

Publications In Leading Newspapers Based On Findings By NephroPlus Team

Women in South India denied right to healthcare!

HOW WE FARE ON WOMEN'S HEALTH



Survey reveals females are second priority when it comes to healthcare in many families

South India recorded worst statistics with only 26% having access to dialysis



Rural areas stand at 26%; Semi-urban at 29%; and Urban at 33%

Across the world, average 43% women have access to dialysis



OUR BUREAU

Hyderabad: In a sad revelation, a clinical survey conducted by Nephro Plus across its 128 centres in the country revealed shocking statistics. According to the research, women are denied right to healthcare when it comes to dialysis; in India gender only 30 per cent of dialysis population is women.

A large US dialysis data registry puts this figure for America at 43 per cent while other countries also show similar results showing that there is no scientific basis for such a large gender gap among dialysis patients in India. This huge gender disparity in availing one's basic right to healthcare shows that when it comes to spending on healthcare in a family with limited means, females are generally the second priority.

In the study, rural locations were found to be heavily biased against females getting dialysis (26 per cent) compared to semi-urban (29 per cent) and urban locations (33 per cent). West Zone was observed to have the best proportion of females compared to males (35 per cent) followed closely by the North (33 per cent). South reported the worst, with only 26 per cent of the dialysis population being female. East is not much better off with about only 28 per cent females having access to dialysis.

Gujarat, Delhi, Uttarakhand and Maharashtra were found to be the leading States that provide access to dialysis for women while Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh recorded the worst figures in this regard.

It was lately discovered in another study that more than 70 per cent of needy patients in India are not able to avail dialysis. Though several Public Private Partnership initiatives have been taken in conjunction with efforts to maintain high standards of quality and

safety in dialysis care, NephroPlus study reveals a glaring flaw of the male-dominated Indian society which confers secondary status to women, even in their basic right to healthcare.

While these statistics are disturbing, it only mirrors our society's basic mentality, which imposes a secondary status to women on most fronts

*- Vikram Vuppala,
Founder and CEO,
NephroPlus*

Speaking about the survey, Vikram Vuppala, Founder and CEO, NephroPlus said, "While these statistics are really disturbing, it only mirrors our society's basic mentality, which imposes a secondary status to women in most fronts. At a time when women consistently prove they are inferior to none; they deserve to be treated fairly, especially in the context of healthcare."

"Dialysis is a life-saving therapy for many and no colour, creed or sex can deny anyone's right to avail this treatment. It is high time we changed the biased mentality of our society, spread right awareness on dialysis treatments and purge this stigma," he said.



Gender disparity in access to dialysis paints grim pic

70% Male Patients, But Most Donors Are Women

Swathy.Iyer@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: Male patients account for close to 70 per cent of the dialysis population across India, indicating a deep gender disparity in terms of access to life-saving dialysis treatment, shows a clinical research conducted by a dialysis care provider across rural, urban and semi-urban pockets in the country.

According to research conducted by dialysis care provider NephroPlus across 128 centres, Gujarat, Delhi, Uttarakhand and Maharashtra were found to be the leading states which provide access to dialysis for women while Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh lagged behind and were adjudged the worst states, in this regard. In fact, Delhi recorded the highest percentage of women in the dialysis care population while Madhya Pradesh recorded the lowest. A majority of South-Indian states including Telangana and Andhra Pradesh also fare poorly when it comes to parity in dialysis care. In Hyderabad, 70 per cent of the dialysis care population was found to be male while in Telangana, over 72 per cent were found to be male.

Vikram Vuppala, founder and CEO of NephroPlus pointed out how even as the dialysis care sector is dominated by male patients, women form a clear majority of kidney donors across the country and in Telangana as well.

"A large US dialysis data registry puts this figure for the US at 43% while other countries also show similar results showing that there is no scientific basis for such a large

GLARING GAP: WHO STANDS WHERE



70% of dialysis population in India are men, indicating gender disparity

➤ Even in Hyderabad, 70% of dialysis population was male

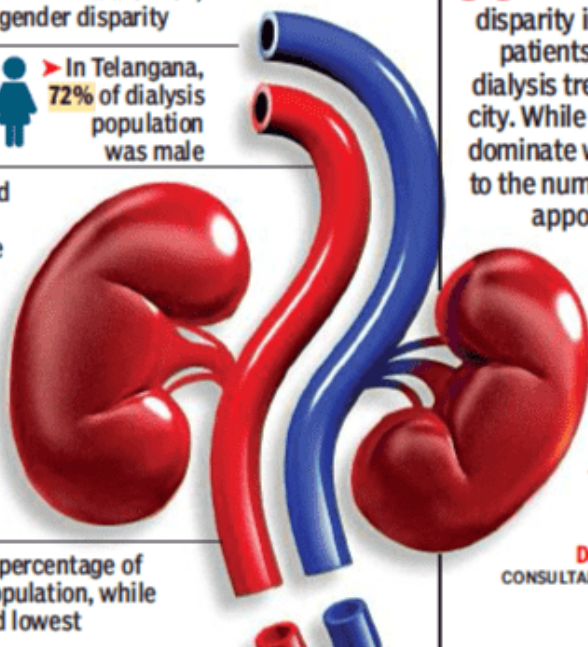


➤ In Telangana, 72% of dialysis population was male

➤ Delhi, Uttarakhand and Maharashtra leading states that provide more access to dialysis for women

➤ Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh are the bottom three states in terms of access to dialysis care for women

➤ Delhi recorded highest percentage of women in dialysis care population, while Madhya Pradesh recorded lowest



“There is definitely a noticeable gender disparity in terms of the patients who undergo dialysis treatment in the city. While male patients dominate when it comes to the number of regular appointments with nephrologists in the city, most patients accessing follow-up dialysis treatment are also men

Dr Divakar Naidu
CONSULTANT NEPHROLOGIST,
KIMS HOSPITALS,
SECUNDERABAD

“Though I have not witnessed a clear gender disparity among patients who undergo dialysis care treatment in the urban scenario, the disparity identified by researchers could be due to the expensive nature of dialysis treatments. A 12-session treatment spread over a month could cost anywhere upwards of ₹20,000

— Girish Narayan | SENIOR CONSULTANT NEPHROLOGIST, MAXCURE HOSPITALS

‘Women not first among equals?’

While some nephrologists and kidney specialists said how there was a ‘noticeable’ gender disparity with regard to dialysis care in Hyderabad, others refuted the findings of the clinical research.

Nephrologists said most patients who undergo follow-up dialysis are males, though prevalence of chronic kidney diseases is higher among women. “There is a noticeable gender disparity in terms of patients who undergo dialysis

treatment in the city,” said Dr Divakar Naidu, consultant nephrologist at KIMS hospitals in Secunderabad, attributing this to “sheer ignorance”.

“Gender disparity in avail-

EXPERTS SPEAK

ling one’s basic right to health-care, in this case life-saving dialysis care, shows that when it comes to spending on health-care in a family with limited means, females are generally

second priority,” said Vikram Vuppala, founder and CEO of NephroPlus, that runs network of dialysis care centres.

Few doctors pointed to the ‘affordability’ of dialysis care as a reason for the imbalance.

“Male members of families are usually considered more financially sound. Most of them are covered by insurance policies by employers,” said Girish Narayan, senior consultant nephrologist at Maxcure Hospitals. **TNN**

gender gap among dialysis patients in India. Dialysis is a life-saving therapy for many and no colour, creed or sex can deny anyone’s right to avail this treatment. It is high time we changed the biased mentality of our society, spread right awareness on dialysis

treatments and purge this stigma,” said Vuppala.

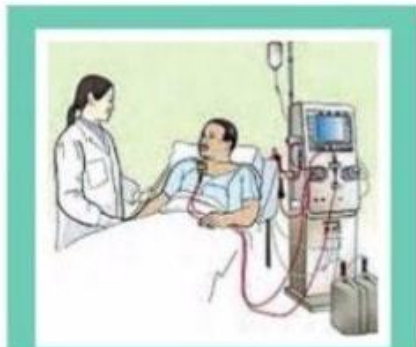
The West zone (33%) of the country fared better with regard to the female dialysis population, followed closely by the North (33%) and the East (28%). The South zone (26%) of the country recorded the le-

ast number of female patients with access to dialysis care, revealed the research. Rural locations were in fact found to be heavily biased against females getting dialysis (26%) compared to semi-urban (29%) and urban (33%) areas of the country.

GENDER DISPARITY IN DIALYSIS?

NephroPlus, a dialysis network provider, through a clinical research conducted across their 128 centers has found only 30% of the dialysis population in India are women and have been able to receive the life-saving dialysis treatment. A large US dialysis data registry puts this figure for the US at 43% while other countries also show similar results showing that there is no scientific basis for such a large gender gap among dialysis patients in India.

This huge gender disparity in availing one's basic right to healthcare shows that when it comes to spending on healthcare in a family with limited means, females are generally the second priority.



NephroPlus reveals shocking statistics from its clinical research across 128 centres across the country

In the study, rural locations were found to be heavily biased against females getting dialysis (26%) compared to semi-urban (29%) and urban locations (33%). West Zone was observed to have the best proportion of females compared to males (35%, 65%) followed closely by the North (33%, 67%). South reported the worst, with only 26% of the dialysis population being female. East is not much better off with about only 28% females having access to dialysis.

Gujarat, Delhi, Uttarakhand and Maharashtra were found to be the leading states which provide access to dialysis for women while Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh recorded the worst figures in this regard. It was lately discov-

ered in another study that more than 70% of needy patients in India are not able to avail dialysis. Though several Public Private Partnership initiatives have been taken in conjunction with efforts to maintain high standards of quality and safety in dialysis care, NephroPlus study reveals a glaring flaw of the male-dominated Indian society which confers secondary status to women, even in their basic right to healthcare.

Vikram Vuppala, Founder and CEO, NephroPlus mentions, "While these statistics are really disturbing, it only mirrors our society's basic mentality, which imposes a secondary status to women in most fronts. At a time when women consistently

prove they are inferior to none; they deserve to be treated fairly, especially in the context of healthcare. Dialysis is a life-saving therapy for many and no colour, creed or sex can deny anyone's right to avail this treatment.

It is high time we changed the biased mentality of our society, spread right awareness on dialysis treatments and purge this stigma."

NephroPlus, since its inception in 2009, has always put welfare of those with end stage kidney diseases at the forefront. With a guest-centric approach and standardised protocol-based services, it encourages those on dialysis to be 'born again' and embrace a new life with confidence and vigour.

