

## Kidney Disease Quality Measure Development, Maintenance, and Support

### ESRD Mineral and Bone Disorder

A search was performed in December 2024 for updates to guidelines related to mineral and bone disorder. It was determined that there were few updates to guidelines since the last TEP on this topic; please see the guideline review from the previous mineral and bone disorder TEP for a summary of guidelines. The KDIGO guidelines have been more recently updated. The table below describes the comparison of the 2017 and 2009 KDIGO CKD-MBD guideline recommendations.

**Table 1 | Comparison of the 2017 and 2009 KDIGO CKD-MBD Guideline recommendations**

2017 revised KDIGO CKD-MBD recommendations <sup>3</sup>	2009 KDIGO CKD-MBD recommendations <sup>1</sup>	Brief rationale for updating
3.2.1. In patients with CKD G3a–G5D with evidence of CKD-MBD and/or risk factors for osteoporosis, we suggest BMD testing to assess fracture risk if results will impact treatment decisions (2B).	3.2.2. In patients with CKD G3a–G5D with evidence of CKD-MBD, we suggest that BMD testing not be performed routinely, because BMD does not predict fracture risk as it does in the general population, and BMD does not predict the type of renal osteodystrophy (2B).	Multiple new prospective studies have documented that lower DXA BMD predicts incident fractures in patients with CKD G3a–G5D. The order of these first 2 recommendations was changed because a DXA BMD result might impact the decision to perform a bone biopsy.
3.2.2. In patients with CKD G3a–G5D, it is reasonable to perform a bone biopsy if knowledge of the type of renal osteodystrophy will impact treatment decisions (Not Graded).	3.2.1. In patients with CKD G3a–G5D, it is reasonable to perform a bone biopsy in various settings including, but not limited to: unexplained fractures, persistent bone pain, unexplained hypercalcemia, unexplained hypophosphatemia, possible aluminum toxicity, and prior to therapy with bisphosphonates in patients with CKD-MBD (Not Graded).	The primary motivation for this revision was the growing experience with osteoporosis medications in patients with CKD, low BMD, and a high risk of fracture. The inability to perform a bone biopsy may not justify withholding antiresorptive therapy from patients at high risk of fracture.
4.1.1. In patients with CKD G3a–G5D, treatments of CKD-MBD should be based on serial assessments of phosphate, calcium, and PTH levels, considered together (Not Graded).		This new recommendation was provided in order to emphasize the complexity and interaction of CKD-MBD laboratory parameters.
4.1.2. In patients with CKD G3a–G5D, we suggest lowering elevated phosphate levels toward the normal range (2C).	4.1.1. In patients with CKD G3a–G5, we suggest maintaining serum phosphate in the normal range (2C). In patients with CKD G5D, we suggest lowering elevated phosphate levels toward the normal range (2C).	There is an absence of data supporting that efforts to maintain phosphate in the normal range are of benefit to CKD G3a–G4 patients, including some safety concerns. Treatment should be aimed at overt hyperphosphatemia.
4.1.3. In adult patients with CKD G3a–G5D, we suggest avoiding hypercalcemia (2C). In children with CKD G3a–G5D, we suggest maintaining serum calcium in the age-appropriate normal range (2C).	4.1.2. In patients with CKD G3a–G5D, we suggest maintaining serum calcium in the normal range (2D).	Mild and asymptomatic hypocalcemia (e.g., in the context of calcimimetic treatment) can be tolerated in order to avoid inappropriate calcium loading in adults.
4.1.4. In patients with CKD G5D, we suggest using a dialysate calcium concentration between 1.25 and 1.50 mmol/l (2.5 and 3.0 mEq/l) (2C).	4.1.3. In patients with CKD G5D, we suggest using a dialysate calcium concentration between 1.25 and 1.50 mmol/l (2.5 and 3.0 mEq/l) (2D).	Additional studies of better quality are available; however, these do not allow for discrimination of benefits and harm between calcium dialysate concentrations of 1.25 and 1.50 mmol/l (2.5 and 3.0 mEq/l). Hence, the wording is unchanged, but the evidence grade is upgraded from 2D to 2C.
4.1.5. In patients with CKD G3a–G5D, decisions about phosphate-lowering treatment should be based on progressively or persistently elevated serum phosphate (Not Graded).	4.1.4. In patients with CKD G3a–G5 (2D) and G5D (2B), we suggest using phosphate-binding agents in the treatment of hyperphosphatemia. It is reasonable that the choice of phosphate binder takes into account CKD stage, presence of other components of CKD-MBD, concomitant therapies, and side effect profile (Not Graded).	Emphasizes the perception that early “preventive” phosphate-lowering treatment is currently not supported by data (see Recommendation 4.1.2). The broader term “phosphate-lowering” treatment is used instead of phosphate-binding agents since all possible approaches (i.e., binders, diet, dialysis) can be effective.
4.1.6. In adult patients with CKD G3a–G5D receiving phosphate-lowering treatment, we suggest restricting the dose of calcium-based phosphate binders (2B).	4.1.5. In patients with CKD G3a–G5D and hyperphosphatemia, we recommend restricting the dose of calcium-based phosphate binders and/or the dose of calcitriol or vitamin D analog in the presence of persistent or recurrent hypercalcemia (1B).	New evidence from 3 RCTs supports a more general recommendation to restrict calcium-based phosphate binders in hyperphosphatemic patients across all severities of CKD.
In children with CKD G3a–G5D, it is reasonable to base the choice of phosphate-lowering treatment on serum calcium levels (Not Graded).	In patients with CKD G3a–G5D and hyperphosphatemia, we suggest restricting the dose of calcium-based phosphate binders in the presence of arterial calcification (2C) and/or adynamic bone disease (2C) and/or if serum	

**Table 1 | (Continued) Comparison of the 2017 and 2009 KDIGO CKD-MBD Guideline recommendations**

2017 revised KDIGO CKD-MBD recommendations <sup>3</sup>	2009 KDIGO CKD-MBD recommendations <sup>1</sup>	Brief rationale for updating
4.1.8. In patients with CKD G3a–G5D, we suggest limiting dietary phosphate intake in the treatment of hyperphosphatemia alone or in combination with other treatments (2D). It is reasonable to consider phosphate source (e.g., animal, vegetable, additives) in making dietary recommendations ( <i>Not Graded</i> ).	4.1.7. In patients with CKD G3a–G5D, we suggest limiting dietary phosphate intake in the treatment of hyperphosphatemia alone or in combination with other treatments (2D).	New data on phosphate sources were deemed important to include as an additional qualifier to the previous recommendation.
4.2.1. In patients with CKD G3a–G5 not on dialysis, the optimal PTH level is not known. However, we suggest that patients with levels of intact PTH progressively rising or persistently above the upper normal limit for the assay be evaluated for modifiable factors, including hyperphosphatemia, hypocalcemia, high phosphate intake, and vitamin D deficiency (2C).	4.2.1. In patients with CKD G3a–G5 not on dialysis, the optimal PTH level is not known. However, we suggest that patients with levels of intact PTH above the upper normal limit of the assay are first evaluated for hyperphosphatemia, hypocalcemia, and vitamin D deficiency (2C).  It is reasonable to correct these abnormalities with any or all of the following: reducing dietary phosphate intake and administering phosphate binders, calcium supplements, and/or native vitamin D ( <i>Not Graded</i> ).	The Work Group felt that modest increases in PTH may represent an appropriate adaptive response to declining kidney function and has revised this statement to include “persistently” above the upper normal PTH level as well as “progressively rising” PTH levels, rather than “above the upper normal limit.” That is, treatment should not be based on a single elevated value.
4.2.2. In adult patients with CKD G3a–G5 not on dialysis, we suggest that calcitriol and vitamin D analogs not be routinely used (2C). It is reasonable to reserve the use of calcitriol and vitamin D analogs for patients with CKD G4–G5 with severe and progressive hyperparathyroidism ( <i>Not Graded</i> ).  In children, calcitriol and vitamin D analogs may be considered to maintain serum calcium levels in the age-appropriate normal range ( <i>Not Graded</i> ).	4.2.2. In patients with CKD G3a–G5 not on dialysis, in whom serum PTH is progressively rising and remains persistently above the upper limit of normal for the assay despite correction of modifiable factors, we suggest treatment with calcitriol or vitamin D analogs (2C).	Recent RCTs of vitamin D analogs failed to demonstrate improvements in clinically relevant outcomes but demonstrated increased risk of hypercalcemia.
4.2.4. In patients with CKD G5D requiring PTH-lowering therapy, we suggest calcimimetics, calcitriol, or vitamin D analogs, or a combination of calcimimetics with calcitriol or vitamin D analogs (2B).	4.2.4. In patients with CKD G5D and elevated or rising PTH, we suggest calcitriol, or vitamin D analogs, or calcimimetics, or a combination of calcimimetics and calcitriol or vitamin D analogs be used to lower PTH (2B).  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is reasonable that the initial drug selection for the treatment of elevated PTH be based on serum calcium and phosphate levels and other aspects of CKD-MBD (<i>Not Graded</i>).</li> <li>• It is reasonable that calcium or non-calcium-based phosphate binder dosage be adjusted so that treatments to control PTH do not compromise levels of phosphate and calcium (<i>Not Graded</i>).</li> <li>• We recommend that, in patients with hypercalcemia, calcitriol or another vitamin D sterol be reduced or stopped (1B).</li> <li>• We suggest that, in patients with hyperphosphatemia, calcitriol or another vitamin D sterol be reduced or stopped (2D).</li> <li>• We suggest that, in patients with hypocalcemia, calcimimetics be reduced or stopped depending on severity, concomitant medications, and clinical signs and symptoms (2D).</li> <li>• We suggest that, if the intact PTH levels fall below 2 times the upper limit of normal for the assay, calcitriol, vitamin D analogs, and/or calcimimetics be reduced or stopped (2C).</li> </ul>	This recommendation originally had not been suggested for updating by the KDIGO Controversies Conference in 2013. However, due to a subsequent series of secondary and <i>post hoc</i> publications of the EVOLVE trial, the Work Group decided to reevaluate Recommendation 4.2.4 as well. Although EVOLVE did not meet its primary endpoint, the majority of the Work Group members were reluctant to exclude potential benefits of calcimimetics for G5D patients based on subsequent prespecified analyses. The Work Group, however, decided not to prioritize any PTH-lowering treatment at this time because calcimimetics, calcitriol, or vitamin D analogs are all acceptable first-line options in G5D patients.



**Table 1 |** (Continued)

2017 revised KDIGO CKD-MBD recommendations <sup>3</sup>	2009 KDIGO CKD-MBD recommendations <sup>1</sup>	Brief rationale for updating
4.3.3. In patients with CKD G3a–G5D with biochemical abnormalities of CKD-MBD and low BMD and/or fragility fractures, we suggest that treatment choices take into account the magnitude and reversibility of the biochemical abnormalities and the progression of CKD, with consideration of a bone biopsy (2D).	4.3.3. In patients with CKD G3a–G3b with biochemical abnormalities of CKD-MBD and low BMD and/or fragility fractures, we suggest that treatment choices take into account the magnitude and reversibility of the biochemical abnormalities and the progression of CKD, with consideration of a bone biopsy (2D).	Recommendation 3.2.2 now addresses the indications for a bone biopsy prior to antiresorptive and other osteoporosis therapies. Therefore, 2009 Recommendation 4.3.4 has been removed and 2017 Recommendation 4.3.3 is broadened from CKD G3a–G3b to CKD G3a–G5D.
	4.3.4. In patients with CKD G4–G5D having biochemical abnormalities of CKD-MBD, and low BMD and/or fragility fractures, we suggest additional investigation with bone biopsy prior to therapy with antiresorptive agents (2C).	
5.5. In patients with G1T–G5T with risk factors for osteoporosis, we suggest that BMD testing be used to assess fracture risk if results will alter therapy (2C).	5.5. In patients with an estimated glomerular filtration rate greater than approximately 30 ml/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> , we suggest measuring BMD in the first 3 months after kidney transplant if they receive corticosteroids, or have risk factors for osteoporosis as in the general population (2D).	2009 Recommendations 5.5 and 5.7 were combined to yield 2017 Recommendation 5.5.
	5.7. In patients with CKD G4T–G5T, we suggest that BMD testing not be performed routinely, because BMD does not predict fracture risk as it does in the general population and BMD does not predict the type of kidney transplant bone disease (2B).	
5.6. In patients in the first 12 months after kidney transplant with an estimated glomerular filtration rate greater than approximately 30 ml/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> and low BMD, we suggest that treatment with vitamin D, calcitriol/alfacalcidol, and/or antiresorptive agents be considered (2D).	5.6. In patients in the first 12 months after kidney transplant with an estimated glomerular filtration rate greater than approximately 30 ml/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> and low BMD, we suggest that treatment with vitamin D, calcitriol/alfacalcidol, or bisphosphonates be considered (2D).	The second bullet point is revised, consistent with the new bone biopsy recommendation (i.e., 2017 Recommendation 3.2.2).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We suggest that treatment choices be influenced by the presence of CKD-MBD, as indicated by abnormal levels of calcium, phosphate, PTH, alkaline phosphatases, and 25(OH)D (2C).</li> <li>It is reasonable to consider a bone biopsy to guide treatment (<i>Not Graded</i>).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We suggest that treatment choices be influenced by the presence of CKD-MBD, as indicated by abnormal levels of calcium, phosphate, PTH, alkaline phosphatases, and 25(OH)D (2C).</li> <li>It is reasonable to consider a bone biopsy to guide treatment, specifically before the use of bisphosphonates due to the high incidence of adynamic bone disease (<i>Not Graded</i>).</li> </ul>	
There are insufficient data to guide treatment after the first 12 months.	There are insufficient data to guide treatment after the first 12 months.	

25(OH)D, 25-hydroxyvitamin D; BMD, bone mineral density; CKD, chronic kidney disease; DXA, dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry; MBD, mineral bone disorder; PTH, parathyroid hormone; RCT, randomized controlled trial.

Changes to the above summarized recommendations resulted in renumbering of several adjacent guideline statements. Specifically, 2009 Recommendation 4.1.6 now becomes 2017 Recommendation 4.1.7; 2009 Recommendation 4.1.8 now becomes 2017 Recommendation 4.1.9; 2009 Recommendation 4.3.5 now becomes 2017 Recommendation 4.3.4; and 2009 Recommendation 5.8 now becomes 2017 Recommendation 5.7.