Nationwide renal biopsy data in Lithuania 2013-2022

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Background. Percutaneous renal biopsy remains a gold standard diagnostic tool in many kidney diseases, therefore renal biopsy registry provides important epidemiological data. This research is a continuation of a previous review that analysed renal biopsies in Lithuania from 1994 to 2012.

Objectives. The aim of this study was to assess the trends in the incidence and changes in renal biopsy results over time in Lithuania.

Methods. All Lithuanian kidney biopsies were analysed in the National Center of Pathology. All the native and transplanted kidney biopsy data were reviewed from the period from 2013 to 2022.

Results. Between 2013 and 2022, a total of 4979 kidney biopsies were performed in Lithuania. 4640 of these were performed in adults, of which more than a half (55.8 %) were in men. Transplanted kidney biopsies accounted for 44.5 % of all adult biopsies. In native kidney biopsies, the most commonly detected pathology was IgA nephropathy (10.6 %), followed by crescentic pauci-immune GN (4.7 %), membranoproliferative GN (4.7 %), FSGS (3.6 %), amyloidosis (3.4 %). AA amyloidosis was accounted for the majority of all types (80 cases). During the examined decade, 64 new cases of thrombotic microangiopathy, 23 cases of Alport syndrome, 6 cases of Fabry's disease and 18 cases of renal oxalosis were identified.

Conclusions. Compared with the data of Lithuanian kidney biopsies from 1994-2012, the most common histologically determined kidney pathology remained IgA nephropathy, but the number of crescentic GN increased. Among the amyloidoses, type AA remained predominant in all the periods examined.

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