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| Title: | Results of salt intake restriction monitored with the new sodium control biosensor |
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| Type: | Research Article |

39 **ABSTRACT**

40 **Introduction.** Adherence to a low sodium (Na) diet is crucial in patients under
41 hemodialysis, as it improves cardiovascular outcomes and reduces thirst and
42 interdialytic weight gain. Recommended salt intake is lower than 5 g/day. The new
43 6008 CareSystem monitors incorporate an Na module that offers the advantage of
44 estimating patients' salt intake. The objective of this study was to evaluate the effect of
45 dietary Na restriction for 1 week, monitored with the Na biosensor.

46 **Methods.** A prospective study was conducted in 48 patients who maintained their
47 usual dialysis parameters and were dialyzed with a 6008 CareSystem monitor with
48 activation of the Na module. Total Na balance, pre/postdialysis weight, serum Na (sNa),
49 changes in pre- to post-dialysis sNa (ΔsNa), diffusive balance, and systolic and
50 diastolic blood pressure were compared twice, once after 1 week of patients' usual Na
51 diet and again after another week with more restricted Na intake.

52 **Results.** Restricted Na intake increased the percentage of patients on a low-sodium
53 diet (<85 Na mmol/day) from 8% to 44%. Average daily Na intake decreased from 149
54 ± 54 to 95 ± 49 mmol and interdialytic weight gain was reduced by in 460 \pm 484 g per
55 session. More restricted Na intake also decreased pre-dialysis sNa and increased both
56 intradialytic diffusive balance and ΔsNa . In hypertensive patients, reducing daily
57 sodium by more than 3 g Na/day lowered their systolic blood pressure.

58 **Conclusions.** The new Na module allowed objective monitoring of Na intake, which in
59 turn could permit more precise personalized dietary recommendations in patients
60 under hemodialysis.

61

62 INTRODUCTION

63 Sodium (Na) is the most abundant extracellular ion and is the principal
64 determinant of plasma osmolarity, extracellular volume, and blood pressure [1,2].
65 Several mechanisms are involved in tightly regulating their homeostasis to maintain
66 the internal environment constant [3]. In healthy individuals, the kidney plays a major
67 role in Na regulation. However, in patients under hemodialysis (HD) with minimal or no
68 residual renal function, Na intake must be completely balanced with water intake
69 because Na loads cannot be adequately excreted, and Na removal during dialysis is
70 essential to maintain Na balance [4,5].

71 During HD, Na is removed primarily via convection (ultrafiltration related to
72 interdialytic weight gain) and, to a lesser extent, via diffusion, in relation to the gradient
73 between the patient's pre-dialysis serum sodium (sNa) and the Na prescribed in the
74 dialysis fluid [4]. A positive Na gradient during HD promotes hemodynamic stability and
75 adequate perfusion of vital organs, as well as reducing the risk of intradialytic
76 hypotension [6]. However, it also increases osmolarity, thirst and extracellular volume,
77 —resulting in hypertension—and leads to greater left ventricular hypertrophy and
78 adverse cardiovascular effects [1]. In contrast, a negative Na gradient has been
79 associated with a reduction in interdialytic weight gain and blood pressure control but
80 at the expense of more frequent episodes of intradialytic hypotension and tissue
81 hypoperfusion [6].

82 Patients under HD are advised to restrict their salt intake to improve
83 cardiovascular outcomes and reduce thirst and interdialytic weight gain [5,7]. Currently,
84 the Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) and the Kidney Disease
85 Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI) guidelines recommend a maximum daily salt
86 intake of 5 and 6 g per day, respectively [8,9].

87 Salt intake can be determined by measuring Na excretion through 24-hour urine
88 collection in patients without renal impairment but not in patients under HD [10].
89 Previously, monitors with the Diascan biosensor allowed non-invasive determination
90 of ion mass transfer and, therefore, estimation of salt intake in the interdialytic period
91 [11–13]. However, these monitors could not be used with certain dialysis techniques,

92 such as hemodiafiltration. The new 6008 CareSystem monitors can be used with all
93 types of dialysis modalities, including hemodiafiltration, and also incorporate an Na
94 module that quantifies the total Na balance by providing approximate information on
95 salt intake in stable patients on HD without residual renal function, while ignoring other
96 Na losses such as those in stool or sweat [14].

97 This study aimed to evaluate the effects of a restrictive Na intake diet versus
98 usual Na intake on interdialytic weight gain, sNa , the difference between pre- and post-
99 dialysis Na, known as delta Na (Δ_sNa), diffusive Na balance, and systolic and diastolic
100 blood pressure.

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102 PATIENTS AND METHODS

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We performed a prospective single-center study in 48 patients with end-stage kidney disease in a chronic HD program. There were 33 men and 15 women, with a mean age of 66 ± 16 (range 25 to 91) years. The inclusion criteria were being adult, prevalent (i.e., > 3 months on hemodialysis), without residual kidney function (< 50 ml/day), and continuously assigned to the 6008 monitors. Excluded patients were those who could not understand dietary recommendations (e.g., those with dementia) or did not want to participate in the study. The patients were dialyzed through an autologous arteriovenous fistula in 77%, a prosthetic fistula in 2%, and a tunneled central catheter in the remaining 21%. The causes of end-stage kidney disease were vascular kidney disease (n = 12), diabetic kidney disease (n = 12), chronic glomerulonephritis (n = 8), interstitial nephritis (n = 3), autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (n = 3), urological disease (n = 3), systemic disease (n = 2), and undiagnosed nephropathy (n = 5). Net fluid removal was prescribed according to patients' clinical needs. All patients were anuric, i.e. with a urine volume of <50 ml/day. Comorbid conditions were hypertension in 26 (54%), diabetes mellitus in 16 (33%), dyslipidemia in 21 (44%), arrhythmia in 7 (15%), heart failure in 12 (25%), ischemic heart disease in 8 (17%), stroke in 4 (8%), peripheral vascular disease in 12 (25%), history of malignancy in 7 (15%), morbid obesity in 5 (10%), respiratory disease in 10 (21%), and depression in 5 (10%).

123

124 The study protocol was reviewed and approved by the Hospital Clínic of
125 Barcelona ethics committee (approval number HCB/2022/0382) and written informed
126 consent was obtained from all participants. The study was conducted according to the
127 Declaration of Helsinki.

128 The dialysis parameters were kept constant in each session: mean dialysis time
129 was 349 ± 85 min (range 240-480, 14 patients on 8-hour nocturnal shift); blood flow
130 was 416 ± 34 (range 350-450) ml/min; and dialysate flow was 338 ± 91 ml/min.
131 Postdilution hemodiafiltration was used in all patients except one, who received HD
132 with medium cut-off membranes (expanded HD). Fresenius 6008 CareSystem dialysis
133 monitors (Fresenius, Bad Homburg, Germany) were used and all patients received
134 their usual parameters. All patients followed 1 week of their usual Na intake and 1 week
135 of more restrictive Na intake. To facilitate dietary adherence, all patients were given a
136 sheet listing the high-salt foods they should avoid as far as possible and the low-salt
137 foods they were allowed.

138 To compare the results, we calculated the average of the three sessions of each
139 weekly period. The dialysis parameters collected in each session consisted of real
140 duration, dialyser, Q_b , replacement volume, pre- and post-dialysis systolic and
141 diastolic blood pressure, initial and final body weight, and interdialytic weight gain. The
142 new Na biosensor quantifies initial and final sNa, diffusive Na balance, and total Na
143 balance. Intradialysis $\Delta_s\text{Na}$ was calculated. Total Na balance represents the total
144 amount of Na transferred into or out of the patient per dialysis session and can be split
145 into two components: the diffusive component (depending on the dialysate to plasma
146 Na gradient) and the net ultrafiltration component.

147 The total Na balance estimated by the model in a single dialysis session reflects
148 only Na removal during the dialysis session. However, with a longer follow-up in
149 clinically stable patients under HD without residual renal function and ignoring loss of
150 Na in either stool or sweat, intradialytic Na removal must reflect Na intake. To assess
151 daily Na intake, the only consideration needed is a correction in accordance with the

152 previous days without dialysis (i.e. the total Na balance on Mondays and Tuesdays
153 must be divided by 3 days and the remaining days by 2 days).

154 Na balance was calculated by 6008 dialysis machines, which rely on the
155 dialysate conductivity cells of the online clearance monitor. Since the clearance of
156 other electrolytes, such as potassium and bicarbonate, modifies the composition of
157 spent dialysate and influences the relationship between conductivity and Na
158 concentration, the 6008 machine uses a patient kinetic model. This model
159 approximates changes in plasma electrolyte concentrations during dialysis and allows
160 estimation of Na concentration based on dialysate conductivity. Full details on the
161 model can be found in the appendix "transition from conductivity to concentration
162 balancing" in Ságová et al. [15]. The Na control biosensor continuously monitors the
163 side Na balance of the dialysate, based on measurements of fresh and spent dialysate
164 conductivities and the application of a kinetic model to account for the typical influence
165 of other ions on dialysate conductivity. In activated Na control modes, such as the zero
166 diffusive mode, dialysate Na is adjusted continuously to minimize diffusive Na transfer
167 [15–17].

168 Quantitative variables are expressed as mean \pm standard deviation and qualitative
169 variables as absolute and relative frequencies. Differences in qualitative variables were
170 analyzed with the χ^2 test. Quantitative parameters were analyzed with the Student t-test
171 for paired data. $P < 0.05$ was considered statistically significant. A Pearson correlation
172 coefficient was computed to assess the linear relationship between dietary Na intake and
173 interdialytic weight gain. Analyses were performed using SPSS software version 23
174 (SPSS, Chicago, IL, USA) and graphics were prepared with GraphPad Prism version 8
175 (GraphPad Software).

176

177 **RESULTS**

178 All dialysis sessions were performed without notable clinical incidents or serious
179 adverse events. Despite constant activation of Na control, patients experienced no
180 cramps or episodes of hypotension.

181 **Total Na balance / Na intake**

182 Total Na balance significantly decreased from 324 ± 103 mmol Na/session with
183 usual Na intake to 210 ± 96 mmol Na/session with restrictive Na intake. When
184 calculated as daily Na intake, total Na balance was 149 ± 54 mmol Na/day (8.76 ± 3.2
185 g salt/day) with usual Na intake and 95 ± 49 mmol Na/day (5.59 ± 2.88 g salt/day) with
186 restrictive Na intake. With usual Na intake, daily Na intake was < 85 mmol Na/day (< 5
187 g/day) in four patients (8%), 85 to 150 mmol Na/day in 26 (54%), and > 150 mmol/day
188 in 18 patients (38%). With restricted Na intake, these percentages were 44% (< 5 g
189 salt/day), 48% (5-9 g salt/day), and 8% (> 9 g salt/day). Individualized values of daily
190 Na intake are shown in Figure 1.

191 **Interdialytic weight gain**

192 Pre-dialysis body weight was significantly higher in the usual Na intake period
193 while post-dialysis body weight was similar in both periods (Table 1).

194 The restricted Na intake diet significantly reduced interdialytic weight gain
195 (Table 1). The average reduction was 460 ± 484 g per session.

196 Total Na balance was significantly correlated with interdialytic weight gain in
197 both periods (Figure 2):

$$198 \quad \textit{Interdialytic weight gain} = 0.006 \times \textit{Total Na balance} + 0.341; R^2 = 0.733$$

199 **Initial and final plasma Na**

200 The percentage of patients with hyponatremia was 12.5% (n=6) with usual Na
201 intake and 29.2% (n=14) with restricted Na intake. The mean pre-dialysis sNa was
202 138.11 ± 2.33 (range 133 to 142) mmo/L with usual Na intake and was significantly
203 reduced to 136.29 ± 2.87 (range 130 to 144) mmo/L with restricted Na intake. There
204 were no significant differences in postdialysis sNa (Figure 3).

205 **Diffusive Na balance**

206 Diffusive Na balance differed between the two study periods (Table 1), despite
207 activation of the Na biosensor in both periods with a similar Na dialysate margin of
208 variability allowed (133-142 mmol/L). During the restricted Na diet, the percentage of
209 dialysis sessions achieving a zero diffusive balance (0-30 mmol) decreased from 69%
210 to 23%, dialysis sessions with diffusive balance from 31 to 100 mmol increased from

211 21% to 46%, and dialysis sessions with a diffusive balance > 100 mmol increased from
212 10% to 31%.

213 **Difference between initial and final Na or delta Na ($\Delta_s\text{Na}$)**

214 Values of $\Delta_s\text{Na}$ significantly differed between the two study periods (Figure 3).
215 $\Delta_s\text{Na}$ was negative in the usual Na intake period with activated Na module biosensor
216 and was positive in the restricted Na period. During the second period, the number of
217 patients with $\Delta_s\text{Na} \geq 4$ mmol/L rose from 1 to 3 patients (2%-6%), and those with $\Delta_s\text{Na}$
218 2 to 4 mmol/L rose from 5 to 9 (10%-19%). The number of patients with $\Delta_s\text{Na} < 2$
219 mmol/L decreased from 42 (88%) to 36 (75%).

220 **Blood pressure**

221 Mean pre- and postdialysis systolic and diastolic blood pressures are shown in
222 Table 1. We found no significant differences in either study period. When patients were
223 divided into groups according to normal or high (≥ 130 mmHg) systolic blood pressure
224 and daily Na reduction, systolic blood pressure decreased significantly in those with a
225 daily Na reduction > 3 g/day (Table 2).

226

227 **DISCUSSION**

228 The present study shows that a restrictive Na diet, with a mean of 3.17 g
229 salt/day, was associated with lower interdialytic weight gain and pre-dialysis sNa and
230 higher $\Delta_s\text{Na}$ and diffusive Na balance.

231 Sodium intake is closely related to fluid volume. Interdialytic weight gain is a
232 crucial predictor of morbidity and mortality in HD patients due to a directly proportional
233 increase in the risk of cardiovascular events, including hypertension, left ventricular
234 hypertrophy, and congestive heart failure [18,19]. Previous studies have shown that
235 intradialytic weight gain can be significantly reduced by a hypotonic diet [20,21].
236 Indeed, a systematic review reported that a hypotonic diet reduced interdialytic weight
237 gain by 1.5 kg compared to a regular diet [22] and these data are supported by our
238 results.

239 Patients on HD need to adhere to a wide range of dietary restrictions that can
240 negatively impact their long-term quality of life and nutritional status [23]. In these
241 patients, international guidelines recommend a diet low in potassium, phosphorus and
242 salt [24,25]. Despite the well-established benefits of salt restriction in these patients, its
243 implementation in clinical practice has been challenging mainly due to poor patient
244 adherence to dietary recommendations, and it has been estimated that half of patients
245 under HD cannot adhere to the recommended salt intake [26]. Our study supports these
246 data as only 8% patients on the usual Na diet met these recommendations. However,
247 when the reduction of salt intake was insisted by these dietary recommendations, in a
248 short period of time, compliance was achieved in 44% of the patients, basically by 46%
249 of the patients who reduced more than 3 grams of salt/d.

250 Pre-dialysis plasma Na fluctuations in patients are normally small, supporting
251 the hypothesis of an individual Na setpoint [4,27]. However, interindividual variability in
252 pre-dialysis sNa is very high, reflecting differences in diet, lifestyle and [28]. In the
253 present study, interindividual variability in pre-dialysis sNa ranged from 130 to 144
254 mmol/L. Hyponatremia has been associated with increased mortality. In 2013, a study
255 of 6127 patients on HD reported that sNa <135 mEq/L was associated with
256 hypercalcemia, elevated alkaline phosphatase, hypoparathyroidism, and a higher risk
257 of 1-year mortality [29]. Three years later, another study of 8883 patients from
258 European countries in the international MONDO initiative found that hyponatremia was
259 predictive for all-cause mortality [30]. At the same time, a study of 27180 incident
260 patients reported a U-shaped mortality risk, suggesting that hyponatremia increased
261 with both lower (<138 mEq/L) and higher (≥ 144 mEq/L) sNa [31]. In 2021, a systematic
262 review and meta-analysis showed that hyponatremia predicted all-cause and
263 cardiovascular mortality in the dialysis population [32]. A subsequent analysis of 184
264 patients reported that pre-dialysis time-averaged hyponatremia was independently
265 associated with an increased risk of all-cause mortality and cardiovascular events in
266 patients under HD [33]. In our study, reduced Na intake was associated with an
267 increase in the percentage of patients with hyponatraemia from 12% to 29%, indicating
268 that the risk of mortality could increase in this subgroup. It is therefore important to
269 individualize dietary recommendations. Hyponatremia has been associated with

270 functional and cognitive decline [34], risk of bone fractures [35], risk of infection-related
271 hospital admissions [36], and malnutrition.

272 A 2018 analysis of data from the Japanese dialysis registry, which included
273 88115 patients under HD, showed that low Na intake was associated with all-cause
274 mortality [37]. Unfortunately, it is known that efforts to intensify Na restriction may
275 increase the risk of compromising energy intake [38]. A retrospective cohort study
276 demonstrated that low salt intake was related to high all-cause mortality in HD patients,
277 possibly due to malnutrition in the context of excessive salt restriction [39]. Along the
278 same line, another study reported that hyponatremia was associated with malnutrition,
279 inflammation, and fluid overload [30], while a review of recommended dietary regimens
280 in patients under HD showed that, since Na is used in a wide variety of foods, Na
281 restriction could increase the risk of malnutrition and energy-protein loss. More
282 recently, a study of 127 patients demonstrated the association between a low daily Na
283 intake and inadequate intake of calories, proteins, minerals, trace elements and,
284 vitamin B₁ [40]. These studies suggest that the benefit of a low-Na diet
285 recommendation should be balanced against the risk of malnutrition.

286 Another advantage of the Na module is that it allows dialysate Na prescription
287 to be customized automatically according to patients' needs. Several authors have
288 proposed a goal of zero diffusive balance as a starting point, as it provides an adequate
289 option for most patients under HD [15–17]. In our study, the low Na diet was associated
290 with increased diffusive balance. As previously reported by our group[14] the
291 determining factor in achieving a neutral diffusive balance was the pre-dialysis sNa
292 value. As in the present study, the pre-dialysis sNa decreased by almost 2 mmol/L,
293 which would explain this change.

294 Changes in sNa concentration from pre- to postdialysis may lead to organ
295 damage and have been associated with independent risk factors for all-cause,
296 cardiovascular, and infectious disease-related mortality. A study based on data from
297 the Japanese dialysis and transplant registry reported that pre-dialysis concentrations
298 of $sNa < 136$ mEq/L and $\Delta sNa > 4$ mEq/L were related to higher mortality in patients
299 under HD, particularly when both were present [41]. The results of the International

300 MONitoring Dialysis Outcome Initiative showed that increased mortality was
301 associated with higher pre-dialysis sNa variability [42]. In our study, reducing Na intake
302 doubled the number of patients with a $\Delta sNa > 2$ mEq/L (12% to 25%), which again
303 emphasizes the importance of individualizing dietary Na recommendations.

304 Overall, reducing Na intake can be an important component of a comprehensive
305 approach to managing hypertension in individuals undergoing HD [10,43]. However, a
306 low-Na diet may not be appropriate for all patients under HD, particularly those with
307 malnutrition or hyponatremia. To individualize recommendations and dietary plans for
308 such patients, it is essential to distinguish between dilution hyponatremia, nutritional
309 hyponatremia, depletion hyponatremia, and dilution hyponatremia associated with Na
310 wasting or malnutrition [44]. Moreover, a strict low-Na diet is no longer recommended
311 in ambulatory patients with heart failure, as a result of the publication of the clinical trial
312 SODIUM-HF, which failed to demonstrate a reduction in cardiovascular events,
313 regardless of a modest improvement in quality of life [45]. This result raises new doubts
314 about this general recommendation in other entities such as end-stage kidney disease
315 and emphasizes that one size does not fit all.

316 Overall, reducing Na intake can be an important component of a comprehensive
317 approach to managing hypertension in individuals undergoing HD. Previous research
318 has shown that the patients deriving the greatest benefit from a restricted Na diet are
319 those with hypertension [46]. In our study, we found statistically significant differences
320 only in the subgroup of hypertensive patients who adhered to the low Na dietary
321 recommendations.

322 A limitation of our study is the absence of long-term clinical follow-up of
323 restricted Na intake (1 week). Another limitation is that not all patients strictly adhered
324 to the dietary recommendations, although we analyzed the data per intention to treat.

325 In conclusion, the automated dialysate Na control module is a highly useful tool
326 to objectively monitor Na intake, confirming that patients on a more restricted Na diet
327 did indeed reduce their salt intake. Moreover, lower Na intake was accompanied by
328 less interdialytic weight gain, a decrease in pre-dialysis sNa , and a trend to lower blood
329 pressure. On the other hand, the low Na diet was also associated with a greater

330 percentage of patients with pre-dialysis hyponatraemia and higher diffusive Na balance
331 and $\Delta_s\text{Na}$. Therefore, the advantage of this new Na control biosensor is that it allows
332 objective non-invasive monitoring of estimated Na intake and adherence to Na dietary
333 recommendations in each HD session without additional costs. The biosensor thus
334 allows dietary recommendations to be individualized with greater precision according
335 to patients' needs. New studies and algorithms are needed to adapt Na dietary
336 prescription with maximum precision in the presence of distinct clinical situations, such
337 as natremia, fluid overhydration, and hypertension.

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341 study and their enthusiasm.

342

343 **STATEMENT OF ETHICS**

344 This study protocol was reviewed and approved by the Hospital Clínic of Barcelona
345 ethics committee (approval number HCB/2022/0382) and written informed consent
346 was obtained from all participants. The study was conducted according to the
347 Declaration of Helsinki.

348

349 **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST STATEMENT**

350 F.M. has received consultancy fees and lecture fees from Baxter, Fresenius Medical
351 Care, Medtronic, Nipro, Toray and Vifor. The other authors declare no conflicts of
352 interest.

353

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355 The authors declare no financial support for the project.

356

357 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

358

359 F.M. conceived the study. L.M., E.Ch., J.B., J.O., V.E., M.M-Ch, LM.R., M.A-G., M.V.,
360 and N.F. acquired the data. L.M., E.Ch., J.B, and F.M. analysed the data, created the

361 figures, and drafted the paper. All authors have revised the drafts and approved the
362 final manuscript.

363 **DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT**

364 The data supporting the findings of this study are available from the corresponding
365 author, F.M., upon reasonable request. [All data generated or analysed during this study
366 are included in this article. Further enquiries can be directed to the corresponding
367 author](#)

368

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505 **LEGENDS**

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507

508 **Figure 1:** Comparison of individualized values of daily Na intake between usual Na
509 intake and restricted Na intake.

510

511 **Figure 2:** Correlation between total Na balance and interdialytic weight gain (IWG) in
512 both two periods.

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514 **Figure 3:** A: Comparison of pre- and postdialysis sNa with usual Na intake and
515 restricted Na intake. B: Comparison of the difference between the initial and final sNa
516 (ΔsNa) in the two study periods.

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Table 1: Comparison of pre/postdialysis body weight, interdialytic body weight gain, HDF replacement volume, pre/postdialysis serum Na, diffusive Na balance, and pre/postdialysis blood pressure in the two study periods

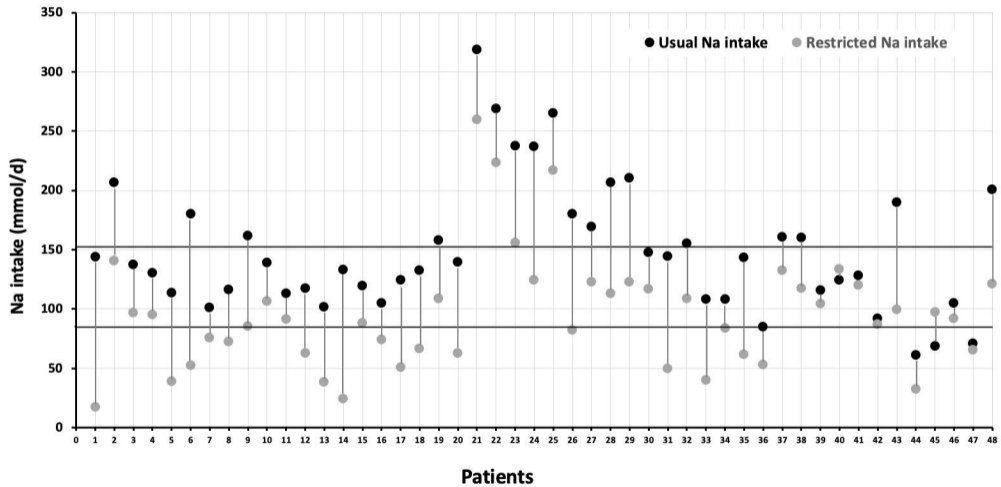
| | Usual Na intake | Restricted Na intake | P value |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| Pre-dialysis body weight (kg) | 70.112 ± 16.77 | 69.525 ± 16.66 | <0.001 |
| Postdialysis body weight (kg) | 67.896 ± 16.60 | 67.779 ± 16.58 | N.S. |
| Interdialytic weight gain (g) | 2210 ± 816 | 1750 ± 776 | <0.001 |
| HDF replacement volume (L) | 32.6 ± 10.9 | 32.4 ± 10.6 | N.S. |
| Pre-dialysis serum Na (mmol/L) | 138.11 ± 2.33 | 136.29 ± 2.87 | <0.001 |
| Postdialysis serum Na (mmol/L) | 137.61 ± 1.64 | 137.08 ± 1.73 | 0.018 |
| Diffusive Na balance (mmol/L) | 31.85 ± 41.0 | 73.67 ± 53.1 | <0.001 |
| Pre-dialysis SBP (mmHg) | 134.4 ± 23.1 | 132.2 ± 22.4 | N.S. |
| Pre-dialysis DBP (mmHg) | 68.4 ± 12.6 | 68.0 ± 12.7 | N.S. |
| Postdialysis SBP (mmHg) | 128.1 ± 20.4 | 131.1 ± 21.1 | N.S. |
| Postdialysis DBP (mmHg) | 65.7 ± 12.9 | 66.7 ± 13.5 | N.S. |

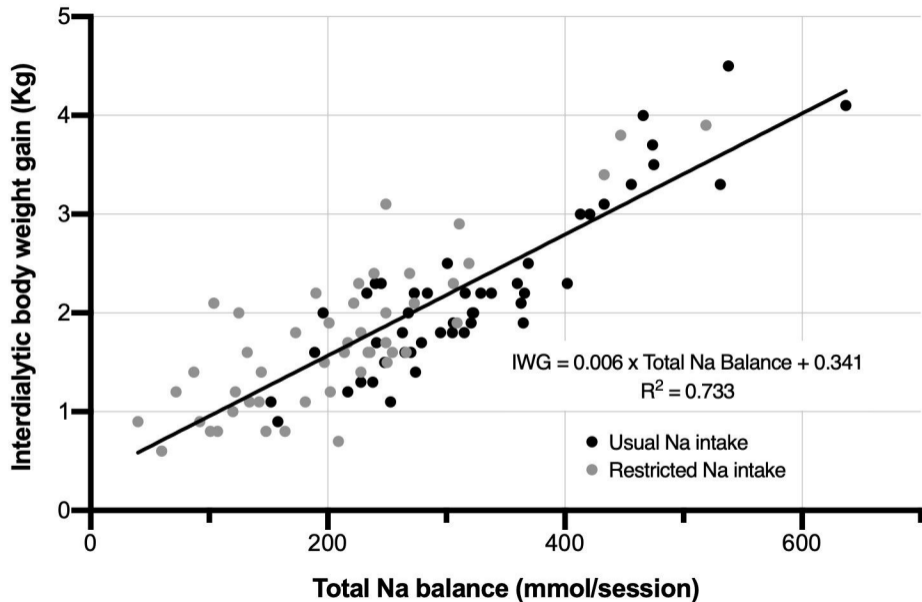
HDF: hemodiafiltration; Na: sodium; SBP: systolic blood pressure; DBP: diastolic blood pressure;

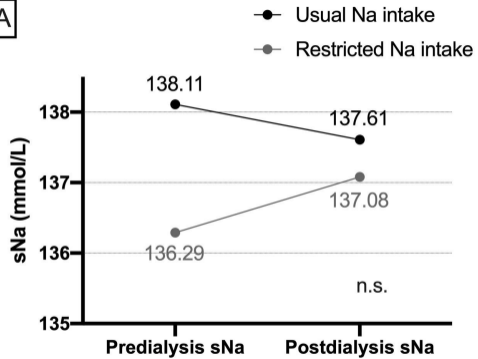
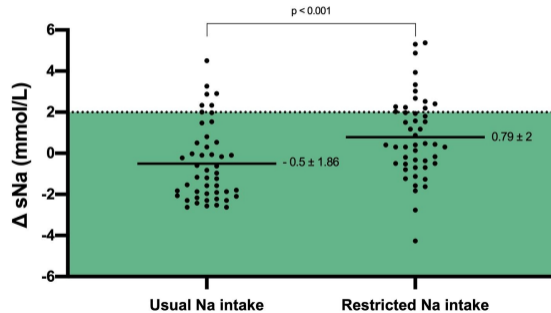
Table 2. Systolic and diastolic blood pressure grouped by normal or high (≥ 130 mmHg) systolic blood pressure and daily sodium reduction in the two study periods.

| Patient groups | SBP | | | DBP | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|------|
| | Na intake | | | Na intake | | |
| | Usual | Restricted | p | Usual | Restricted | p |
| Normal BP with daily Na reduction > 3 g (n = 8) | 114.1 \pm 19.6 | 111.7 \pm 22.6 | N.S. | 58.1 \pm 10.4 | 58.5 \pm 13.3 | N.S. |
| Normal BP with daily Na reduction \leq 3 g (n = 14) | 116.7 \pm 9.30 | 116.6 \pm 10.8 | N.S. | 62.9 \pm 9.30 | 61.4 \pm 10.7 | N.S. |
| High BP with daily Na reduction > 3 g (n = 14) | 148.2 \pm 14.1 | 141.4 \pm 9.60 | 0.029 | 76.4 \pm 12.5 | 75.5 \pm 10.5 | N.S. |
| High BP with daily Na reduction \leq 3 g (n = 12) | 152.5 \pm 20.1 | 153.4 \pm 18.8 | N.S. | 72.2 \pm 10.4 | 73.3 \pm 9.20 | N.S. |

SBP: systolic blood pressure; DBP: diastolic blood pressure; BP: blood pressure; Na: sodium.





A**B**

Salt intake restriction monitored with automated Na control

Methods

Prospective single-cohort study

48 patients in hemodialysis



- One week usual Na intake. Automated Na control.
- One week restricted Na intake. Automated Na control.

Objectives

To evaluate changes in:



Interdialytic weight gain (IWG)



Delta Na



Systolic and diastolic blood pressure



Diffusive Na balance

Results

| | Usual Na intake | Restricted Na intake | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------|---|
| Daily Na intake | 8.8 | 5.6 | g/day | ↓ |
| IWG | 2210 | 1750 | g | ↓ |
| Predialysis sNa | 138.1 | 136.3 | mmol/L | ↓ |
| Diffusive Na balance | 32 | 74 | mmol/SES | ↑ |
| Δ sNa | -0.5 | 0.79 | mmol/L | ↑ |

Conclusion

The new Na module allowed objective monitoring of Na intake, which in turn could permit more precise personalized dietary recommendations in patients under hemodialysis.