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## Prevalence of Depression Among Caregivers of Pediatric Dialysis Patients

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
## Background

Why focus on caregivers?

- Dialysis requires significant lifestyle changes for the entire family
  - Burden may be particularly large for caregivers of pediatric patients
- Research in other disease groups and in kidney disease indicates that caregivers are at a higher risk for depression
- Potential negative consequences of caregiver depression

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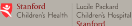
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## Aims of Current Project

- To describe prevalence of depression in caregivers of children on dialysis;
- To examine whether dialysis type is associated with risk for depression;
- To examine links between caregiver depression and perceived social support.

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## Methods

• 23 caregivers of pediatric dialysis patients completed:

- The Center for Epidemiological Studies-Depression (CES-D)
  - Scores  $\geq 16$  indicate risk for depression
- The Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support (MSPSS)

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## Sample Characteristics

		N (%) or M(SD)
Child Characteristics	Age of child	7.9 (5.8)
	Child Gender	
	Male	10 (43.5%)
	Female	13 (56.5%)
Dialysis Modality	Hemodialysis	10 (43.5%)
	Peritoneal Dialysis	13 (56.5%)
	Qualify for California Children's Services?	
Yes	13 (56.5%)	
No	10 (43.5%)	
Caregiver Characteristics	Age of caregiver	37.5 (5.3)
	Caregiver Gender	
	Male	4 (17%)
	Female	19 (83%)
	Employed outside home	
	Yes	11 (48%)
	No	12 (52%)
Marital status		
Not married	3 (13%)	
Married	20 (87%)	

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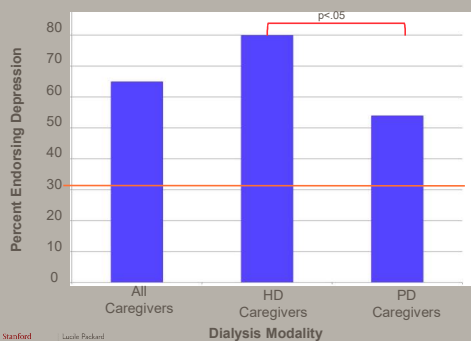
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Risk for Caregiver Depression By Dialysis Modality




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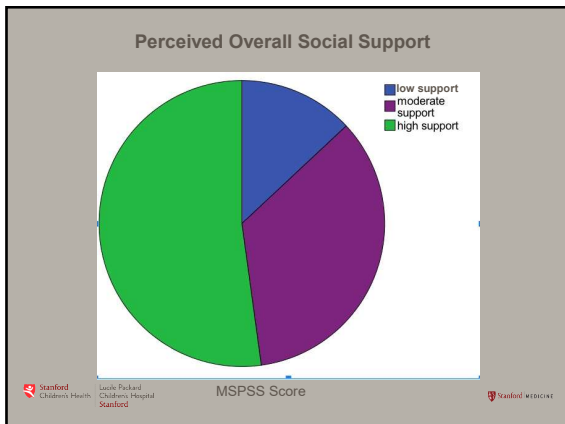
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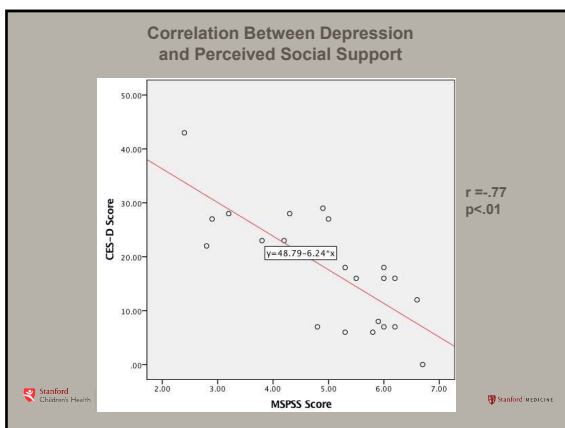
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### Conclusions

- Caregivers of pediatric dialysis patients evidenced higher risk for depression compared to general population
- Caregivers of children on HD were more likely to have a higher risk for depression than caregivers of children on PD
- Strong association between risk for depression and perceived social support

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## Future Directions

- Need for consistent mental health screening
- Support for caregivers
- Additional research to clarify risk factors for depression

Thank you!

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## References

Radloff, L.S. (1977). The CES-D scale: A self report depression scale for research in the general population. *Applied Psychological Measurements*, 1, 385-401.

Zimet, G.D., Dahlem, N.W., Zimet S.G. & Farley G.K. (1988). The Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support. *Journal of Personality Assessment*, 52, 30-41.

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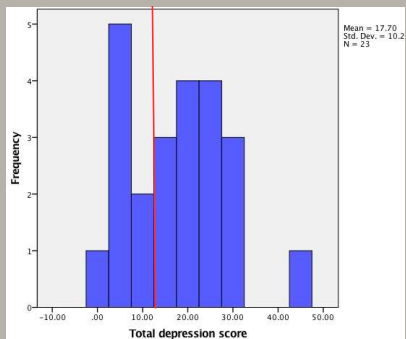
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Distribution of CES-D Scores



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