

ISSN Online: 2162-2485 ISSN Print: 2162-2477

# Study on Influence Factors of Pressure Injury Risk in the Elderly Inpatients with Kidney Disease Based on LASSO Regression

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How to cite this paper: Liu, L., Wang, C.H., Yin, L.H., Wang, J.Y., Yang, H., Zhong, Y.X., Mou, Z.W. and Chen, Y. (2020) Study on Influence Factors of Pressure Injury Risk in the Elderly Inpatients with Kidney Disease Based on LASSO Regression. *Open Journal of Preventive Medicine*, **10**, 95-107.

https://doi.org/10.4236/ojpm.2020.106007

Received: May 7, 2020 Accepted: June 5, 2020 Published: June 8, 2020

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### **Abstract**

Objective: This paper aims to explore clinical status and related influence factors of pressure injury (PI) in the elderly inpatients with kidney disease, so as to provide reference for the prevention and treatment of PI in the elderly inpatients with kidney disease. Methods: Retrospective collection method is adopted to collect 158 clinical cases of the elderly inpatients with kidney disease aged ≥ 60 in the Nephrology Department, the First Affiliated Hospital of Jinan University from January 2017 to December 2019, and then least absolute shrinkage and selection Operator (LASSO) regression analysis is used to analyze 17 possible influence factors; finally Logistic regression model is established to analyze and screen influence factors of risk. Results: 1) Among 158 elderly inpatients with medium and high risk of PI, the incidence of PI is 20.25%; the most common stage of injury is stage I (42.5%); sacrococcygeal (60%) is the high-risk site of pressure injury. 2) LASSO regression analysis shows that history of present respiratory infection/respiratory failure ( $\beta = 1.2714$ . P < 0.05) and hospitalization time ( $\beta = 0.4177$ . P < 0.05) are independent factors influencing PI risk in the elderly inpatients with kidney disease. Conclusion: The elderly patients with kidney disease and PI risk are the high incidence population of hospital acquired PI; for the elderly inpatients with kidney disease and having respiratory infection history or respiratory failure, prolonged hospitalization will significantly increase the risk of PI. Therefore, targeted preventive and control measures should be taken to reduce the incidence of PI.

### Keywords

Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator, The Elderly Inpatients with Kidney Disease, Pressure Injury, Influence Factors, Nursing

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#### 1. Introduction

In 2016, the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (NPUAP) updated the definition of pressure ulcer and changed the name of "pressure ulcer" to "pressure injury". Pressure injury refers to limited injury of skin and (or) subcutaneous soft tissue, usually located in the bone bulge, or related to medical devices. Relatively speaking, the use of the term "injury" covers a wider range, including both open ulcer and tissue injury in deep positions of the body without obvious appearance [1]. At the same time, pressure injury related to medical devices and mucosal pressure injury are also included in the scope of pressure injury.

Pressure injury (PI) is a common chronic refractory wound in clinic. Recent studies have shown that the incidence and prevalence rates of PI have remained high [2]. Another study shows that with age growing, the incidence of PI is also increasing, and more than 70% of PI patients are over 70 years old [3]. In 1999, China entered the aging society, the incidence of various acute and chronic diseases of the elderly increased significantly. Kidney disease has become the third major disease affecting the health of the elderly in China [4]. The elderly patients with kidney disease have low immunity, which often leads to various concurrent infections. Once pressure injury occurs, the hospitalization time will increase; and the elderly patients will be seriously infected, which will make them feel worse and even threaten their life [5]. At the same time, the workload of medical staff increases, and the satisfaction of patients and their families decreases. The incidence of hospital acquired PI is one of the key indicators to evaluate nursing quality [6]. Therefore, it is one of the key and difficult points to prevent and reduce the complication of PI in the elderly inpatients with kidney disease. At present, there are few evidence-based studies on the clinical practice guidance of PI prevention and treatment, and the prevention and treatment guidance of PI in the elderly patients with kidney disease has not been retrieved. This study reviews the elderly patients with kidney disease and with medium and high risk of PI in three years of undergraduate course, and uses LASSO Logistic regression model to analyze and screen the relevant influence factors of PI occurrence, so as to provide reference for clinical researches on the improvement of PI prevention measures and reduction of PI incidence.

### 2. Research Subjects and Methods

### 2.1. Research Subjects

From January 2017 to December 2019, among cases of the elderly inpatients with kidney disease who had PI in the Nephrology Department of our hospital, 32 cases were included in this study. Inclusion criteria: 1) Meeting the definition of PI of NPUAP in 2016; 2) Age  $\geq$  60; 3) Hospitalization time in Nephrology Department > 24 hours; 4) Norton scale score  $\leq$  14 points. Exclusion criteria: 1) Patients with pressure injury on admission; 2) patients with extremely critical conditions and patients who are forbidden to turn their bodies; 3) patients with

Burn or acute or chronic skin diseases. In non-PI group, 126 elderly inpatients with kidney disease who were admitted to the Nephrology Department in the same year and did not have PI during hospitalization were collected by a continuous enrollment method.

#### 2.2. Research Methods

# 2.2.1. Questionnaire of the Elderly Patients with Kidney Disease and High-Risk PI

By using literature research method and investigation & discussion method, the researcher designed the questionnaire of factors related to PI in hospital. The questionnaire includes the following contents: 1) Basic information: name, gender and age. 2) Possible factors related to PI in hospital: main diagnosis, hospitalization time, maximum body temperature, complications (hypertension, diabetes, coronary heart disease/heart failure, respiratory infection)/respiratory failure and craniocerebral disease, etc.), edema, limb activity (independent, partially dependent or completely dependent), urination (controllable, occasional incontinence, complete incontinence or need other people's catheterization), Norton scale score, laboratory examination indicators (first serum albumin detection on admission, hemoglobin, blood creatinine, etc.). 3) PI occurrence: quantity, position and stage.

#### 2.2.2. Index Evaluation Method

- 1) Norton scale: the first form from the study of Gerontology in 1963, which is generally applicable to elderly wards. The assessment form includes 5 items: general physical condition, mental condition, walking ability, activity ability and incontinence. The score ranges from 5 to 20, 15 19 for mild risk, 13 14 for moderate risk, and ≤12 for high risk. The lower the score is, the higher the probability of pressure injury occurs [7] [8]. Professor Rabinovitz's research on Norton scale in the UK showed: Norton scale could be used as the first preferred evaluation tool in the prevention of pressure injury in the elderly [9]. A domestic study using Norton scale to test the elderly patients also confirmed that Norton scale, especially in the prevention of patients with kidney disease and high-risk pressure injury, was more targeted, and it could also enhance the awareness of nurses to take the initiative to prevent pressure injury [10].
- 2) PI staging: according to NPUAP [1] in 2016, in PI staging system, Roman numerals (I, II, III, IV) are replaced by Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, 4), in addition to non-staged pressure injury and tissue pressure injury in deep positions.
- 3) PI record table: it is used to record the wound conditions of patients with current or previous PI, including PI stages, location, size, treatment measures, wound healing, etc.

#### 2.2.3. Data Collection Method

The data collection of cases was completed by 2 nurses in the investigation group who had more than 5 years' clinical nursing time. Before the formal investigation, the main researcher conducted a group training on the objectives, contents, methods and precautions of the investigation, collecting data according to

the unified standard. Methods of data collection: the 2 nurses comprehensively used the hospital electronic integration system to look up inpatients' medical records of the subjects by retrospective analysis, including general information of inpatients, Norton scale score, combined diseases, related laboratory examination indicators and other 17 possible risk factors. The collected data was checked by the third researcher in the investigation group and then input into Excel software to ensure the authenticity of the data.

# 2.2.4. Basic Principles and Advantages of LASSO Logistic Regression Model

In 1996, Robert Tibshirani proposed a new variable selection technique LASSO, which was characterized by variable selection and complexity adjustment while fitting the generalized linear model [11]. The basic idea of LASSO regression is to minimize the sum of the squared residuals when the sum of absolute values of a regression coefficient is less than a constant, and then strictly compresses the unimportant regression coefficient to zero and eliminate it, so as to realize variable selection [12]. LASSO Logistic regression model is established by selecting variables through LASSO method.

#### 2.3. Statistical Analysis

EPI data 3.1 was used for data entry and R 3.6.2 was used for statistical analysis. LASSO regression analysis was applied to the potential PI related factors. When selecting the optimal Lambda value [13], Logistic regression model was used to do analyzing and screening, and two related prognostic parameters were included to further construct the nomogram. P < 0.05 was statistically significant.

#### 3. Results

#### 3.1. Basic Information of Research Subjects

In this study, 158 the elderly inpatients with kidney disease were enrolled, including 32 cases in PI group and 126 cases in non-PI group. The age of PI group was  $73.8 \pm 7.59$ , 19 (59.38%) men and 13 (40.62%) women; Norton risk score was (11  $\pm$  2.66); the age of non-PI group was  $75.3 \pm 7.99$ : 52 (41.27%) men and 74 (58.73%) women; Norton risk score was (12.09  $\pm$  2.09). The clinical characteristics of different groups are shown in **Table 1**.

#### 3.2. Incidence of PI in the Elderly Inpatients with Kidney Disease

The cases of hospital acquired PI patients were 32, its incidence being 20.25% (32/158). PI staging: 17 cases (42.5%) in the first stage, 14 cases (35%) in the second stage, 4 cases (10%) in the third stage and 5 cases (12.5%) in the deep tissue injury stage. The hospital acquired PI occurred 40 times, one time in each case of 26 cases (81.25%), two times in each case of 5 cases (15.63%), and four times in 1 case (3.13%). Times of PI occurred in the location were 24 times in sacrococcygeal region (60%), 6 times in ischial region (left/right), 4 times in heel region (10%), 2 times in occipital region (5%), 2 times in femoral tuberosity

**Table 1.** Demographic and clinical characteristics of elderly inpatients with kidney disease (%).

Variables	Variables $PI Group Non-PI Group Variables $ $(n = 32) (n = 126)$		PI Group (n = 32)	Non-PI Group (n = 126)	
Gender			Edema		
М	19 (59.38%)	52 (41.27%)	No	19 (59.38%)	93 (73.81%)
F	13 (40.62%)	74 (58.73%)	Yes	13 (40.63%)	33 (26.19%)
Age(years old)			The highest body temperature		
60~	12 (37.5%)	34 (26.98%)	(°C) ≥ 37.3		
70 - 79	11 (34.38%)	47 (37.30%)	No	7 (21.88%)	42 (33.33%)
≥80	9 (28.13%)	45 (35.71%)	Yes	25 (78.13%)	84 (66.67%)
Hospitalization time(d)			Norton score (points)		
>1	0 (0%)	13 (10.32%)	13 - 14 points (medium risk)	10 (31.25%)	69 (54.76%)
8~	4 (12.5%)	29 (23.02%)	≤12 points (high risk)	22 (68.75%)	57 (45.24%)
15~	6 (18.75%)	29 (23.02%)			
22~	4 (12.5%)	17 (13.49%)			
≥29	18 (56.25%)	38 (30.16%)			
Main diagnosis			Limb mobility		
CKD5 stage	28 (87.5%)	94 (74.60%)	Independent	0 (0%)	5 (3.97%)
Non-CKD5 stage	4 (12.5%)	32 (25.40%)	Partially dependent	10 (31.25%)	63 (50%)
			Completely dependent	22 (68.75%)	58 (46.03%)
Diabetes			Defecation		
No	10 (31.25%)	60 (47.62%)	Controllable	7 (21.88%)	51 (40.48%)
Yes	22 (68.75%)	66 (52.38%)	Occasionally incontinent	11 (34.38%)	47 (37.30%)
			Completely incontinent	14 (43.75%)	28 (22.22%)
Hypertension			Serum albumin ALB (g/L)		
No	6 (18.75%)	22 (17.46%)	>35	13 (40.63%)	44 (34.92%)
Yes	26 (81.25%)	104 (82.54%)	30~	6 (18.75%)	43 (34.13%)
			<30	13 (40.63%)	39 (30.95%)
Coronary disease			Hemoglobin HGB (g/L) [14]		
No	19 (59.38%)	71 (56.35%)	Normal: >120 (M)/110 (F)	4 (12.5%)	29 (23.02%)
Yes	13 (40.63%)	55 (43.65%)	Mild: 90 - 120 (M)/110 (F)	13 (40.63%)	37 (29.37%)
			Moderate: 60 - 90	8 (25%)	54 (42.86%)
Respiratory infection/respiratory failure			Severe: 30 - 59	7 (21.88%)	6 (4.76%)
No	8 (25%)	74 (58.73%)	Extremely severe: <30	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Yes	24 (75%)	52 (41.27%)			
Craniocerebral diseases			Serum creatinine CREA		
No	13 (40.63%)	77 (61.11%)	(umol/L) [14]	10 (5( 250()	70 (62 700/)
Yes	19 (59.38%)	49 (38.89%)	<450	18 (56.25%)	79 (62.70%)
			450 - 707	9 (28.13%)	31 (24.60%)
			>707	5 (15.63%)	16 (12.70%)

region (5%), and 2 times in ankle region (5%). See Table 2.

# 3.3. Multivariate Analysis of PI Risk in the Elderly Inpatients with Kidney Disease

- 1) According to variable selection from LASSO regression, the results were: history of present respiratory infection/respiratory failure ( $\beta$  = 0.958), craniocerebral disease ( $\beta$  = 0.446), limb mobility ( $\beta$  = 0.387), diabetes mellitus ( $\beta$  = 0.364), hospitalization time ( $\beta$  = 0.269), edema ( $\beta$  = 0.273), Norton score ( $\beta$  = 0.266), defecation ( $\beta$  = 0.228), hemoglobin ( $\beta$  = 0.136), serum creatinine ( $\beta$  = 0.093), hypertension ( $\beta$  = -0.301), and gender ( $\beta$  = -0.616). The meaning of each variable is shown in **Table 3** below.
- 2) In this study, 17 potential PI risk factors were included, including basic information of subjects, clinical information, laboratory examination characteristics, etc. LASSO regression analysis of all the different factors showed that the

Table 2. Stages and locations of PI in the elderly inpatients with kidney disease [times (percentage, %)].

Stages Locations	First stage	Second stage	Third stage	Fourth stage	Indivisible	Deep tissue	Total
Sacrococcygeal	11 (27.5%)	9 (22.5%)	2 (5%)	0	0	2 (5%)	24 (60%)
Ischium (left/right)	1 (2.5%)	4 (10%)	1 (2.5%)	0	0	0	6 (15%)
Heel	1 (2.5%)	0	1 (2.5%)	0	0	2 (5%)	4 (10%)
Occipital bone	1 (2.5%)	0	0	0	0	1 (2.5%)	2 (5%)
Intertrochanteric femoral	1 (2.5%)	1 (2.5%)	0	0	0	0	2 (5%)
Ankle	2 (5%)	0	0	0	0	0	2 (5%)
Total	17 (42.5%)	14 (35%)	4 (10%)	0	0	5 (12.5%)	40 (100%)

Table 3. LASSO regression analysis of PI risk related factors in the elderly inpatients with kidney disease.

Variables	Assignment Meanings	Variable Coefficient $oldsymbol{eta}$	
History of present respiratory infection/respiratory failur	e 1: No, 2: Yes	0.958	
Craniocerebral diseases	1: No, 2: Yes	0.446	
Limb mobility	1: Independent, 2: Partial dependent, 3: Completely dependent	0.387	
Diabetes mellitus	1: No, 2: Yes	0.364	
Hospitalization time	1: (>1), 2: (8~), 3: (15~), 4: (22~), 5: (≥29)	0.269	
Edema	1: No, 2: Yes	0.273	
Norton score	1: 13 - 14 points (medium risk), 2: ≤12 points (high risk)	0.266	
Defecation	1: Controllable, 2: occasionally incontinent, 3: completely incontinent	0.228	
Hemoglobin	1: >120 (male)/110 (female) Normal, 2: (90 - 120 male/110 female) Mild; 3: (60 - 90) moderate, 4: (30 - 59) Severe, 5: < 30 Very heavy	0.136	
Serum creatinine	Actual values	0.093	
Hypertension	1 = none, 2 = yes	-0.301	
Gender	1 = male, 2 = female	-0.616	

related factors with PI risk were gender, hospitalization time, combined diseases (diabetes, hypertension, history of present respiratory infection/respiratory failure, craniocerebral disease, hemoglobin, creatinine, edema, Norton score, limb mobility, and defecation). Based on the GLMNET package of R software, influence factors were screened by LASSO regression. When lambda parameter was at the minimum value, i.e. lambda.min was 0.0169624, 12 influence factors were screened out, as shown in Table 4. In order to further verify, Logistic regression model was established, and the results showed 11 factors (P > 0.05) and 1 factor (P > 0.01). Then a standard deviation was added on the basis of lambda.min, and the optimal value of lambda.1se being 0.08248139 was selected, and influence factors were screened for the second time. The AUC value (Area Under Curve) and the optimal  $\lambda$  value in the LASSO regression process are shown in **Figure 1**. The vertical coordinate represents the target parameter, the lower coordinate represents  $\log (\lambda)$ , and the upper horizontal coordinate is the number of non-zero coefficient variables in the model. For each value, a confidence interval of the target parameter can be obtained around the mean value of the target parameter shown by red dots. Two dashed lines in Figure 1 indicate two special  $\lambda$ values, namely lambda.min and lambda.1se. Lambda.min is to get the  $\lambda$  value of mean value of the minimum target parameter among all  $\lambda$  values. Lambda.1se is the  $\lambda$  value of the simplest model in a varying range of lambda.min. Figure 2 shows the LASSO coefficient profiles of the 17-texture feature. A coefficient profile plot is produced against the  $\log(\lambda)$  sequence. Vertical line is drawn at the value selected using 10-fold cross-validation, where optimal  $\lambda$  results in 2 nonzero coefficients.

**Table 4.** Logistic regression analysis results of PI risk factors for elderly kidney disease determined by lambda minimum.

Variables	Regression Coefficient	Standard Error	Wald Z	P Value
History of present respiratory infection/respiratory failure	1.2454	0.5324	2.34	0.0193
Craniocerebral diseases	0.6661	0.5493	1.21	0.2253
Limb mobility	0.6613	0.5249	1.26	0.2077
Diabetes mellitus	0.8857	0.5805	1.53	0.1271
Hospitalization time	0.3967	0.2078	1.91	0.0563
Edema	0.6038	0.5374	1.12	0.2612
Norton score	0.4882	0.5517	0.88	0.3762
Defecation	0.3344	0.3567	0.94	0.3485
Hemoglobin	0.2341	0.2749	0.85	0.3945
Serum creatinine	0.1805	0.1015	1.78	0.0753
Hypertension	-1.1579	0.6631	-1.75	0.0808
Gender	-0.9994	0.5280	-1.89	0.0584

3) When selecting the optimal Lambda.1se value, in order to verify the results of LASSO variable selection, a Logistic regression model was established, which showed that its fitting and prediction were good. See **Table 5**.

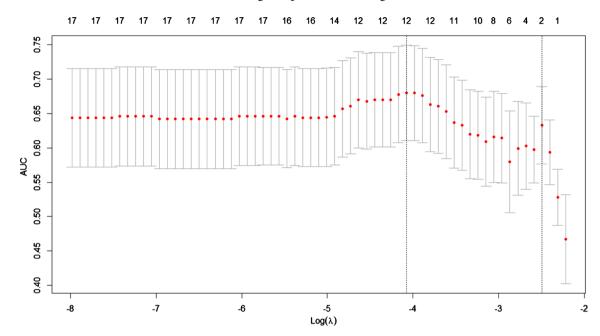


Figure 1. Texture feature selection.

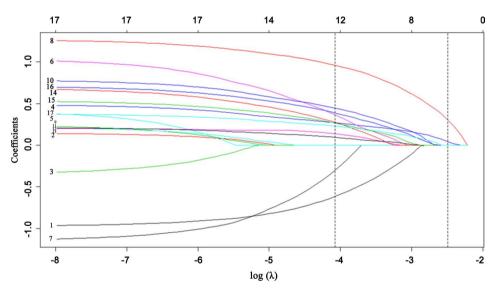


Figure 2. Lasso coefficient profiles.

**Table 5.** Results of Logistic regression analysis of PI risk factors for elderly kidney disease determined by lambda optimal value.

Variables	Regression Coefficient	Standard Error	Wald Z	<i>P</i> Value
History of present respiratory infection/respiratory failure	1.2714	0.4572	2.78	0.0054
Hospitalization time	0.4177	0.1739	2.40	0.0163

#### 4. Discussion

# **4.1. Significance of This Study on PI Risk in the Elderly Inpatients** with Kidney Disease

PI is often one of the common nursing problems in clinical departments. The occurrence of PI not only affects the state of illness, reduces the quality of life, increases the family burden and medical expenses, but also easily causes the patients' self-perceived burden (SPB), which brings physical and mental pain to patients, even threatens their life safety in serious situations [15] [16]. The incidence of hospital acquired PI is an indicator of nursing quality. How to avoid the occurrence of hospital acquired PI in the elderly patients with kidney disease is an important part of current nursing research. Most pressure injury can be prevented by effective nursing intervention [17]. PI evaluation is the basis of high-risk pressure injury management [18]. There are various influence factors of PI in the elderly inpatients, and different diseases and different individuals are different. Based on LASSO Logistic regression model, this study analyzes and screens the relevant factors of PI risk, aiming at timely intervening relevant factors, reducing the incidence of PI in the elderly inpatients with kidney disease, and improving their survival rate and quality of life.

# **4.2. Characteristics of PI in the Elderly Inpatients** with Kidney Disease

Studies showed that the incidence of PI in the elderly patients has reached as high as 10% - 25%, and the mortality rate has increased by 6 times; the incidence of PI in inpatients has been 3% ~ 12% [19]. The results of this study showed that the proportion of hospital acquired PI in the elderly patients with kidney disease was 20.25%, which was consistent with the percentage of PI incidence in the elderly patients, higher than the incidence of PI in inpatients. Researches by McAdams DeMarco *et al.* [20] show that compared with the ordinary elderly, the elderly patients with kidney disease are more likely to suffer from weakness, walking disorder, limited function and even severe disability. In addition, there are many combined diseases, complex etiology, diversified pathological changes, high incidence of end-stage renal disease (ESRD) in the elderly patients [4], so the probability of PI incidence increased [21]. Consistent with the results of this study, the elderly patients with kidney disease and PI risk are more likely to have hospital acquired PI. More attention should be paid to clinical nursing, and effective measures should be taken to reduce its incidence.

# 4.3. Exploration on Influence Factors of Hospital Acquired PI in the Elderly Inpatients with Kidney Disease

### 4.3.1. The Incidence of PI in the Elderly Patients with Kidney Disease Affected by History of Present Respiratory Infection/Respiratory Failure

When the elderly patients with kidney disease and medium & high PI risk are complicated with respiratory infection or respiratory failure, they will have different degrees of aeration (or) and ventilation dysfunction, resulting in the decrease or loss of activity tolerance, the increase of bed time, and even adoption of forced positions, such as raising bed head or even sitting position. PI is one of the common complications of long-term bedridden patients. The localized damage of skin (or) and subcutaneous tissue caused by pressure, shear force or friction often occurs at the bone protrusion [22]. Abroad researchers like Peterson et al. [23], used the whole-body pressure mapping to study and found that the sacral pressure was the lowest when bed head was raised 0°, while the pressure increased significantly when bed head was raised 30°, 45°, 60° and 75°. The research results of Sun Yan et al. [24] [25] in China showed that the pressure on sacrococcygeal region was significantly higher in half lying position than in supine position. In this study, history of present respiratory infection/respiratory failure ( $\beta$  = 1.2714. P < 0.05), and the location of PI being sacrococcygeal (60%) indicates that history of present respiratory infection/respiratory failure has a strong impact on the incidence of hospital acquired PI in the elderly inpatients with kidney disease, which means that the elderly inpatients with kidney disease carrying history of present respiratory infection/respiratory failure are more likely to have PI, and sacrococcygeal is the high-risk position where the elderly patients with kidney disease carry PI.

# 4.3.2. The Incidence of PI Affected by Hospitalization Time of the Elderly Patients with Kidney Disease

The elderly patients with kidney disease and medium & high risk of PI are often accompanied by risk factors such as limited activity, long time in bed, decreased resistance, malnutrition caused by long-term consumption and so on. The longer the hospitalization time is, the risk of PI is higher. Some studies have shown that the risk of PI in patients staying in hospital for 11 - 25 days, 26 - 40 days and more than 40 days is 2.849, 5.549 and 37.260 times respectively higher than that in patients staying in hospital for less than 11 days; The risk of PI increased significantly with the increasing length of stay, especially in patients staying in hospital for over 40 days [26]. In this study, hospitalization time ( $\beta$  = 0.4177. P < 0.05) also confirms that the incidence of hospital acquired PI in the elderly patients with kidney disease and PI risk was related to hospitalization time.

### 4.4. Clinical Implications

In this study, LASSO Logistic regression model was used to screen variables, and then the relevant influence factors were analyzed. History of present respiratory infection/respiratory failure and hospitalization time were independent factors of hospital acquired PI risk in the elderly inpatients with kidney disease. In the prevention and treatment of the elderly patients with kidney disease and medium & high PI risk, for patients with respiratory infection and respiratory failure, the nursing staff should timely and accurately assess PI risk while following the doctor's instructions to treat the patients with cough, asthma and anti-infection. In clinical nursing work, we can improve respiratory symptoms and

increase patients' activity tolerance by strengthening ward management, implementing basic nursing, monitoring changes of vital signs, doing well in psychological nursing and health education, and guiding respiratory function exercise, etc. For patients with long hospital stay, we should do a regular and accurate PI risk assessment. In clinical work, we should do "seven things frequently", that is, observe frequently, turn over frequently, massage frequently, scrub frequently, organize frequently, change frequently and hand over frequently. If necessary, PI prevention materials and appliances should be used in combination with clinical practice. In addition, we should actively deal with the primary disease, promote the early recovery of patients, and reduce the incidence of PI in the elderly inpatients with kidney disease.

#### 5. Conclusion

The elderly inpatients with kidney disease are the high-risk group of hospital acquired PI. The body part with high incidence of PI is sacrococcygeal, and the most common injury is stage 1. History of present respiratory infection or respiratory failure and hospitalization time are independent factors of hospital acquired PI risk in the elderly patients with kidney disease, among which history of present respiratory infection or respiratory failure is an important influence factor of hospital acquired PI in elderly patients with kidney disease; and there is a positive correlation between hospitalization time and the incidence of PI in elderly patients with kidney disease. This provides a reference for improving preventive measures and reducing the incidence of PI in clinical nursing. The sample size in this study is small. In follow-up studies, in order to further improve and perfect the results in this study, the sample size should be enlarged; more possible influence factors should be included; each sub-factor should be subdivided layer by layer, and other prediction tools based on other mathematical models should be built.

### **Acknowledgements**

This study was supported by grants from Guangdong Medical Science and Technology Research Foundation (Grant NO. A2020362, A2019120), and special funds for nursing research from The First Clinical Medical College of Jinan University (Grant NO. 2014311).

#### **Conflicts of Interest**

The authors declare no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

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