

# FACTS ABOUT HEPATORENAL SYNDROME (HRS)

## A Life-threatening Complication of Liver Disease

### OVERVIEW



Hepatorenal syndrome (HRS) is an acute and life-threatening condition that occurs in people with advanced liver disease.<sup>1</sup>

HRS is classified into two distinct types—a rapidly progressive type that leads to acute renal failure where patients are typically hospitalized for their care and a more chronic type that progresses over weeks to months.<sup>1</sup>

### IF LEFT UNTREATED

Patients with HRS-AKI have a **median survival time of less than two weeks** and **greater than 80% mortality within three months.**<sup>2</sup>

### DIAGNOSTIC CHALLENGES



- Lack of specific diagnostic tools.<sup>6</sup>
- Similarity to other diseases (requiring a diagnosis of exclusion).<sup>6</sup>
- Kidneys may appear structurally normal on diagnostic imaging.<sup>5,7</sup>

### RISK FACTORS



HRS is estimated to affect more than **35,000** Americans annually and rates of HRS hospitalizations are increasing.<sup>3,4</sup>

In general, the average patient with HRS **is in their 50s.**<sup>5</sup>



The majority of HRS patients are men.<sup>5</sup>

### CARING FOR PEOPLE WITH HRS



Caregivers are often spouses and studies show this role can be burdensome mentally, emotionally, financially, and physically.<sup>8</sup>

### UNMET NEEDS



Increased awareness of the signs and symptoms of HRS.<sup>9</sup>



Timely and accurate diagnosis to ensure adequate treatment.<sup>9</sup>

### TREATMENT

Dialysis, also known as renal replacement therapy, is used for some patients, but it is not curative.<sup>9</sup> **The only cure for the underlying liver disease in HRS patients is a liver transplant.**<sup>1</sup> However, because of the poor prognosis for many HRS patients, a transplant is often not feasible.<sup>2</sup>

### ONGOING RESEARCH

Clinical and health economics outcomes research is ongoing across the U.S. and other nations to continue exploring the impact of treatment options, and help improve the lives of patients with HRS.

### References

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