Number of Canadians with kidney failure and diabetes on the rise

CORR Annual Report: Treatment of End-Stage Organ Failure in Canada, 2004 to 2013

The CORR annual report examines activities and trends for Canadians who were treated for major organ failure—including kidney, liver, heart, lung and pancreas—and whose treatment options included an organ transplant or dialysis for kidney failure.

This year’s report provides new insights into the increasing number of patients across Canada with end-stage kidney disease (ESKD), due in many cases to complications from diabetes. Diabetes is the leading cause of ESKD in Canada.

ESKD in Canada

- At the end of 2013, almost 42,000 Canadians were living with ESKD. 5,333 new cases were diagnosed in 2013.
  - More than half of newly diagnosed patients were older than 65.
  - 36% of new ESKD cases were due to diabetes.
- Less than half (41%) of seniors age 65 to 74 with ESKD on dialysis survive longer than 5 years.
- About 89% of the kidneys that were transplanted into adults from living donors survived at least 5 years, while 83% of kidneys transplanted from a deceased donor survived at least 5 years.

Organ donations

- In 2013, there were 1,141 organ donors in Canada, which resulted in 2,432 organs transplanted—an increase of 6% from 2012.
- 4,433 patients were waiting for an organ transplant at the end of 2013.
- 246 Canadians died while waiting for an organ transplant in 2013.