

## **SEVERITY OF MITRAL ANNULAR CALCIFICATION IN HAEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS**

N. Tsigaridas (1), S. Mantzoukis (1), P. Oikonomou (1), N. Varsamis (1), P. Tseke (2), E. Pappas (1), A. Tsinta (1), E. Kokkolou (1), E. Andrikos (1).

*(1) Ioannina General Hospital, Nephrology department.*

*(2) General Hospital Alexandra, Nephrology department.*

Mitral annular calcification (MAC) is a chronic, degenerative condition seen more frequently in haemodialysis patients than in the general population. We examined the prevalence and the severity of MAC in the dialysis patients of our department, and evaluated its association with laboratory parameters and time since dialysis initiation (TSDI).

The study covered 46 patients (male 68.7 of annular perimeter), moderate (affecting 30-50 of annular perimeter). The mean value of six monthly measurements of calcium, phosphorus, calcium-phosphorus product, and one measurement of parathormone (PTH) and haemoglobin (Hb) were recorded and used for statistical analysis. TSDI and history of diabetes, hypertension and dyslipidaemia were documented. The data were analysed with stata software.

MAC was present in 57, moderate in 11 of patients. No statistically significant correlation was found between the severity of calcification and calcium, phosphorus, calcium-phosphorus product, PTH, Hb. However, TSDI was significantly related to the severity of MAC. In an ordinal regression analysis an increase of TSDI by 1 month was related to an increase of the risk of MAC by 2 and 57% of patients respectively.

MAC is encountered in more than half of haemodialysis patients. The severity of calcification was significantly related to TSDI. No correlation with calcium-phosphorus product was found, probably due to the normal values presented in the majority of patients.