## Assessment of CKD Knowledge Among Internal Medicine Residents in Saudi Arabia, A Multi-Centric Cross-Sectional Study

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## ABSTRACT

Background: Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) is a significant public health concern, that demands comprehensive understanding and management from healthcare professionals. This study aimed to assess the knowledge levels of internal medicine residents regarding CKD clinical practice guidelines, considering demographic and practice characteristics as potential influencing factors.

Methodology: A cross-sectional survey was conducted among 159 internal medicine residents. The survey included questions related to demographic information, clinical exposure, educational experiences, and awareness of CKD definition, risk factors, and management guidelines. Data were analyzed using appropriate statistical tests to identify associations between knowledge levels and demographic variables.

Results: The demographic characteristics of the participants revealed a diverse sample in terms of gender, residency level, geographical location, and graduation year. Most of residents demonstrated an adequate overall knowledge of CKD clinical practice guidelines. However, variations in knowledge were observed across different demographic and practice characteristics. Gender, residency level, geographical location, graduation year, medical training outside Saudi Arabia, clinical exposure, and nephrology rotations influence knowledge levels. Notably, residents with clinical exposure and those undertaking nephrology rotations demonstrated higher knowledge levels.

Conclusion: This study provides valuable insights into the knowledge levels of internal medicine residents regarding CKD clinical practice guidelines. The findings underscore the impact of demographic and practice characteristics on residents' knowledge and highlight areas where targeted educational interventions may be beneficial. Addressing these knowledge gaps is crucial for enhancing the competency of internal medicine residents in nephrology-related concepts and delivering high-quality care for individuals with CKD. Future research could explore specific educational strategies that prove effective in improving residents' understanding of CKD and assess the long-term impact of enhanced knowledge on clinical practice and patient outcomes.

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