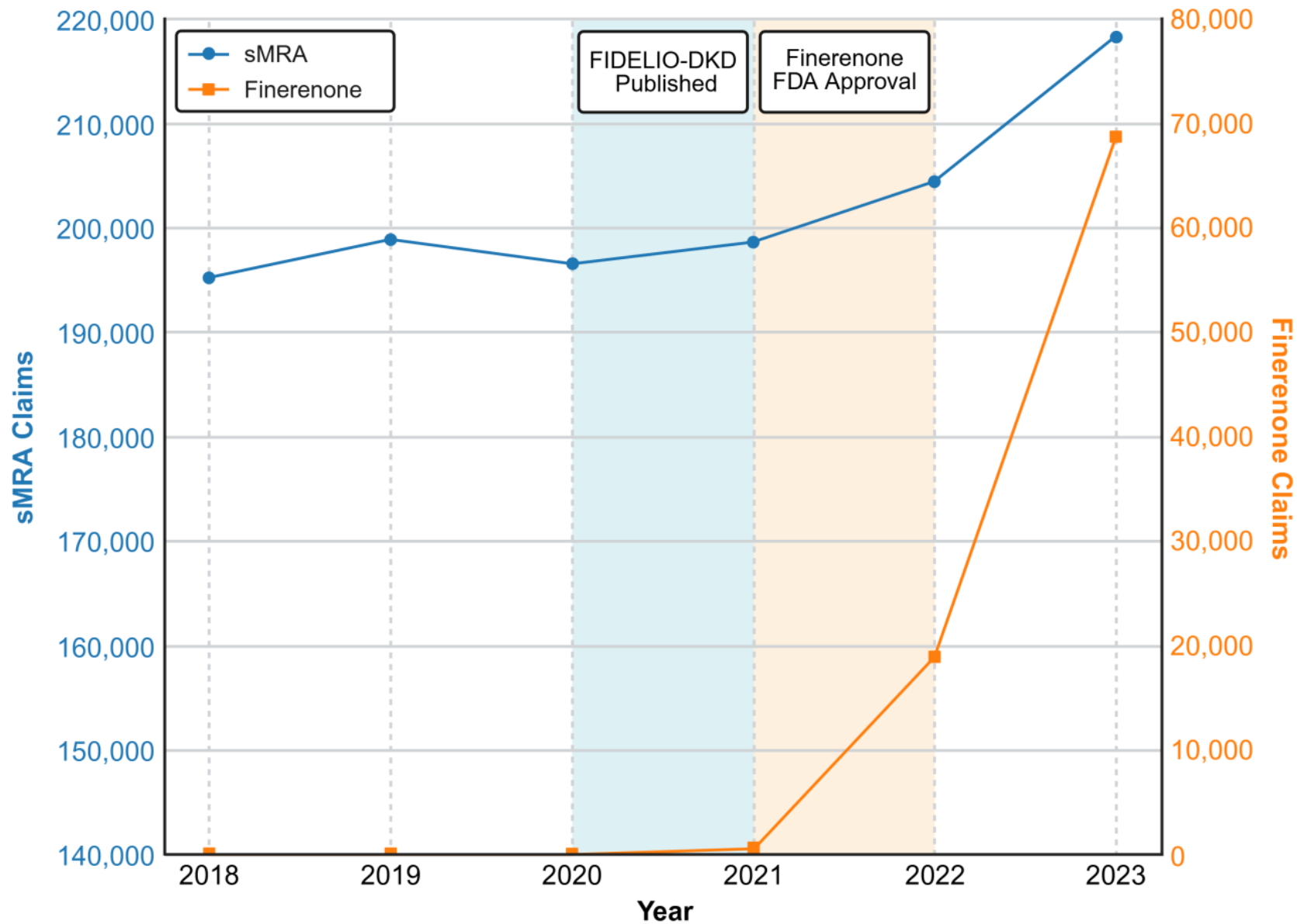
Metodi

- Fonte: Medicare Part D Prescriber Public Use Files, 2018–2023.
- Analisi di prescrizioni annuali da parte di nefrologi per: sMRA, finerenone, ACEi/ARB, beta-bloccanti, tiazidici, calcio-antagonisti non-diidropiridinici.
- Calcolo dell'Average Annual Growth Rate (AAGR) delle prescrizioni.
- Confronto con prescrizioni da parte di internisti (Internal Medicine) come gruppo di riferimento.

Risultati

- **Finerenone**: comparsa nelle prescrizioni nefrologiche nel 2021 (n=572) → aumento a 68.706 nel 2023.
- **sMRA (nefrologi)**: da 195.307 nel 2018 a 218.418 nel 2023 → **AAGR +2,3%**, con netta accelerazione a partire dal 2022.
- sMRA (internisti): prescrizioni quasi stabili (AAGR +0,6%).
- Totale prescrizioni nefrologiche: in calo da 12,9 milioni (2018) a 11,6 milioni (2023), AAGR -2,0%.

Nephrologist Medicare Part D Prescription Claims for Mineralocorticoid Receptor Antagonists



- Dopo l'approvazione di finerenone, i nefrologi hanno aumentato significativamente sia le prescrizioni di finerenone che di sMRA.
- Evidente gap di evidenza per gli sMRA: mancano dati di outcome clinici solidi
- Le barriere economiche e regolatorie ostacolano l'adozione diffusa di finerenone, condizionando le scelte prescrittive in nefrologia.

Finerenone: Who Should Prescribe It for CKD? Physician Associates (PA) Perspectives

Becky M. Ness MPAS, PA-C, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Department of Nephrology, Rochester, MN, USA; and Heidi Webb MMS, PA-C, CAQ-HM, Bahl & Bahl Medical Associates, Pittsburgh, PA, USA


BACKGROUND

 **30-40%**

of all patients with diabetes are affected by **Diabetic Kidney Disease**

 **Finerenone**

was approved by the FDA for adults with **CKD associated with T2D** to reduce the risk of **kidney** and **CV** outcomes.


 **Physician Associates** should be empowered in **GDMT prescription** and other **kidney protection strategies**

KEY MESSAGE

Physician associates play a vital role in **diagnosing, monitoring, and managing** chronic kidney disease, diabetes mellitus, and cardiovascular disease.

Finerenone Benefits in DKD

 **Efficacy and Safety** tested in FIDELIO-DKD and FIGARO-DKD


 **FDA Approval** to reduce the risk of sustained eGFR decline, ESKD, CV death, non-fatal MI, and hospitalization for HF

 **Independent Benefit** with other CKD-T2D GDMT

Role of Physician Associates

 **Early CKD Journey** identification and prevention

 **Late CKD Journey** routinely monitor CKD and its related conditions

 **Continuity of Care** ensuring treatment, information, communication, and management continuity

Barriers to Optimum Care

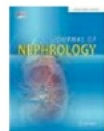
 **Insufficient Patient Engagement** need to continue discussing and educating

 **Cost and Lack of Referral Coordination** disparities are major challenges

 **Unstandardized Guidelines** consensus is increasing

CONCLUSION

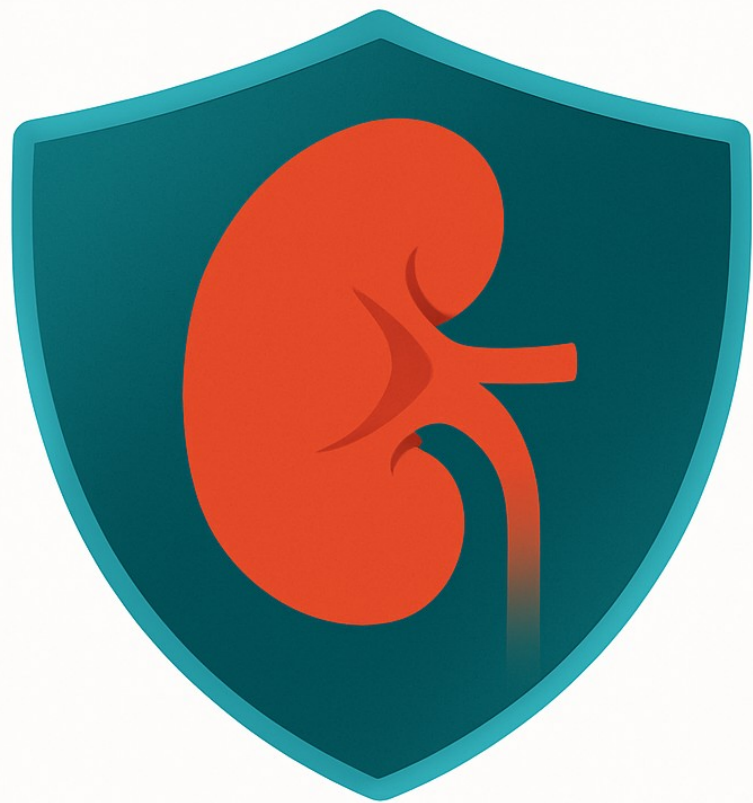
Based on the proposed multidisciplinary guidelines, PAs should be more comfortable **implementing care and goal-directed therapies** to prevent the advancement of DKD.



Journal of NEPHROLOGY

official journal of the Italian Society of Nephrology





**GRAZIE
PER
L'ATTENZIONE**