

Estimated glomerular filtration rate and risk of poor outcomes after stroke

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3 **23 Abstract**
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6 **24 Background:** Relationship of estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) with complications
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after stroke has not been fully characterized for entire clinical spectrum of eGFR and for the
fluctuation in eGFR during hospital stay.

27 Methods: Data from the Norfolk and Norwich Stroke Registry recorded between January
28 2003 and April 2015 was analysed. eGFR was categorized into six clinically relevant
29 categories as per Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes guidelines. Change in eGFR
30 during acute admission was categorized into: within 5% change (ref.), 5-20% decline, >20%
31 decline, 5-20% increase and >20% increase. All-cause mortality, recurrent stroke, incident
32 myocardial infarction, prolonged hospital stay and stroke disability at discharge were
33 outcomes of interest.

34 Results: 10,329 stroke patients (mean age 77.8 years) were followed for a mean of 2.9 years
35 (30,126 person years). Multivariable adjusted hazard ratios (HRs) (95%CI) for all-cause
36 mortality were 0.91 (0.80-1.04), 0.96 (0.83-1.11), 1.23 (1.06-1.43), 1.54 (1.31-1.82) and 2.38
37 (1.91-2.97) for eGFR levels 60-89, 45-59, 30-44, 15-29 and <15 respectively, compared to
38 eGFR ≥ 90 mL/min/1.73m². The HR (95%CI) for eGFR change were 1.56 (1.36-1.79), 1.17
39 (1.05-1.30), 1.47 (1.32-1.62) and 1.71 (1.55-1.88) for >20% decline, 5-20% decline, 5-20%
40 increase and >20 % increase, respectively, compared to change within 5%. Results were
41 similar for other outcomes except recurrent stroke.

42 Conclusions: Stroke patients with eGFR <45 mL/min/1.73m² at hospital admission and > 5%
43 decline or increase in eGFR during hospital stay were at substantially high risk of poor
44 outcomes, particularly all-cause mortality, myocardial infarction, prolonged hospital stay and
45 disability at discharge.

46 **Introduction**

47 Low estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) (<60 mL/min/1.73m²) is highly prevalent in
48 stroke. Indeed, more than a third of stroke patients has been found to have low eGFR at
49 hospital admission [1-3]. Previous studies suggested that stroke patients with low eGFR are at
50 increased risk of poor clinical outcomes including death, prolonged hospital stay and
51 disability after hospital discharge [4-10]. However, there are few studies assessing the
52 association between eGFR divided into all clinically relevant categories and stroke outcomes.
53 Understanding the size and shape of the association across all clinically relevant categories of
54 eGFR is not only essential for clinical decision making but is also vital in helping patients
55 and their families understand the course of the disease. In addition, in previous studies eGFR
56 was only assessed at single time point on admission, thus whether change in eGFR during
57 hospital stay could be a prognostic factor in stroke patients is virtually unknown. Previously,
58 short term change in eGFR has been shown to be associated with poor clinical outcomes in a
59 general population [11].

60 This study aimed to examine the association of eGFR categorised as per recent
61 Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) guidelines [12] with complications
62 including all-cause mortality, stroke recurrence, incident myocardial infarction, prolonged
63 hospital stay and disability at hospital discharge in stroke patients. In addition, we examined
64 the association between change in eGFR during hospital stay and aforementioned outcomes
65 using a second assessment of eGFR at hospital discharge.

66 **Materials and Methods**

67 *Sample population*

68 Data of unselected consecutive patients from the Norfolk and Norwich Stroke Registry at the
69 Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital which serves a population of ~750,000 were used.
70 Methods of data collection have been described elsewhere [13]. In summary, data were
71 obtained from paper-based, reviewed and entered onto the register database by the hospital
72 stroke data team and data linkage with electronic records [14]. Newcastle and Tyneside
73 National Health Service (NHS) Research Ethics Committee delivered ethical approval
74 (12/NE/0170) and the Steering Committee of the Norfolk and Norwich Stroke Register
75 approved the study protocol.

76 Between January 2003 and April 30, 2015, 10,683 stroke patients (age ≥ 18 years)
77 with either ischemic or hemorrhagic stroke were admitted to the hospital. Because
78 biochemistry data were electronically available only after January 2003, patients were
79 included from the beginning of 2003. Patients with missing information of serum creatinine
80 were excluded (n=354). Complete information was available on comorbidities including
81 diabetes, hypertension, heart failure, hypercholesterolemia, coronary heart disease, atrial
82 fibrillation, and pneumonia. After exclusion, final analytic sample included 10,329 stroke
83 patients.

84 *Estimated glomerular filtration rate*

85 Two serum creatinine measurements, on hospital admission and near to hospital discharge
86 (alive or dead) using the Jaffe method and standardized to isotope dilution mass spectrometry
87 values. The Chronic Kidney Disease-Epidemiology collaboration equation was used to
88 estimate kidney function [15]. Although data for race were not available, misclassification of
89 eGFR was expected to be minimal because less than 2% of the Norwich population is of non-

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3 90 white ethnic origin [16]. As per KDIGO guidelines [12], admission eGFR was categorized
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5 91 into following stages: <15, 15-29, 30-44, 45-59, 60-89 and ≥ 90 mL/min/1.73m².
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8 92 *Covariates*
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10 93 Data on age, sex, history of stroke, type of stroke (ischemic or hemorrhagic), pre-stroke
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12 94 modified Rankin Score (mRS) (modified by the UK transient ischemic attack investigators)
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14 95 [17] (0-5), and Oxfordshire Community Stroke Project (OCSP) Classification were collected
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16 96 by specialist stroke nurses or doctors. For each patient, when admitted data on the pre-stroke
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18 97 mRS were collected from nursing and medical records. Co-morbidities including diabetes,
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20 98 hypertension, dyslipidaemia, heart failure, atrial fibrillation, coronary heart disease and
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22 99 pneumonia were obtained through record linkage.
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27 100 *Outcome(s)*
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29 101 All-cause mortality, recurrent stroke, incident myocardial infarction, prolonged hospital stay,
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31 102 and stroke disability were selected as outcomes for the study purpose. Mortality status was
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33 103 recorded at discharge to record in-hospital mortality. Linkage with the Office of National
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35 104 Statistics was established in UK National Health Service order to obtain follow-up mortality
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37 105 data. Information on recurrent stroke and post stroke incidence of myocardial infarction was
38
39 106 obtained through electronic record linkage. Recurrent stroke cases were additionally
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41 107 identified by assessing repeated admission(s) of a patient for stroke recorded in the registry.
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43 108 Prolonged hospital stay was defined as hospital stay longer than median days of hospital stay.
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45 109 Disability at discharge was assessed using mRS scores at hospital discharge and was
46
47 110 classified into three groups: mild (0-1), moderate (2-3) and severe (4-6). For all-cause
48
49 111 mortality, recurrent stroke and myocardial infarction, patients were followed until May 30,
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51 112 2015 so as to have minimal follow up of one month. For clinical relevance, the risk of <30,
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53 113 30-365 and >365 day mortality was examined separately in addition to overall mortality over
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59 114 the whole follow up.
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3 115 *Statistical analysis*
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5 116 Cox proportional hazards regression analysis was performed to estimate hazard ratios (HRs)
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8 117 for the association between eGFR categories (with eGFR ≥ 90 mL/min/1.73 m² as the
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10 118 reference group) and all-cause mortality. Competing risk regression analysis (using Fine and
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12 119 Gray's method) [18] was performed to calculate sub-distribution HRs for recurrent stroke and
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14 120 incident myocardial infarction, considering all-cause mortality as a competing risk. Bi-
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16 121 nominal logistic regression analyses was performed for prolonged hospital stay and Ordinal
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18 122 logistic regression for stroke disability at discharge. Since death may skew analyses for
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20 123 prolonged hospital stay, this analyses was performed for patients that were alive at discharge.
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22 124 Multivariable models were constructed to adjust for potential confounders. Model 1 was
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24 125 adjusted for demographic factors (age and sex). Model 2 was additionally adjusted for
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26 126 previous stroke, pre-stroke mRS, stroke type, stroke severity (using OCSF classification), and
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28 127 the comorbid conditions listed above. Test of models assumptions indicated that our models
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30 128 fit the data well.
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36 129 The proportional hazards assumption was tested with log-log survival curves. Parallel
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38 130 lines for eGFR categories implied that the proportional-hazards assumption was not violated
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40 131 (eFigure 1). For competing risk regression analysis, proportional hazard assumption was
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42 132 tested by examining the interaction between individual covariates and follow-up time. Model
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44 133 did not violate proportional hazard assumption (p for interaction for each covariate was
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46 134 >0.05). Hosmer and Lemeshow's goodness-of-fit test [19] for binary logistic regression and
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48 135 Log-likelihood ratio as goodness-of-fit test for ordinal logistic regression indicated that our
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50 136 model fitted the data well (p=0.12 and 0.34, respectively).
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55 137 In addition, we explored the association between eGFR distribution and outcomes by
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57 138 dividing eGFR into groups spanning 10 mL/min/1.73 m²: <20 , 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59,
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59 139 60-69, 70-79, 80-89, 90-99 (reference), 100-109 and ≥ 110 mL/min/1.73 m². There were

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3 140 fewer incident myocardial infarction and recurrent stroke due to multiple groups. Thus, a
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5 141 combined end point of myocardial infarction, recurrent stroke and all-cause mortality was
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8 142 used in this analysis.
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11 143 To assess the association between change in eGFR during hospital stay and outcomes
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13 144 after hospital discharge, percentage change in eGFR during hospital stay $((\text{eGFR}_{\text{discharge}} -$
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15 145 $\text{eGFR}_{\text{admission}}) / \text{eGFR}_{\text{admission}}) \times 100$ was categorized into the following categories: change
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17 146 within 5% (reference), 5-20% decline, >20% decline, 5-20% increase and >20% [20].
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20 147 Association was examined for patients who were alive at discharge (N=8,021). This
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22 148 association was additionally adjusted for length of hospital stay. For recurrent stroke and
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24 149 incident myocardial infarction, analysis was performed for patients who did not develop these
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27 150 outcomes during hospital stay (N=7,928 and N=7,937, respectively).
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30 151 Multiple imputation was performed by chained equations with 10 iterations to impute
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32 152 missing data (previous stroke (n=253), stroke severity (n=631) and pre-stroke modified
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34 153 Rankin score (n=674)) [21]. The following variables were incorporated into the model for
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36 154 imputations: age, sex, history of stroke, stroke type, serum creatinine, diabetes, hypertension,
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39 155 hypercholesterolemia, heart failure, atrial fibrillation, and coronary heart disease.
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42 156 A two tailed p-value of <0.05 was considered significant. All analyses were
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44 157 performed using Stata/SE version 14.0.
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47 158 *Additional analyses*

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49 159 First, previous studies reported differences in the association between eGFR and adverse
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51 160 outcomes by high risk groups [5,20]. Thus, we tested for interaction and presented the results
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54 161 by stratifying according to two major high risk groups including diabetes and hypertension
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56 162 status (no/yes). Second, to investigate study period effect, we evaluated the interaction
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59 163 between eGFR and study period (i.e. 2003-2006, 2007-2010 and 2011-2015) for the risk of
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3 164 adverse clinical outcomes. Third, we examined association between eGFR change and
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5 165 outcomes when adjusting for baseline eGFR. Finally, for change in eGFR during hospital
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7 166 stay, we examined association when using different cut-off of change in eGFR (i.e. 5%
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9 167 (reference), 5-25% decline, >25% decline, 5-25% increase and >25% increase).
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168 **Results**

169 *Baseline characteristics*

170 Characteristics of the sample population are presented according to eGFR levels in Table 1.

171 Median duration of hospital stay was 8 days (inter-quartile interval 4-18 days). The mean
172 eGFR was 63.7 ± 22.1 mL/min/1.73 m². Low levels of eGFR were more prevalent in patients
173 aged ≥ 65 years compared to patients aged < 65 years. A similar pattern was observed for
174 females and those with ischemic stroke.

175 *Clinical Outcomes by eGFR Levels*

176 Incidences of clinical outcomes assessed across eGFR categories are shown in Table 2. In
177 general, incidence of adverse outcomes was higher in patients with eGFR < 90
178 mL/min/1.73m². However, in the case of recurrent stroke, the incidence tended to have an
179 inverse 'U' shaped distribution across eGFR categories.

180 *Association between eGFR and adverse outcomes*

181 In the age and sex adjusted model, compared to eGFR level of ≥ 90 mL/min/1.73 m², lower
182 levels of eGFR (< 15 , 15-29 and 30-44 mL/min/1.73 m²) were associated with increased risks
183 of all clinical outcomes, including all-cause mortality, incident myocardial infarction,
184 prolonged hospital stay and post stroke disability but not with recurrent stroke. In the
185 multivariable adjusted models, these associations remained statistically significant. Similar to
186 overall risk of mortality, generally lower levels of eGFR (< 15 , 15-29 and 30-44
187 mL/min/1.73m²) were associated with increased risk of < 30 , 30-365 or over 365-day
188 mortality (Table 3).

189 The association between clinical outcomes and eGFR categories stratified by 10
190 mL/min/1.73 m² showed that, compared to eGFR category of 90-99 mL/min/1.73m², risk of
191 all-cause mortality was high in eGFR categories of < 20 , 20-29 and 30-39 mL/min/1.73m² and

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3 192 risk also appeared to be high in eGFR category of ≥ 109 mL/min/1.73m². A similar trend in
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5 193 associations was observed for the composite end point, prolonged hospital stay and stroke
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8 194 disability at discharge (Figure 1).
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11 195 Regarding change in eGFR during hospital stay, greater than 5% decline or increase
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13 196 in eGFR during hospital stay, was associated with an increased risk of all-cause mortality,
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15 197 and stroke disability at discharge. For myocardial infarction, >20% change in eGFR tended to
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17 198 be associated with increased risk. No statistically significant association was observed for
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20 199 recurrent stroke (Table 4).
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22 23 200 *Additional analyses*

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25 201 No statistical interaction was observed for diabetes and hypertension status (no/yes) for any
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27 202 of the outcomes (eTable 1-eTable 4). Similarly, no statically significant interaction was
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30 203 observed between eGFR and study period for the risk of adverse clinical outcomes (p=0.21,
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32 204 0.18, 0.58 and 0.25 for all-cause mortality, composite outcome, prolonged hospital stay and
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34 205 post stroke disability at discharge, respectively) . Association with outcomes was essentially
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36 206 similar to our main results when adjusting for eGFR at admission for this predictor (eTable 5)
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39 207 and using different cut-off of eGFR change (eTable 6).
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208 Discussion

209 In this large unselected prospective cohort of stroke patients, low eGFR levels of <15, 15-29
210 and 30-44 mL/min/1.73m² which clinically correspond to very severely (or kidney failure),
211 severely or moderate to severely impaired kidney function, respectively, were associated with
212 increased risk of poor clinical outcomes. This association was particularly strong for the risk
213 of all-cause mortality, incident myocardial infarction, prolonged hospital stay and disability
214 at discharge. In addition, $\geq 5\%$ change in eGFR during hospital stay was associated with
215 increased risk of adverse clinical outcomes except recurrent stroke.

216 Whilst a number of previous studies have examined the association between eGFR
217 and risk of adverse clinical outcomes in stroke patients [4-10, 21], our study expands current
218 knowledge in a number of ways. Firstly, our study provides risk (both absolute and relative)
219 of poor outcomes across all clinically relevant categories of eGFR which is critically
220 important for clinical decision making. Secondly, this study confirms the association between
221 eGFR and poor clinical outcomes in a relatively large Western population of stroke patients
222 where average age of stroke onset is higher than in Asian populations where a number of
223 previous studies were conducted. Thirdly, to best of our knowledge, this is the first study to
224 examine the association between change in eGFR during hospital stay and relevant and
225 important clinical outcomes, and demonstrates that both significant increase and decline in
226 eGFR during hospital stay may indicate poor prognosis in stroke patients.

227 While our findings show higher risk of poor outcomes for moderately to severely
228 reduced eGFR but lower risk for mildly and mild to moderately decreased eGFR. This is
229 likely due to severity of illness of patients in eGFR category of ≥ 90 mL/min/1.73m². Due to
230 loss of muscle mass in chronically ill patients, serum creatinine based eGFR may over-
231 estimate their kidney function. Thus, patients in creatinine based eGFR category of ≥ 90

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3 232 mL/min/1.73m² may actually be at increased risk of poor clinical outcomes. This was
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5 233 apparent when association was examined between eGFR divided into groups spanning 10
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7 234 mL/min/1.73 m² and outcomes, indicating that along with the increased risk of poor
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9 235 outcomes in low eGFR levels, this risk also tended to be higher in eGFR category of 100-109
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11 236 and ≥ 110 compared to eGFR category of 90-99 mL/min/1.73m² (Figure 1). Moreover,
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13 237 tendency for reduced risk of short term mortality and increased risk of long term mortality in
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15 238 eGFR category of 60-89 and 45-59 mL/min/1.73m² (Table 3) also indicate likelihood of
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17 239 overestimation of kidney function in these patients.
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22 240 Another finding of our study was that change ($\geq 5\%$) in eGFR during hospital stay also
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24 241 predicted prognosis in stroke patients. Importantly, this association was independent of eGFR
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26 242 at admission. Decline in kidney function during hospital stay likely signifies deteriorating
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28 243 kidney function and consequently poor prognosis in these patients. Causes of increased risk
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30 244 for poor prognosis with increase in eGFR during hospital stay is unclear to us. However, it
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32 245 may be because of withdrawal of antihypertensive agents (especially ACEi/ARB) as is
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34 246 commonly done in the patients presenting with acute stroke Furthermore it is also possible
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36 247 that an increase in eGFR during hospital stay may not indicate true improvement in kidney
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38 248 function but may indicate deterioration of their physical condition which may have resulted
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40 249 in overestimation of their kidney function at second measurement closer to discharge. We
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42 250 further explored the relationship and found that during hospital stay there was greater
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44 251 increase in mRS in patients with increase in eGFR ($>5\%$) compared to patients with stable
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46 252 eGFR ($<5\%$) (mean mRS score increase 3.1 vs 2.1, respectively).
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53 253 In this study we did not find a statistically significant association between low eGFR
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55 254 with recurrent stroke. This could be due to fewer number of recurrent stroke events in low
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57 255 eGFR categories. Moreover, higher short-term mortality may be obscuring the true
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59 256 relationship. Indeed, previous studies that observed this association either examined fatal and
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3 257 non-fatal re-occupant stroke together [8,12,14] or found association with stroke reoccurrence
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5 258 only in a composite outcome analysis [22]. Similar to our study, one study that examined
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8 259 non-fatal stroke recurrence found no association between low eGFR and stroke recurrence
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10 260 [23]. Although we accounted for mortality occurring before stroke recurrence in our analysis,
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12 261 we cannot entirely rule out possibility of this phenomenon.

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15 262 This study has a number of clinical and research implications. Our findings suggest
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17 263 that in stroke management, eGFR may be used as an additional early biomarker to identify
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19 264 high risk patients for complications. Our findings of independent association between change
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21 265 in eGFR during hospital stay and clinical outcomes provide an additional tool in prediction of
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23 266 prognosis in stroke patients. Since this association was also independent of eGFR at baseline,
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25 267 a second assessment of kidney function at/around discharge may be valuable in predicting
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27 268 longer term prognosis. Our findings also suggest that there should be caution in interpreting
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29 269 high eGFR values at hospital admission (when estimated using serum creatinine) in stroke
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31 270 patients in routine clinical practice since they may not always mean better kidney function
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33 271 and thus a better prognosis, particularly in chronically ill patients.

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36 272 The present study has some limitations. First, eGFR was estimated using serum
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38 273 creatinine which is influenced by muscle mass [24], and thus may not provide the most
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40 274 reliable assessment of kidney function, particularly in chronically ill patients. Other
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42 275 biomarkers of kidney function that are less dependent on muscle mass (e.g. Cystatin C) may
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44 276 be used for more accurate assessment of kidney function [25]. However, in routine clinical
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46 277 practice serum creatinine still remains the main biomarker for assessment of kidney function
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48 278 and thus highlights the usefulness of our findings in routine patient care. Second, data was
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50 279 not available on smoking and alcohol intake, and body mass index. However, we adjusted for
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52 280 major determinants of eGFR and poor outcomes including diabetes, hypertension and CVDs
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54 281 which are also linked to lifestyle factors listed above and thus likely have reduced

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3 282 confounding related to the unmeasured lifestyle factors. It should also be noted that the aim
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5 283 of this study was not to establish causation but to investigate the association between eGFR
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8 284 and poor outcomes which is potentially useful in providing additional prognostic marker for
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10 285 early identification of stroke patients that are at increased risk of complications.
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13 286 This study also has a number of strengths. Our large sample population allowed us to
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15 287 conduct a rigorous analysis, so as to examine the size and shape of the association between
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17 288 eGFR and poor clinical outcomes across all clinically relevant categories of eGFR. In
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19 289 addition, we were also able to examine the consistency of these association across various
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22 290 sub groups. The availability of information on a number of clinical outcomes allowed us to
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24 291 comprehensively assess the association of admission eGFR with stroke prognosis.
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26 292 Furthermore, as a study using data from a hospital-based disease register, the patient
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29 293 population under evaluation represents real world clinical events. Finally, the current study
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31 294 included a second measurement of serum creatinine, which allowed analysis of the
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33 295 importance of change in eGFR during hospital stay in stroke prognosis.
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37 296 In summary, stroke patients with low levels of eGFR at hospital admission
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39 297 (particularly in categories of <15, 15-29 and 30-44 mL/min/1.73m²) and greater than 5%
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41 298 change in eGFR during hospital stay (decline or increase) were associated with increased risk
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43 299 of poor clinical outcomes of all-cause mortality, myocardial infarction, prolonged hospital
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45 300 stay and stroke disability at discharge. These findings emphasize the importance of assessing
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47 301 eGFR in stroke patients so as to aid in management and prediction of prognosis in routine
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49 302 care.
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10

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14 307 **Disclosure**
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16 308 None.
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19 309 **Conflicts of interests**
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21 310 None.
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24 311 **Contributors**
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27 312 Study conception, literature search, data analysis, and drafting the manuscript: PV; Data
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30 313 acquisition and data management: JHBS; Supervisor or mentorship: PKM, AKM, KMB and
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32 314 JFP; All authors contributed in interpretation of results. Each author contributed important
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34 315 intellectual content during manuscript drafting or revision.
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3 381 **Figure 1: HRs (95% CIs) for: A) all-cause mortality; B) combined end point, and ORs (95% CIs) for; C) prolonged hospital stay and;**
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5 382 **D) stroke disability at discharge, according to the level of eGFR categorized by 10 mL/min/1.73 m² difference, with eGFR of 90-99**
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7 383 **mL/min/1.73 m² serving as the reference group**
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11 384 **A) All-cause mortality**

B) Combined end point

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22 392 **C) Prolonged hospital stay**

D) Stroke disability at hospital

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393 **Table 1: Characteristics of sample population by level of estimated glomerular filtration rate**

	Overall (N=10,329)	Level of estimated glomerular filtration rate (mL/min/1.73m ²)						p
		≥90 (n=1,106)	60-89 (4,866)	45-59 (2,177)	30-44 (1,427)	15-29 (n=596)	<15 (n=157)	
Age (years)	77.8 ± 11.9	59.7 ± 12.8	77.1 ± 10.4	81.8 ± 8.9	84.2 ± 7.9	83.8 ± 8.5	78.5 ± 12.1	<0.001
Sex (male)	47.5 (4,902)	62.8 (731)	48.9 (2,425)	42.6 (938)	38.5 (556)	40.8 (247)	50.3 (79)	<0.001
History of stroke*, %(n)	24.6 (2,474)	16.3 (173)	23.2 (1,100)	26.8 (572)	28.2 (394)	33.4 (196)	26.5 (39)	<0.001
Stroke type (Ischemic), %(n)	86.6 (8,942)	80.4 (889)	84.9 (4,135)	88.3 (1,923)	90.7 (1,294)	93.3 (556)	92.4 (145)	<0.001
OSCP classification*								<0.001
-TACS	20.9 (2,028)	14.5 (149)	19.7 (895)	22.8 (470)	23.8 (322)	27.5 (157)	23.8 (35)	
-PACS	33.2 (3,215)	29.1 (299)	33.1 (1,503)	34.9 (720)	35.3 (478)	31.2 (178)	25.2 (37)	
-LACS	22.6 (2,188)	24.7 (253)	23.6 (1,072)	21.9 (452)	20.9 (284)	18.3 (104)	15.7 (23)	
-POCS	16.8 (1,629)	24.3 (249)	17.6 (799)	14.3 (294)	13.4 (181)	14.4 (82)	16.3 (24)	
-Other	6.6 (638)	7.3 (76)	5.9 (269)	6.1 (127)	6.5 (89)	8.5 (49)	19.1 (28)	
Pre-stroke mRS*								
-0	63.3 (6,113)	76.7 (779)	67.8 (3,121)	60.7 (1,236)	51.9 (677)	42.1 (230)	39.7 (50)	<0.001
-1	12.1 (1,167)	9.9 (103)	12.3 (566)	11.2 (228)	12.8 (167)	15.4 (84)	15.1 (19)	
-2	8.2 (794)	5.7 (59)	7.4 (341)	8.9 (182)	10.1 (131)	12.1 (66)	11.9 (15)	
-3	9.5 (918)	4.4 (46)	7.4 (339)	11.4 (232)	14.0 (183)	17.8 (97)	16.7 (23)	
-4	4.8 (466)	2.1 (22)	3.7 (171)	4.9 (100)	8.3 (108)	10.3 (56)	7.1 (9)	
-5	2.0 (197)	1.3 (13)	1.4 (63)	2.9 (58)	2.9 (38)	2.4 (13)	9.5 (12)	
Diabetes, %(n)	14.6 (1,505)	11.6 (128)	11.6 (564)	13.4 (291)	15.3 (218)	21.1 (126)	28.0 (44)	<0.001
Hypertension, %(n)	51.8 (5,354)	32.0 (354)	46.2 (2,249)	48.9 (1,064)	52.6 (750)	59.4 (354)	59.9 (94)	<0.001
Dyslipidemia, %(n)	10.3 (1,062)	11.5 (127)	9.8 (478)	8.5 (186)	7.6 (109)	8.1 (48)	9.6 (15)	0.059
Coronary heart disease, %(n)	23.4 (2,417)	9.5 (105)	18.7 (912)	23.3 (507)	29.4 (419)	35.2 (210)	37.6 (59)	<0.001
Heart failure, %(n)	11.8 (1,219)	3.4 (38)	7.5 (365)	12.4 (271)	17.8 (254)	28.0 (167)	27.4 (43)	<0.001
Atrial fibrillation, %(n)	26.9 (2,786)	8.1 (89)	22.6 (1,098)	29.2 (635)	32.4 (463)	36.1 (215)	27.4 (43)	<0.001
Length of hospital stay (days)	8 (4 – 18)	6 (2 – 12)	7 (3 – 16)	10 (4 – 20)	11 (4 – 21)	11 (5 – 23)	8 (3 – 18)	<0.001

394 Abbreviations: OSCP=Oxfordshire Community Stroke Project; TACS: total anterior circulation stroke; PACS: partial anterior circulation stroke; LACS: lacunar stroke; POCS: posterior
395 circulation stroke; mRS=modified Rankin score

396 Continuous variables with normal distribution are presented as mean ± standard deviation and non-normal distribution are presented as median (interquartile interval); categorical variables are
397 presented as percentages (n)

398 *253 participants missing information on previous stroke, 631 on OSCP classification and 674 on mRS

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400 **Table 2: Clinical outcomes in patients with stroke during follow-up according to eGFR level**

	Level of eGFR (mL/min/1.73m ²)					
	≥90 (N=10,329) (n=1,106)	60-89 (4,866)	45-59 (2,177)	30-44 (1,427)	15-29 (n=596)	<15 (n=157)
All-cause mortality						
- % (n)	27.0 (299)	45.8 (2229)	57.5 (1251)	69.7 (995)	80.5 (480)	86.6 (136)
- incidence rate (1000-person years)	71 (63 – 80)	143 (138 – 149)	196 (186 – 207)	335 (315 – 357)	563 (514 – 615)	760 (642 – 899)
Recurrent stroke						
- % (n)	7.1 (79)	8.7 (423)	8.8 (192)	8.7 (124)	5.9 (35)	4.5 (7)
- incidence rate (1000-person years)	20 (16 – 24)	28 (26 – 31)	32 (28 – 37)	45 (38 – 53)	43 (31 – 60)	41 (19 – 85)
Myocardial infarction						
- % (n)	1.1 (12)	1.9 (95)	2.5 (55)	2.4 (34)	3.0 (18)	3.2 (5)
- incidence rate (1000-person years)	3.3 (1.9 – 5.6)	7.4 (6.1 – 8.9)	9.9 (7.7 – 12.6)	13 (9 – 18)	24 (15– 37)	28 (12 – 68)
Prolonged hospital stay, % (n)						
- above median (>8 days)	35.0 (387)	45.8 (2,227)	54.4 (1,182)	57.9 (827)	57.9 (345)	49.0 (77)
Stroke disability*†, % (n)						
- Mild (0-1)	46.9 (379)	32.4 (1,074)	22.7 (304)	18.6 (172)	12.0 (48)	14.2 (18)
- Moderate (2-3)	21.6 (175)	23.8 (790)	22.1 (296)	17.8 (165)	14.8 (59)	14.9 (19)
- Severe (4-6)	31.5 (255)	43.8 (1,454)	55.3 (742)	63.6 (589)	73.2 (292)	70.9 (90)

401 Abbreviation: eGFR=estimated glomerular filtration rate

402 *assessed using modified Rankin score; †N=6,921 as 3,408 patients were missing information on stroke disability at discharge

403 **Table 3: Association of eGFR at admission with clinical outcomes during follow-up in patients with stroke**

404 Abbreviation: eGFR=estimated glomerular filtration rate. Missing information was handled with multiple imputation.

	Level of eGFR (mL/min/1.73m ²)					
	≥90 (n=1,106)	60-89 (4,866)	45-59 (2,177)	30-44 (1,427)	15-29 (n=596)	<15 (n=157)
	Hazard ratio (95% Confidence interval)[†]					
All-cause mortality						
-Model 1	Ref.	0.81 (0.71 – 0.93)	0.87 (0.75 – 1.00)	1.18 (1.02 – 1.37)	1.56 (1.33 – 1.84)	2.64 (2.14 – 3.26)
-Model 2	Ref.	0.91 (0.80 – 1.04)	0.96 (0.83 – 1.11)	1.23 (1.06 – 1.43)	1.54 (1.31 – 1.82)	2.38 (1.91 – 2.97)
<30 day						
-Model 1	Ref.	0.66 (0.55 – 0.80)	0.69 (0.56 – 0.84)	0.84 (0.67 – 1.04)	1.19 (0.95 – 1.51)	2.15 (1.61 – 2.87)
-Model 2	Ref.	0.77 (0.64 – 0.94)	0.80 (0.64 – 0.98)	1.00 (0.81 – 1.25)	1.26 (0.99 – 1.60)	2.19 (1.62 – 2.96)
30-365 day						
-Model 1	Ref.	0.74 (0.57 – 0.96)	0.82 (0.62 – 1.08)	1.08 (0.81 – 1.43)	1.53 (1.13 – 2.08)	2.65 (1.75 – 4.00)
-Model 2	Ref.	0.81 (0.63 – 1.05)	0.87 (0.66 – 1.15)	1.13 (0.85 – 1.51)	1.43 (1.05 – 1.96)	2.47 (1.63 – 3.75)
Over 365 day						
-Model 1	Ref.	1.19 (0.92 – 1.54)	1.29 (0.98 – 1.69)	1.71 (1.28 – 2.27)	2.42 (1.76 – 3.34)	3.45 (2.16 – 5.52)
-Model 2	Ref.	1.21 (0.94 – 1.57)	1.27 (0.97 – 1.68)	1.67 (1.25 – 2.23)	2.10 (1.51 – 2.91)	2.64 (1.63 – 4.28)
Recurrent stroke						
-Model 1	Ref.	1.11 (0.85 – 1.44)	1.13 (0.83 – 1.53)	1.43 (1.03 – 2.00)	1.25 (0.82 – 1.92)	1.23 (0.55 – 2.74)
-Model 2	Ref.	1.05 (0.81 – 1.38)	1.06 (0.77 – 1.43)	1.33 (0.95 – 1.87)	1.14 (0.74 – 1.77)	1.21 (0.54 – 2.69)
Myocardial infarction						
-Model 1	Ref.	1.46 (0.81 – 2.63)	1.74 (0.91 – 3.32)	2.10 (1.05 – 4.21)	3.60 (1.70 – 7.63)	4.74 (1.65 – 13.65)
-Model 2	Ref.	1.33 (0.74 – 2.40)	1.56 (0.82 – 2.97)	1.82 (0.91 – 3.63)	2.96 (1.37 – 6.39)	4.06 (1.40 – 11.75)
	Odds ratio (95% Confidence interval)					
Prolonged hospital stay*						
- Model 1	Ref.	0.88 (0.75 – 1.04)	1.14 (0.94 – 1.37)	1.35 (1.09 – 1.67)	1.63 (1.23 – 2.15)	2.12 (1.28 – 3.51)
- Model 2	Ref.	0.95 (0.81 – 1.13)	1.19 (0.97 – 1.49)	1.44 (1.15 – 1.80)	1.60 (1.20 – 2.13)	1.99 (1.19 – 3.35)
Stroke disability						
- Model 1	Ref.	0.84 (0.74 – 0.97)	1.03 (0.88 – 1.21)	1.24 (1.03 – 1.48)	1.94 (1.56 – 2.41)	3.73 (2.57 – 5.40)
- Model 2	Ref.	0.98 (0.85 – 1.13)	1.14 (0.94 – 1.38)	1.34 (1.09 – 1.66)	1.93 (1.54 – 2.44)	3.47 (2.32 – 5.21)

405 [†]For recurrent stroke and myocardial infarction it is sub-distribution hazard ratio from competing risk regression analysis

406 *N=8,054, as patients who were dead at discharge were excluded (n=2,275)

407 Model 1: Age and sex

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408 Model 2: Model 1 + history of stroke, stroke type, pre-stroke modified Rankin score, stroke severity, diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, atrial fibrillation, heart failure,
409 coronary heart disease, pneumonia
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For Peer Review

411 **Table 4: Association of change in eGFR during hospital stay with clinical outcomes in patients with stroke**

	Change in eGFR during hospital stay				
	Decline >20%	Decline 5-20%	Within 5% of eGFR at admission	Increase 5-20%	Increase >20%
	Hazard ratio (95% Confidence interval)*				
All-cause mortality (N= 8,021)[†]	484	1,296	3,721	1,263	1,257
-Events, %(n)	52.7 (255)	38.0 (493)	27.9 (1,041)	46.5 (587)	56.2 (706)
-Model 1	1.52 (1.32 – 1.74)	1.17 (1.05 – 1.30)	Ref.	1.40 (1.27 – 1.56)	1.58 (1.43 – 1.76)
-Model 2	1.56 (1.36 – 1.79)	1.17 (1.05 – 1.30)	Ref.	1.47 (1.32 – 1.62)	1.71 (1.55 – 1.88)
Recurrent stroke (N=7,928)	483	1,292	3,637	1,260	1,256
-Events, %(n)	13.2 (64)	10.5 (135)	11.3 (412)	10.9 (138)	7.4 (93)
-Model 1	1.11 (0.85 – 1.45)	0.85 (0.70 – 1.03)	Ref.	0.98 (0.80 – 1.19)	0.69 (0.55 – 0.87)
-Model 2	1.08 (0.82 – 1.41)	0.83 (0.69 – 1.02)	Ref.	0.97 (0.80 – 1.18)	0.68 (0.54 – 0.86)
Myocardial infarction (N=7,937)	483	1,293	3,643	1,261	1,257
-Events, %(n)	4.6 (22)	2.8 (36)	2.9 (107)	2.6 (33)	3.1 (39)
-Model 1	1.68 (1.10 – 2.57)	0.91 (0.63 – 1.32)	Ref.	0.93 (0.63 – 1.36)	1.22 (0.85 – 1.74)
-Model 2	1.66 (1.08 – 2.54)	0.92 (0.64 – 1.34)	Ref.	0.98 (0.67 – 1.45)	1.34 (0.93 – 1.93)
	Odds ratio (95% Confidence interval)				
Stroke disability (N=6,921)	529	796	3,511	963	1,122
-Events (severe), %(n)	68.1 (360)	37.6 (299)	40.7 (1,430)	53.4 (514)	72.9 (819)
-Model 1	2.06 (1.62 – 2.61)	1.47 (1.26 – 1.71)	Ref.	2.79 (2.39 – 3.26)	4.89 (4.13 – 5.78)
-Model 2	1.93 (1.52 – 2.46)	1.38 (1.18 – 1.61)	Ref.	2.54 (2.18 – 2.97)	4.14 (3.39 – 4.91)

412 Abbreviation: eGFR=estimated glomerular filtration rate. Missing information was handled with multiple imputation

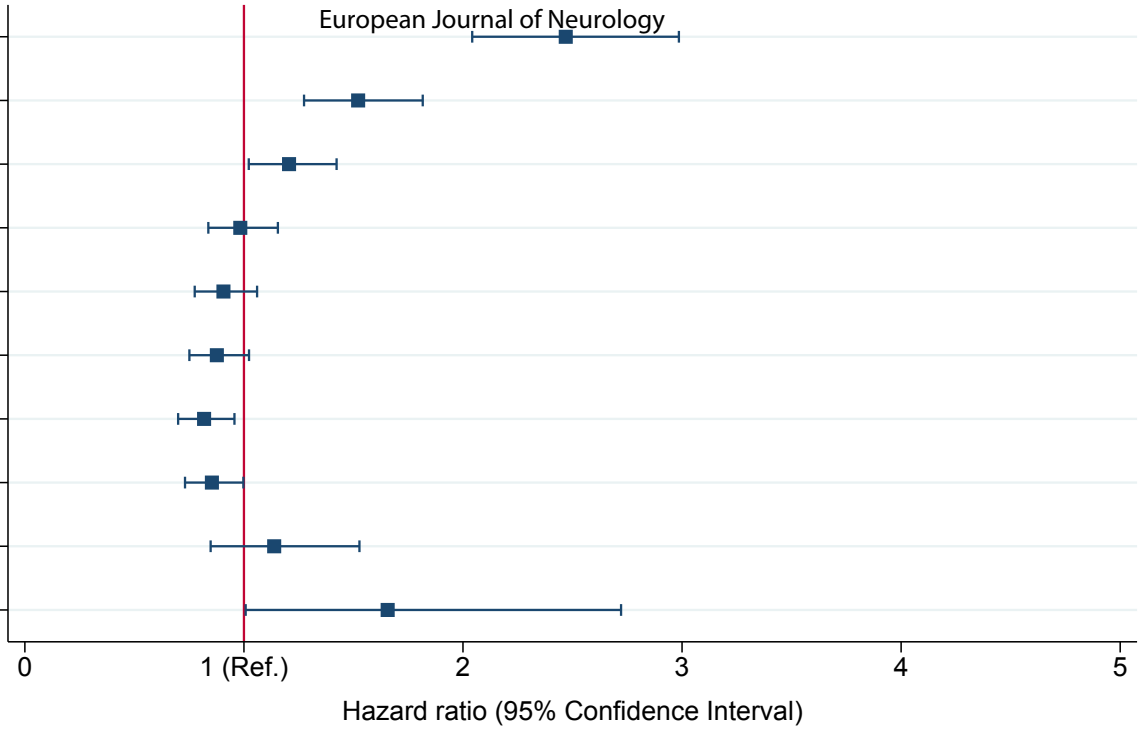
413 *sub-distribution hazard ratios for recurrent stroke and myocardial infarction from competing risk regression analysis, [†]excluded patients who were dead at discharge

414 Model 1: Age, sex and length of hospital stay

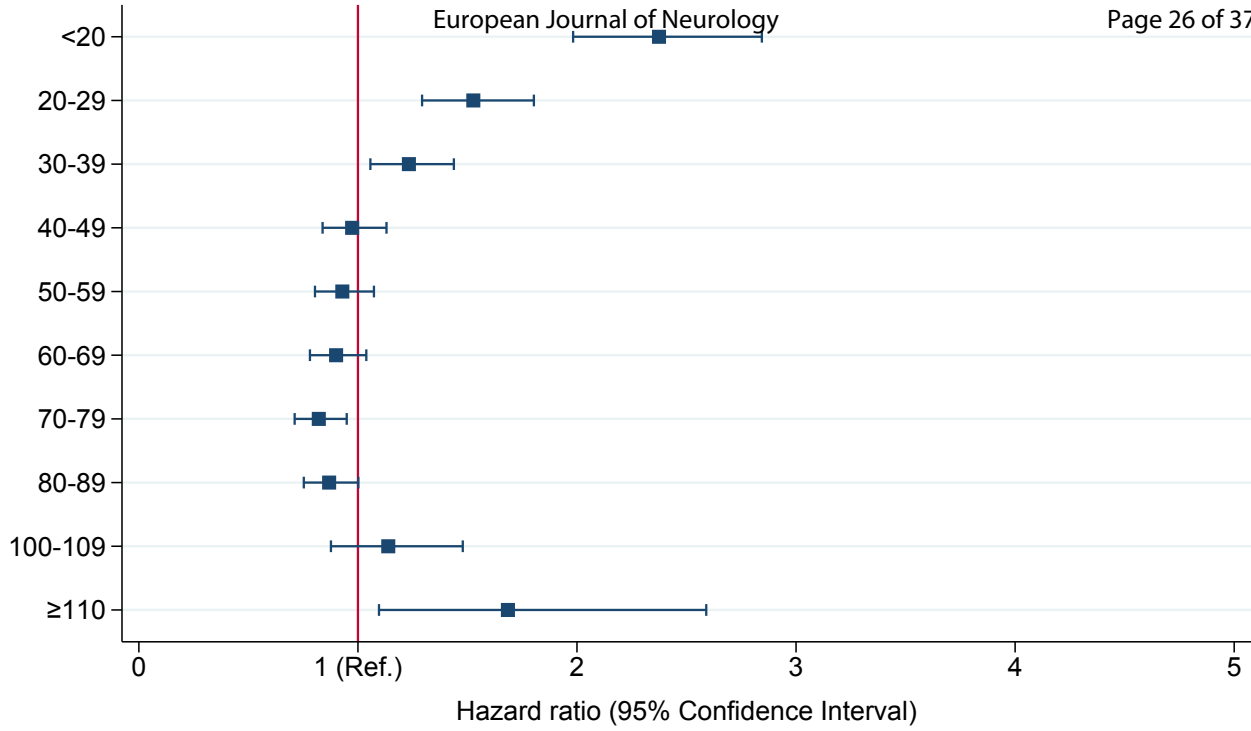
415 Model 2: Model 1 + history of stroke, stroke type, pre-stroke modified Rankin score, stroke severity, diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, atrial fibrillation, heart failure,
416 coronary heart disease, pneumonia

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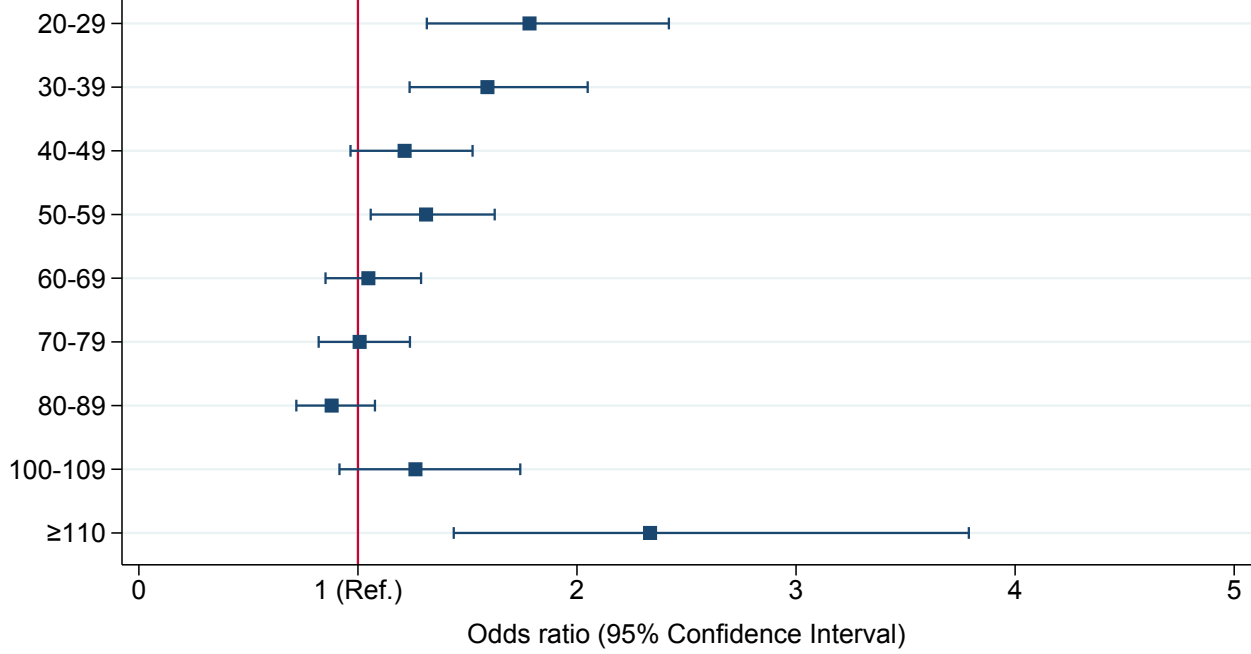
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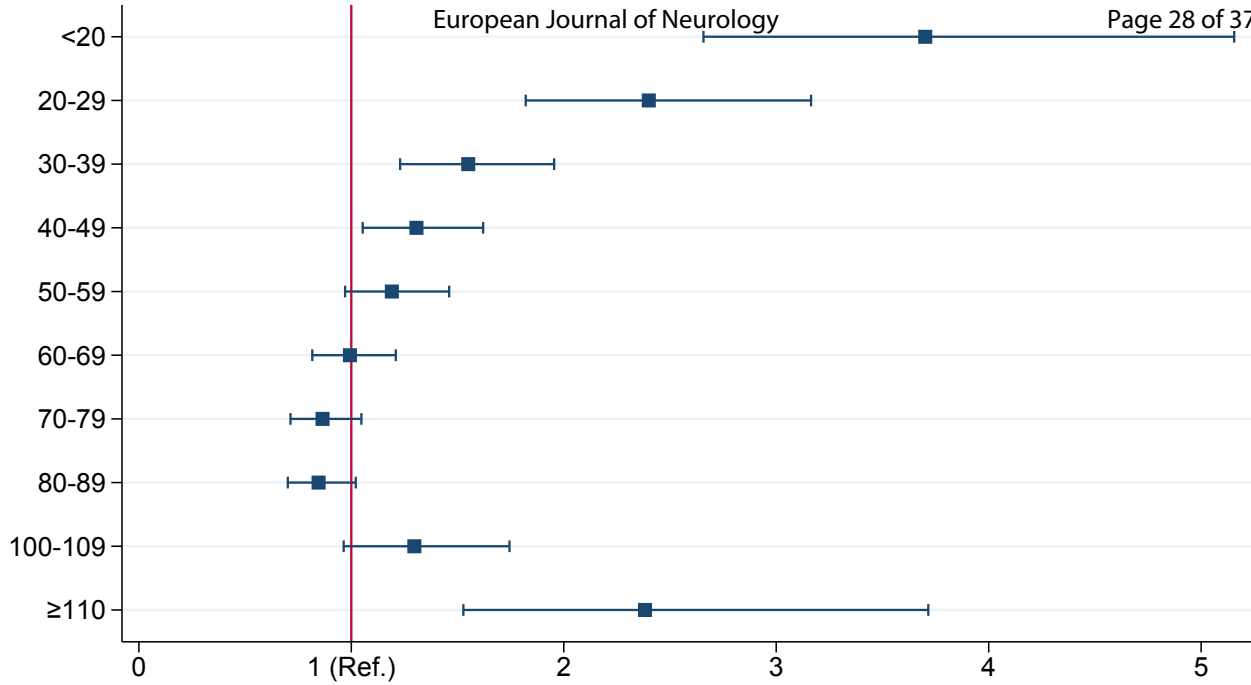
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Odds ratio (95% Confidence Interval)

Supplemental material

Estimated glomerular filtration rate and risk of poor outcomes after stroke

Contents

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eTable 5: Results after adjusting for estimated glomerular filtration rate at admission for the association between change in estimated glomerular filtration rate during hospital stay and clinical outcomes in patients with stroke

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eFigure 1: Proportional hazard assumption test for all-cause mortality

Table S1: Association between estimated glomerular filtration rate and all-cause mortality in stroke patients stratified by high risk groups

(N=10,329)	Level of estimated glomerular filtration rate (mL/min/1.73m ²)						<i>p</i> for interaction
	≥90 (n=1,106)	60-89 (4,866)	45-59 (2,177)	30-44 (1,427)	15-29 (n=596)	<15 (n=157)	
Hazard ratio (95% Confidence interval)*							
Diabetes							
- No	Ref.	0.85 (0.74 – 0.98)	0.90 (0.77 – 1.05)	1.14 (0.97 – 1.34)	1.47 (1.23 – 1.76)	2.34 (1.83 – 2.99)	0.64
- Yes	Ref.	1.17 (0.82 – 1.68)	1.13 (0.77 – 1.64)	1.50 (1.02 – 2.21)	1.76 (1.17 – 2.65)	2.55 (1.59 – 4.09)	
Hypertension							
- No	Ref.	0.81 (0.68 – 0.95)	0.80 (0.67 – 0.97)	1.00 (0.82 – 1.21)	1.42 (1.13 – 1.78)	1.85 (1.34 – 2.57)	0.17
- Yes	Ref.	1.07 (0.85 – 1.35)	1.17 (0.92 – 1.48)	1.50 (1.18 – 1.92)	1.75 (1.35 – 2.26)	3.07 (2.25 – 4.21)	

*results are from fully adjusted model (adjusted for Age, sex, history of stroke, pre-stroke modified Rankin score, stroke severity, diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, heart failure, arterial fibrillation, coronary heart disease, pneumonia)

Table S2: Association between estimated glomerular filtration rate and composite outcome (all-cause mortality, recurrent stroke and myocardial infarction) in stroke patients stratified by high risk groups

(N=10,329)	Level of estimated glomerular filtration rate (mL/min/1.73m ²)						p for interaction
	≥90 (n=1,106)	60-89 (4,866)	45-59 (2,177)	30-44 (1,427)	15-29 (n=596)	<15 (n=157)	
Hazard ratio (95% Confidence interval)*							
Diabetes							
- No	Ref.	0.85 (0.74 – 0.96)	0.89 (0.77 – 1.03)	1.11 (0.96 – 1.29)	1.42 (1.20 – 1.68)	2.19 (1.72 – 2.79)	0.66
- Yes	Ref.	1.17 (0.84 – 1.63)	1.17 (0.82 – 1.65)	1.54 (1.08 – 2.20)	1.83 (1.25 – 2.68)	2.37 (1.51 – 3.71)	
Hypertension							
- No	Ref.	0.84 (0.72 – 0.98)	0.85 (0.72 – 1.01)	1.07 (0.89 – 1.29)	1.49 (1.19 – 1.85)	1.89 (1.37 – 2.61)	0.19
- Yes	Ref.	0.96 (0.79 – 1.17)	1.03 (0.83 – 1.26)	1.29 (1.04 – 1.60)	1.52 (1.21 – 1.91)	2.50 (1.87 – 3.33)	

*results are from fully adjusted model (adjusted for Age, sex, history of stroke, pre-stroke modified Rankin score, stroke severity, diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, heart failure, arterial fibrillation, coronary heart disease, pneumonia)

Table S3: Association between estimated glomerular filtration rate and prolonged hospital stay in stroke patients stratified by high risk groups

(N=10,329)	Level of estimated glomerular filtration rate (mL/min/1.73m ²)						p for interaction
	≥90 (n=1,106)	60-89 (4,866)	45-59 (2,177)	30-44 (1,427)	15-29 (n=596)	<15 (n=157)	
Hazard ratio (95% Confidence interval)*							
Diabetes							
- No	Ref.	0.94 (0.78 – 1.13)	1.22 (0.99 – 1.51)	1.43 (1.12 – 1.82)	1.67 (1.21 – 2.31)	2.59 (1.35 – 4.99)	0.75
- Yes	Ref.	1.10 (0.69 – 1.75)	1.28 (0.77 – 2.14)	1.61 (0.92 – 2.79)	1.47 (0.77 – 2.82)	1.55 (0.62 – 3.87)	
Hypertension							
- No	Ref.	1.07 (0.86 – 1.34)	1.37 (1.04 – 1.79)	1.80 (1.30 – 2.49)	1.42 (0.89 – 2.26)	2.91 (1.11 – 7.58)	0.47
- Yes	Ref.	0.81 (0.62 – 1.06)	1.05 (0.79 – 1.41)	1.15 (0.84 – 1.58)	1.53 (1.05 – 2.24)	1.64 (0.87 – 3.09)	

*results are from fully adjusted model (adjusted for Age, sex, history of stroke, pre-stroke modified Rankin score, stroke severity, diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, heart failure, arterial fibrillation, coronary heart disease, pneumonia)

Table S4: Association between estimated glomerular filtration rate and disability at discharge in stroke patients stratified by high risk groups

(N=10,329)	Level of estimated glomerular filtration rate (mL/min/1.73m ²)						p for interaction
	≥90 (n=1,106)	60-89 (4,866)	45-59 (2,177)	30-44 (1,427)	15-29 (n=596)	<15 (n=157)	
Odds ratio (95% Confidence interval)*							
Diabetes							
- No	Ref.	0.89 (0.75 – 1.07)	1.13 (0.92 – 1.40)	1.41 (1.12 – 1.78)	2.41 (1.77 – 3.28)	2.83 (1.71 – 4.69)	0.49
- Yes	Ref.	1.10 (0.69 – 1.75)	1.28 (0.77 – 2.14)	1.61 (0.92 – 2.79)	1.47 (0.77 – 2.82)	1.55 (0.62 – 3.87)	
Hypertension							
- No	Ref.	1.07 (0.86 – 1.34)	1.37 (1.04 – 1.79)	1.80 (1.30 – 2.49)	1.42 (0.89 – 2.26)	2.91 (1.11 – 7.58)	0.65
- Yes	Ref.	0.80 (0.64 – 0.99)	1.10 (0.83 – 1.45)	1.51 (1.09 – 2.08)	2.49 (1.57 – 3.96)	3.75 (1.77 – 7.92)	

*P<0.05 for interaction for all subgroups in fully adjusted model (adjusted for Age, sex, history of stroke, pre-stroke modified Rankin score, stroke severity, diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, heart failure, arterial fibrillation, coronary heart disease, pneumonia)

Table S5: Results after adjusting for estimated glomerular filtration rate at admission for the association between change in estimated glomerular filtration rate during hospital stay and clinical outcomes in patients with stroke

	Change in eGFR during hospital stay				
	Decline >20%	Decline 5-20%	Within 5% of eGFR at admission	Increase 5-20%	Increase >20%
	Hazard ratio (95% Confidence interval)*				
All-cause mortality (N= 8,021)[†]	484	1,296	3,721	1,263	1,257
- Events, % (n)	52.7 (255)	38.0 (493)	27.9 (1,041)	46.5 (587)	56.2 (706)
- Model 1	1.58 (1.37 – 1.81)	1.23 (1.10 – 1.37)	Ref.	1.52 (1.37 – 1.68)	1.72 (1.55 – 1.91)
- Model 2	1.50 (1.31 – 1.73)	1.19 (1.06 – 1.32)	Ref.	1.42 (1.28 – 1.58)	1.52 (1.37 – 1.69)
Recurrent stroke (N=7,928)	483	1,292	3,637	1,260	1,256
- Events, % (n)	13.2 (64)	10.5 (135)	11.3 (412)	10.9 (138)	7.4 (93)
- Model 1	1.09 (0.83 – 1.42)	0.85 (0.70 – 1.03)	Ref.	0.96 (0.79 – 1.16)	0.63 (0.50 – 0.80)
- Model 2	1.09 (0.78 – 1.53)	0.87 (0.73 – 1.04)	Ref.	0.92 (0.76 – 1.11)	0.72 (0.55 – 0.93)
Myocardial infarction (N=7,937)	483	1,293	3,643	1,261	1,257
- Events, % (n)	4.6 (22)	2.8 (36)	2.9 (107)	2.6 (33)	3.1 (39)
- Model 1	1.62 (1.06 – 2.48)	0.91 (0.63 – 1.32)	Ref.	0.88 (0.60 – 1.29)	0.97 (0.67 – 1.41)
- Model 2	1.60 (1.04 – 2.46)	0.93 (0.64 – 1.34)	Ref.	0.95 (0.65 – 1.40)	1.13 (0.77 – 1.66)
	Odds ratio (95% Confidence interval)				
Prolonged hospital stay (N=8,021)[†]	491	1,293	3,656	1,264	1,264
- Events, % (n)	68.2 (335)	57.9 (749)	29.5 (1,080)	67.9 (859)	82.8 (1,046)
- Model 1	4.58 (3.72 – 5.63)	3.25 (2.84 – 3.72)	Ref.	4.96 (4.31 – 5.71)	11.08 (9.30 – 13.20)
- Model 2	4.49 (3.63 – 5.56)	3.27 (2.85 – 3.75)	Ref.	4.53 (3.92 – 5.25)	9.17 (7.67 – 10.97)
Stroke disability (N=6,921)	529	796	3,511	963	1,122
- Events (severe), % (n)	68.1 (360)	37.6 (299)	40.7 (1,430)	53.4 (514)	72.9 (819)
- Model 1	2.17 (1.70 – 2.79)	1.50 (1.27 – 1.77)	Ref.	2.97 (2.52 – 3.49)	6.16 (5.09 – 7.46)
- Model 2	2.12 (1.64 – 2.75)	1.48 (1.24 – 1.75)	Ref.	2.62 (2.21 – 3.11)	5.03 (4.11 – 6.15)

*sub-distribution hazard ratios for recurrent stroke and myocardial infarction from competing risk regression analysis, [†]excluded patients who were dead at discharge

Model 1: Age, sex and length of hospital stay

Model 2: Model 1 + history of stroke, stroke type, pre-stroke modified Rankin score, stroke severity, diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, atrial fibrillation, heart failure, coronary heart disease, pneumonia

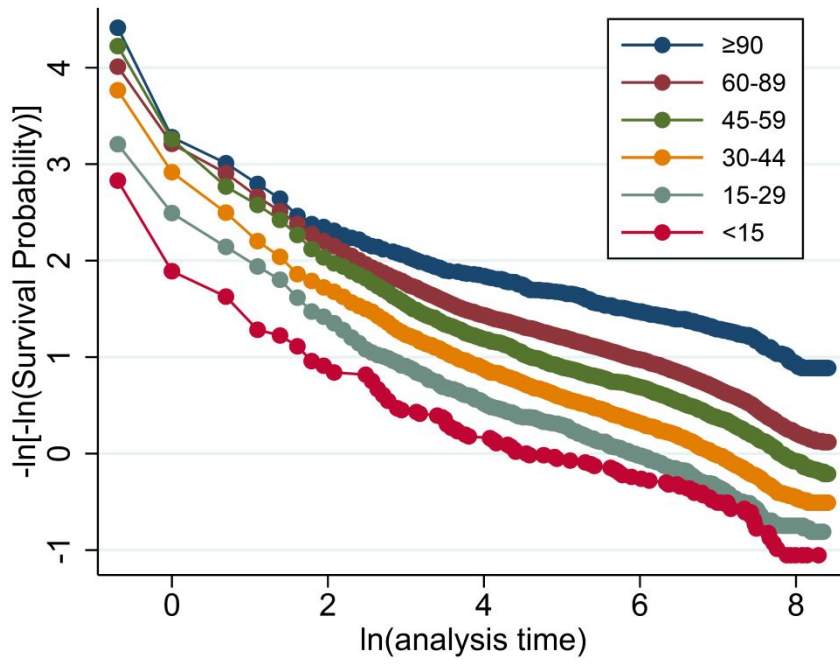
Table S6: Results after using a different cut-off of change in estimated glomerular filtration rate during hospital stay for its association with clinical outcomes in patients with stroke

	Change in eGFR during hospital stay				
	Decline >25%	Decline 5-25%	Within 5% of eGFR at admission	Increase 5-25%	Increase >25%
	Hazard ratio (95% Confidence interval)*				
All-cause mortality (N= 8,021)[†]	296	1,484	3,721	1,506	1,014
- Events, % (n)	53.4 (158)	39.7 (590)	27.9 (1,041)	47.1 (710)	57.5 (583)
- Model 1	1.63 (1.38 – 1.93)	1.27 (1.15 – 1.41)	Ref.	1.55 (1.41 – 1.71)	2.01 (1.82 – 2.23)
- Model 2	1.53 (1.29 – 1.81)	1.22 (1.11 – 1.36)	Ref.	1.43 (1.30 – 1.58)	1.75 (1.58 – 1.95)
Recurrent stroke (N=7,928)[†]	295	1,480	3,637	1,503	1,013
- Events, % (n)	12.9 (38)	10.9 (161)	11.3 (412)	10.4 (156)	7.4 (75)
- Model 1	1.14 (0.81 – 1.60)	0.88 (0.74 – 1.06)	Ref.	0.92 (0.77 – 1.11)	0.73 (0.57 – 0.94)
- Model 2	1.06 (0.96 – 1.17)	0.83 (0.69 – 1.02)	Ref.	0.97 (0.80 – 1.18)	0.68 (0.58 – 0.95)
Myocardial infarction (N=7,937)[†]	295	1,481	3,643	1,504	1,014
- Events, % (n)	3.4 (10)	3.2 (48)	2.9 (107)	2.7 (40)	3.2 (32)
- Model 1	1.58 (1.03 – 2.48)	1.00 (0.71 – 1.41)	Ref.	0.89 (0.62 – 1.28)	1.21 (0.81 – 1.81)
- Model 2	1.53 (1.00 – 2.45)	0.93 (0.64 – 1.34)	Ref.	0.95 (0.65 – 1.40)	1.13 (0.77 – 1.66)
	Odds ratio (95% Confidence interval)				
Stroke disability (N=6,921)[†]	401	924	3,511	1,138	947
- Events (severe), % (n)	72.6 (291)	39.8 (368)	40.7 (1,430)	56.3 (641)	73.1 (692)
- Model 1	4.06 (3.22 – 5.12)	1.14 (0.99 – 1.30)	Ref.	2.07 (1.81 – 2.36)	3.92 (3.34 – 4.60)
- Model 2	4.01 (3.12 – 5.17)	1.22 (1.05 – 1.42)	Ref.	1.87 (1.62 – 2.17)	3.54 (2.96 – 4.22)

*sub-distribution hazard ratios for recurrent stroke and myocardial infarction from competing risk regression analysis, [†]excluded patients who were dead at discharge

Model 1: Age, sex and length of stay

Model 2: Model 1 + history of stroke, stroke type, pre-stroke modified Rankin score, stroke severity, diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, atrial fibrillation, heart failure, coronary heart disease, pneumonia

Figure S1: Proportional hazard assumption test for all-cause mortality

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