

MNP. Membranous Nephropathy

NIHR BioResource – Rare Diseases study project

Lead Investigator: Dr Durga Kanigicherla

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Summary

Each kidney has up to a million tiny ‘filters’ (glomeruli). These filter water and small molecules from the blood circulating through them. Disorders of these filters (grouped as Glomerulonephritis - GN) can lead to leakage of proteins from blood and patients present with nephrotic syndrome. Membranous Nephropathy (MN) is the most common cause of nephrotic syndrome in adults and is seen to occur in about 10 per million population per year. Once the disease occurs patients can have varied spectrum of illnesses ranging from spontaneous remission to severe progression of the disease, leading to end stage kidney failure. Scientific advances point to a faulty immune system as the cause of this disease. There is some evidence of a genetic basis for MN, but triggers for incidence of disease and progression are poorly understood.

Current available treatments for MN are associated with significant challenges due to their side effects; although with improved understanding of immune systems new treatments are expected to be tested. In some individuals MN relapses in native kidneys or it can recur after kidney transplantation and cause failure of the transplanted kidney. Reasons behind these need further exploration.

Patients with MN are already contributing to UK Rare Renal Disease Registry (<https://rarerenal.org/>) that already captures clinical information. It is hoped that patients will be recruited both to UK RADAR and the NIHR BioResource Rare Diseases study. Linking of these data will potentially be a rich resource in the world for researchers to study MN and improve care and outcomes for patients and families

Recruitment Criteria

Inclusion

Patients with a diagnosis of membranous nephropathy (MN) in secondary care
Patients can be recruited if MN is secondary to other diseases (infections, malignancy or systemic immune diseases)

Exclusion

None

References/Tables

More information is available at:

<https://rarerenal.org/patient-information/membranous-nephropathy-patient-information/>