

### ***Strategies to increase patient response rate in RenaCARE study***

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#### **INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE:**

Renasight is a kidney gene panel that identifies genetic causes of chronic kidney disease (CKD) in patients and/or hereditary risk of CKD in healthy individuals. RenaCARE (Renasight Clinical Application, Review, and Evaluation) is a study that analyzes the clinical utility of Renasight and surveys the mental, social, and physical impacts of genetic testing on CKD patients.<sup>1</sup> Patient surveys are required to identify the personal impacts of genetic testing, as each patient had a unique experience. However, response rates to medical surveys remain a major issue in the medical field. Previous studies indicated an inverse relationship of patient participation in studies with increasing age and proportion of males.<sup>2,3</sup> An analysis of methods to increase survey responses in RenaCARE is required to increase patient participation and improve responsiveness to web-based patient studies.

#### **METHODS:**

All 326 participants were initially emailed to fill out a one-month and one-year post-test survey. For one-month post-test surveys, the patients were reminded up to three times by email. All the participants who did not complete the one-year survey after the initial email has been sent are currently being contacted over the phone or over email.

The patient response rates to the survey, including time and day of week, are currently being collected and will be analyzed with a chi-squared test. Variables that were tested include patient age and gender.

#### **RESULTS:**

Of 326 patients, 162 (50%), completed the survey. A majority of the patient cohort was in the 40s and 50s age group and male, which is consistent with distribution of CKD in the population.

There was an inverse relationship between age and patient survey response and a trend towards higher response rate of female participants. Analysis of the one-year post-test surveys is being performed, which will demonstrate if the trends are statistically significant.

#### **CONCLUSIONS:**

The patient response rate to surveys seems to be affected by participant age and gender. This study provided evidence that female participants or participants in their 30s have more inclination to complete genetic test surveys.