

The Veteran Study

Association of long-term patiromer use with clinical outcomes among US Veterans with chronic kidney disease (CKD) and hyperkalemia¹

Studies of patiromer have shown its effectiveness in reducing serum potassium levels and keeping patients on renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system inhibitors (RAASI) therapy, but none have explored the association of patiromer with long-term clinical outcomes.¹⁻³ The aim of this retrospective longitudinal observational study was to examine whether patiromer could improve clinical outcomes in long-term users of the potassium binder.¹

Setting¹



Primary endpoint

1. All-cause mortality during the entire follow-up time, including the post-Kidney Failure with Replacement Therapy (KFRT) period
2. The composite of all-cause pre-KFRT death or the development of KFRT
3. The development of KFRT

Results¹

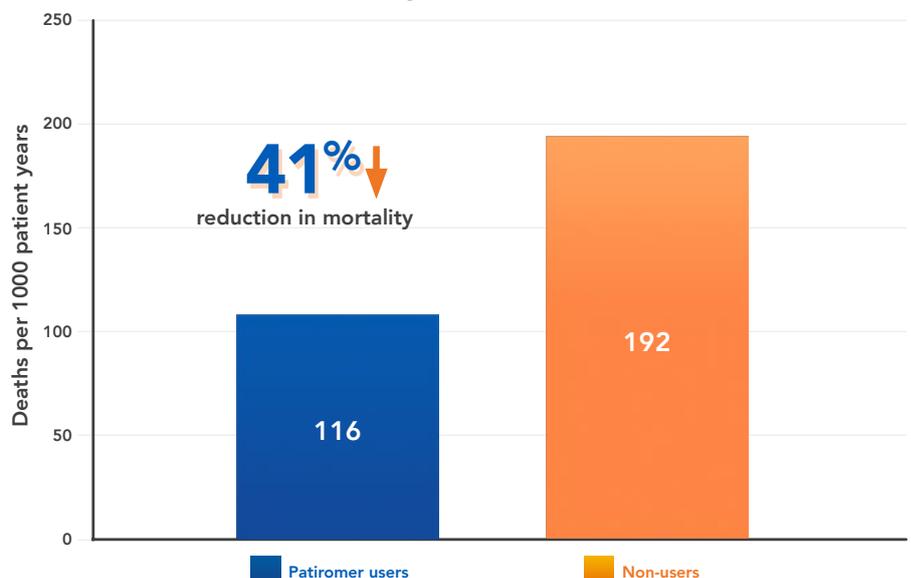
Patiromer was associated with:

41% ↓ risk of all-cause mortality
vs. non-users (HR 0.59, 95% CI 0.41 to 0.84; p=0.003)[†]

26% ↓ risk of KFRT or death vs. non-users
Although these results did not reach statistical significance (HR 0.74, 95% CI 0.53 to 1.01; p=0.06)

24% ↓ incidence of KFRT vs. non-users
Although these results also did not reach statistical significance (186 vs. 243 per 1,000 patient years [subhazard ratio 0.76, 95% CI 0.50 to 1.14; p=0.19])

Long-term patiromer users had significantly lower mortality rates than non-users



Adapted from Obi et al. 2023.¹

Conclusion¹

Despite a small, insignificant between-group difference in the prevalence of patients who remained on RAASi, the authors concluded that:



Long-term patiromer use was associated with a lower risk of all-cause mortality among patients with CKD and hyperkalemia



Long-term potassium binder use for hyperkalemia may improve clinical outcomes in CKD

This suggests pathways beyond RAASi use may be linked to extended survival:



Patiromer use may delay dialysis initiation and prevent emergency dialysis and the need for dialysis catheter, simply by preventing the occurrence of severe hyperkalemia



Patiromer use may provide cardiovascular benefit by reducing aldosterone levels in patients treated with RAASi medication



Patiromer use can reduce the need for dietary restrictions, allowing patients to consume a healthy diet that includes potassium-rich foods which have multiple health benefits

Study limitations

There was a lack of statistical power due to the relatively small number of long-term patiromer users which likely resulted in the composite endpoint of pre-KFRT death or KFRT not reaching significance. Only 0.08% of the original 854,217 and 33% of those ever prescribed patiromer were classed as long-term users.

*The start of long-term use defined as the date of patiromer prescription where a second prescription was dispensed, and the cumulative supply of outpatient patiromer exceeded 30 days. Non-users defined as all other patiromer prescriptions and those who were patiromer naïve.¹

[†]The prevalence of patiromer use was 0.23% and long-term use was 0.08%.¹

Abbreviations:

CI, confidence interval; **CKD**, chronic kidney disease; **HR**, hazard ratio; **KFRT**, kidney failure with replacement therapy; **RAASi**, renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system inhibitor.

References:

1. Obi Y, et al. *Kidney Med.* 2023;6(1):100757. 2. Veltassa® Summary of Product Characteristics 2022. 3. Butler J, et al. *Eur Heart J.* 2022;43(41):4362-73.

PRESCRIBING INFORMATION



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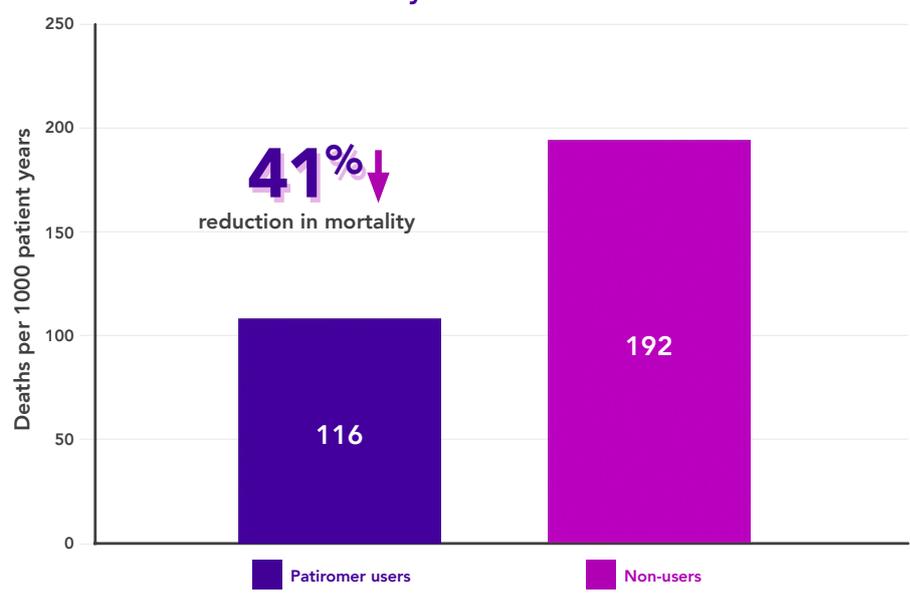
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