



# Nutritional Assessment in Renal patients

Lim Cheau Horng

Dietitian

National Kidney Foundation

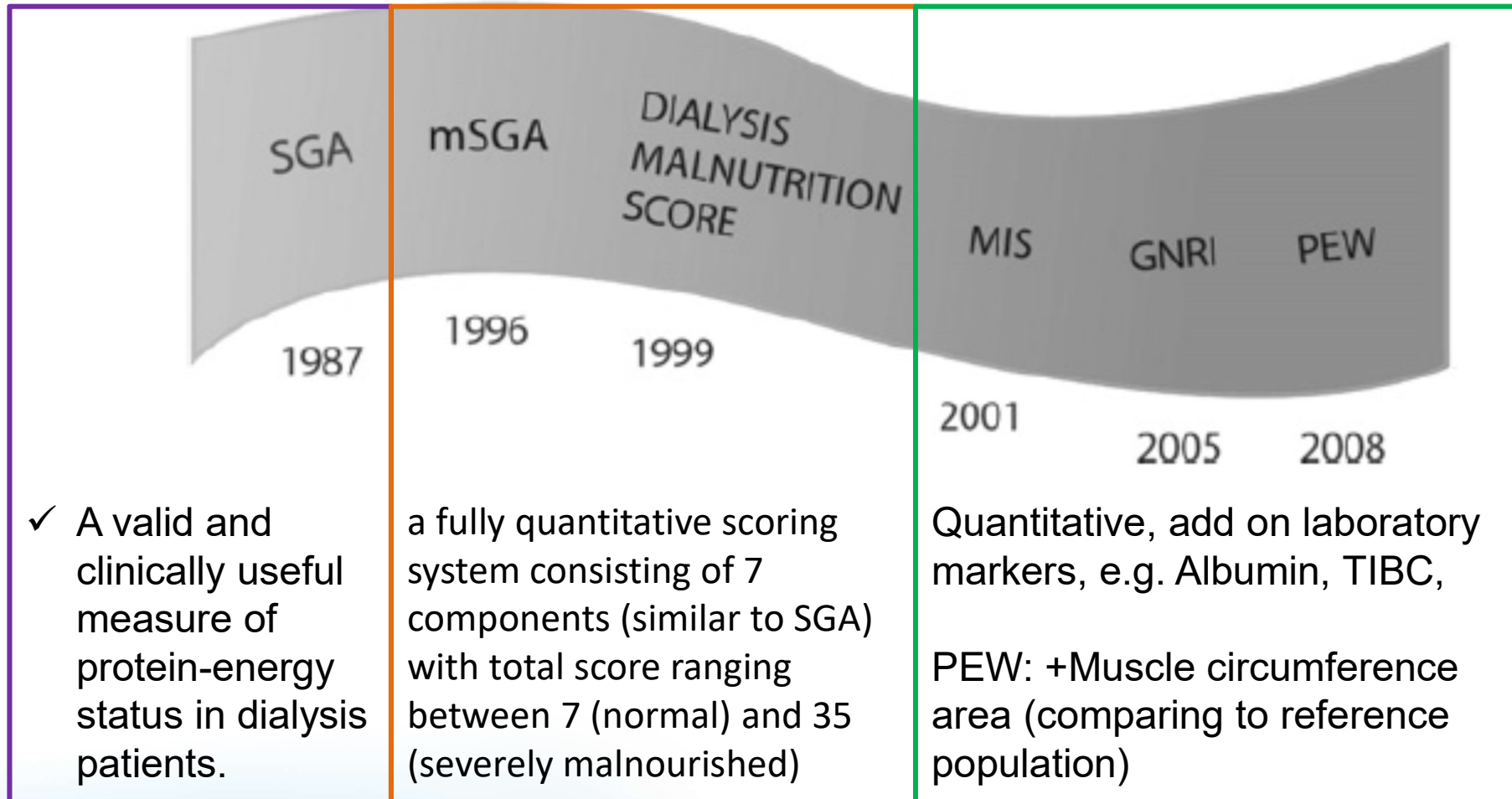
[cheauhorng.lim@nkfs.org](mailto:cheauhorng.lim@nkfs.org)

# Nutritional Assessment

- Malnutrition is associated with increased morbidity and mortality.
- Timely recognition and management is of high priority.
- Nutritional assessment had to include methods to diagnose, classify predict malnutrition and monitor response to therapy.
- There is still much to do to fight PEW because present epidemiologic studies continue to report between 30% and 50% of patients with signs of malnutrition

**\*Protein-energy wasting (PEW), defined as reduced somatic and/or circulating body protein mass, decreased fat mass, and usually reduced protein and energy intake,**

## Timeline of nutritional assessment scores



# Subjective Global Assessment (SGA)



- ✓ Focus: nutrient intake and body composition.
- ✓ The KDOQI recommended SGA uses a 7-point scale
- ✓ CANUSA study in the CKD population: 7 points SGA  
Outcome: 1-unit decrease in SGA equaled a 25% increase in mortality for CAPD patients.
- ✓ A one-page rating form can be used to record observations and the overall rating. The final rating is not an average of the individual category ratings, but subjective, based on the clinician's expertise and experience.
- ✓ Challenges: maintaining the subjectivity of the tool while maximizing inter-rater reliability.

## Reference:

Pocket Guide to Nutrition Assessment of the Patient With Kidney Disease (5th Edition). National Kidney Foundation Council on Renal Nutrition; 2015.

# SGA - Tips to Retain subjectivity



1. Training and a review of technique with co-workers who will be assessing common patients.
2. An estimate of current intake compared to recommended nutrient levels (considering the duration of deficit or excess)
3. Patterns of muscle wasting or preservation may be inconsistent depending on the physical activity/abilities of the patient. Get patient's perspective.
4. Evaluate tissue loss in relation to weight changes
5. Elderly patients typically have age-related tissue losses that mimic malnutrition. Get the patient's perspective.

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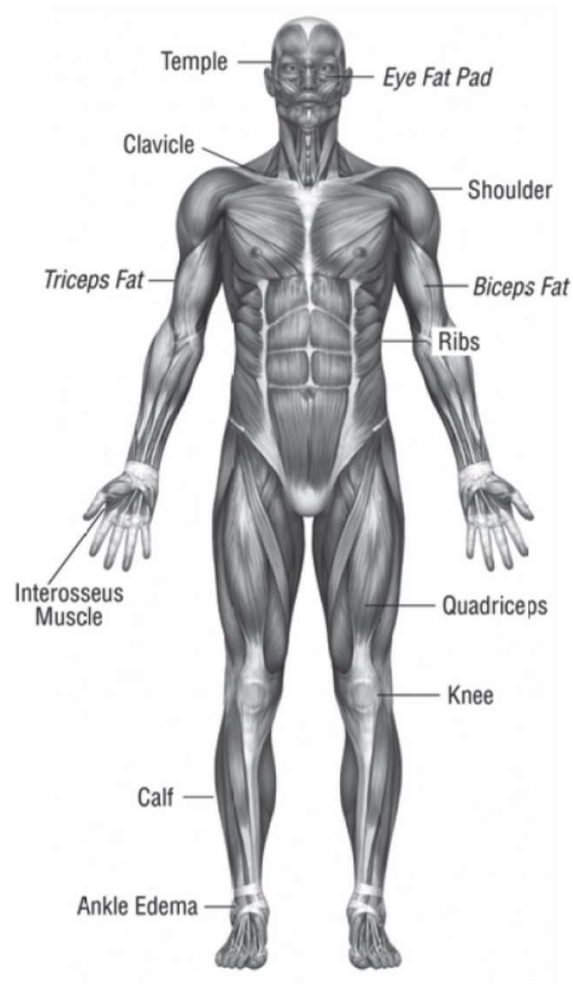
# SGA - Patient's perspectives

## Example of standard questions to improve accuracy and consistency

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Weight Changes (6 months and 2 weeks)</b> | <b>For new patients:</b> Usual adult weight?<br><br><b>For existing patients:</b><br>1) To use Dry Weight in Treatment Plan, if available<br>Weight 6 months ago? Weight 2 weeks ago?<br>2) Any signs of fluid overload? Edema, SOB, HTN? |
| <b>Current appetite/intake?</b>              | (Preferred) Is intake adequate to meet needs?<br>Change in previous 6 months?<br>Change in past 2 weeks?  |
| <b>GI Distress?</b>                          | Anorexia, Nausea, Vomit, Diarrhea<br>—frequency/duration of anorexia?   |
| <b>Function</b>                              | Changes in function or activity <u>related to malnutrition</u> ? (activities of daily living, household chores, energy levels, etc.)  |

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# Face: Temple, Eye fat pad

| Exam area                              | Tips   | Level of Malnutrition                              |   |   |
|--|--|--|---|---|
|  |  | Severe<br>1 or 2 (C)                               | Mild-<br>Moderate<br>3 or 4 or 5 (B)        | Well<br>Nourished<br>6 or 7 (A)               |
| Below the eye<br><br>*Subcutaneous fat | View patient straight on, touch above cheek bone | Hollow look, depressions, dark circles, loose skin | Slightly dark circles, somewhat hollow look | Slightly bulged fat pads, fluid may mask loss |
| Temple<br><br>*Muscle wasting          | Observe straight on, turn head side to side      | Hollowing, scooping, indentation                   | Slight depression/indentation               | Can see/feel well-defined muscle              |



# Upper body: Clavicle, Shoulder

| Exam arealk                     | Tips  | Level of Malnutrition              |  |  |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|--|
|                                 |   | Severe<br>1 or 2 (C)               | Mild-<br>Moderate<br>3 or 4 or 5 (B)       | Well<br>Nourished<br>6 or 7 (A)                          |
| Clavicle<br><br>*Muscle wasting | Look for prominent bone. Make sure patient is not hunched forward | Protruding, prominent bone         | Visible in male, some protrusion in female | Not visible in male, visible but not prominent in female |
| Shoulder<br><br>*Muscle wasting | Arms at side, note shape  | Shoulder to arm joint looks square | Acromion process may protrude slightly     | Rounded, curves at arm/shoulder/ neck                    |

# Upper body: Clavicle, Shoulder **NKF**





# Upper body (Triceps/Biceps)

| Exam area  | Tips  | Level of Malnutrition                               |  |  |
|--|---|---|--|--|
|  |   | Severe<br>1 or 2 (C)                                | Mild-Moderate<br>3 or 4 or 5 (B)         | Well<br>Nourished<br>6 or 7 (A)                                |
| Triceps/<br>biceps<br><br>*Subcutaneous<br>fat   | Arm bent, roll<br>skin between<br>fingers, do not<br>include muscle<br>in pinch | Very little space<br>between folds<br>fingers touch | Some depth to<br>pinch, but not<br>ample | Ample fat<br>tissue obvious<br>between folds<br>of skin        |
| Interosseous<br>Muscle<br><br>*Muscle<br>wasting | Thumb side of<br>hand; pads of<br>thumb/<br>forefinger<br>touching              | Depressed area<br>between<br>thumb/forefinger       | Slightly<br>depressed                    | Muscle bulges,<br>could be flat in<br>well-nourished<br>person |

# Upper body: Biceps, Triceps, Interosseus muscle

**NKF**



# Lower body (Knee, Quadriceps, Calf)

| Exam area                     | Tips   | Level of Malnutrition                            |   |                                       |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|
|                               |  | Severe<br>1 or 2 (C)                             | Mild-<br>Moderate<br>3 or 4 or 5<br>(B) | Well<br>Nourished<br>6 or 7 (A)       |
| Knee<br>*Muscle wasting       | Have patient sit, leg propped up, bent at knee | Bones prominent, scant knee muscle               | Knee cap less bony, more rounded        | Muscle protrudes, bones not prominent |
| Quadriceps<br>*Muscle wasting | Not as sensitive as upper body                 | Depression/line on thigh, between groin and knee | Mild depression on inner thigh          | Well rounded, developed               |
| Calf<br>*Muscle wasting       | Observe side and front view                    | Thin, minimal/no muscle definition               | Not well developed                      | Well-developed bulb of muscle         |



# Lower limbs: Quadriceps, Knee, Calf



# Lower body (Oedema)

| Exam area   | Tips  | Level of Malnutrition |   |                                 |
|---|---|-----------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|   |   | Severe<br>1 or 2 (C)  | Mild-<br>Moderate<br>3 or 4 or 5<br>(B) | Well<br>Nourished<br>6 or 7 (A) |
| <p><b>Edema</b> - In dialysis, edema is important for quantifying weight loss in view of fluctuating fluid balance.</p> |   |                       |   |                                 |
| R/O other edema causes, patient at dry weight   | View sacrum in activity-restricted/ankles in mobile | Significant swelling  | Mild-to-moderate swelling               | No sign of fluid accumulation   |

# Lower limbs: Ankle edema







# Measurement of Functions: Handgrip strength

Muscle strength is a good functional parameter with which to predict the outcome in both acute and chronic situations.

Impaired hand grip strength has been shown to be a good predictor of poorer clinical outcomes (e.g. increased length of hospitalization, higher re-hospitalization rates and decreased physical status).

it is an excellent predictor for short- and also long-term mortality.

Factors that may affecting HGS:

Age, Gender, Co-morbidities, Hand dominance, body position (posture), effort and encouragement, interval measure, time of the day, training of the assessor, number of assessment and summary measures reported.



Original Research

## Handgrip Strength as a Simple Indicator of Possible Malnutrition and Inflammation in Men and Women on Maintenance Hemodialysis

Luciana Ferreira Silva RD, MS<sup>\*</sup>,<sup>†</sup>,<sup>‡</sup>, Cácia Mendes Matos MD, MS<sup>†</sup>,<sup>‡</sup>, Gildete Barreto Lopes RN, MS<sup>†</sup>, Maria Tereza Silveira Martins MD, MS<sup>†</sup>,<sup>§</sup>, Márcia Silva Martins MD, MS<sup>†</sup>,<sup>¶</sup>, Luzdivina Ucha Arias RD<sup>\*\*</sup>, Ronald L. Pisoni PhD<sup>††</sup>, Antonio Alberto Lopes MD, MPH, PhD<sup>†</sup>,<sup>‡‡</sup>,<sup>§§</sup>

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### Objective

To assess the validity of handgrip strength (HGS) as a simple screening instrument for malnutrition and inflammation in patients on maintenance hemodialysis (MHD) by correlating it with malnutrition-inflammation score (MIS).

### Design

Cross-sectional analysis of the Prospective Study of the Prognosis in Chronic Hemodialysis Patients (PROHEMO).

### Setting

Satellite dialysis units in the city of Salvador, Brazil.

### Patients

The sample included 274 men and 162 women on MHD.

### Main Predictor Variable

HGS was chosen as the main predictor variable in this study.

### Main Outcome Measure

An MIS  $\geq 6$ .

### Results

As compared with men, women were found to have lower HGS values ( $19.38 \pm 6.48$  kg vs.  $29.07 \pm 8.67$  kg;  $P < .001$ ) and higher MIS ( $6.38 \pm 3.84$  vs.  $5.57 \pm 3.39$ ;  $P = .032$ ). HGS was found to be inversely correlated with MIS among women (Spearman's  $\rho = -.360$ ;  $P < .001$ ) as well as men (Spearman's  $\rho = -.384$ ;  $P < .001$ ); this inverse correlation was observed in patients with and without diabetes, different racial groups, younger and older subjects, incident ( $< 3$  months) and prevalent patients, in the case of both genders. Among both men and women, every one standard deviation lower of HGS was associated with more than two-fold higher odds for MIS  $\geq 6$ , after adjusting for age, race, duration of dialysis, and Kt/V. These associations remained statistically significant after more extensive adjustments. The optimized cutoff point of HGS for MIS  $\geq 6$  was 28.3 kg for men (sensitivity = 70.0%; specificity = 66.0%) and 23.4 kg for women (sensitivity = 87.0%; specificity = 43.0%).

### Conclusions

Lower HGS values were independently associated with higher MIS among patients on MHD across several subgroups. These results suggest that HGS is a valid screening instrument for malnutrition and inflammation in patients on MHD.

**The optimized cutoff point of HGS for MIS $\geq 6$  was 28.3kg for men and 23.4kg for Women in HD patients.**

# Diagnostic accuracy of handgrip strength in the assessment of malnutrition in hemodialyzed patients



Monique Ferreira Garcia<sup>a</sup>, Elisabeth Wazlawik<sup>b,\*</sup>, Yara Maria Franco Moreno<sup>a</sup>,  
Letícia Maria Führ<sup>a</sup>, David Alejandro González-Chica<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Post-Graduate Program in Nutrition, Federal University of Santa Catarina, Florianópolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil

<sup>b</sup>Post-Graduate Program in Nutrition, Health Sciences Centre, Federal University of Santa Catarina, Campus Trindade, CEP 88040-900 Florianópolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil

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## SUMMARY

**Background & aims:** Parameters with diagnostic accuracy to malnutrition assessment may be a challenge for patients in hemodialysis (HD). Thus, the objective of this study was to verify the accuracy and cutoff of handgrip strength (HGS) in nutritional assessment.

**Methods:** Validation study of diagnostic tests. Cutoff to malnutrition was investigated by the ROC curves, using as reference standard the subjective global assessment (SGA), nutritional risk screening 2002 (NRS 2002) and malnutrition-inflammation score (MIS). The association of HGS with: phase angle (PA), body mass index, percentage of fat mass, fat-free mass (FFM), was verified by multiple linear regression,  $P < 0.05$ .

**Results:** 138 patients were evaluated (85 men), mean  $55.4 \pm 15.2$  years. The area under the curve of the HGS showed moderate accuracy in women (SGA = 0.818; MIS = 0.834; NRS 2002 = 0.882) and low accuracy in men (SGA = 0.646; MIS = 0.606; NRS 2002 = 0.620). Cutoff values of HGS for the diagnosis of malnutrition, according to the reference standard were:  $<18$  kg for women and  $<28.5$  kg for men. The women classified as malnourished by HGS had lower values of PA ( $\beta = -1.00$ ), FFM ( $\beta = -3.15$ ) and MAC ( $\beta = -2.80$ ), while malnourished men had lower values of FFM ( $\beta = -4.35$ ), MAC ( $\beta = -1.71$ ) and MAMC ( $\beta = -1.28$ ).

**Conclusion:** HGS was accurate in the diagnosis of malnutrition in women in HD, and provided consistent results of association with most of the nutritional parameters, for both genders.

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**The cutoff of HGS for women was  $<18$  kg, a value reported by SGA and MIS. The cutoff of HGS chosen for identifying men with malnutrition was  $<28.5$ kg in [HD patients](#), as reported by MIS.**

## **DETERMINATION OF HANDGRIP STRENGTH (HGS) CUTOFF TO IDENTIFY MALNUTRITION IN HAEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS**

Wan Jing Gan<sup>1</sup>, Yuen Jie Phoa<sup>1</sup>, Zet Hui Liang<sup>1</sup>, Chooi Fong Yee<sup>1</sup>, Cheau Horng Lim<sup>1</sup>, Seema Aithal<sup>2</sup>, Nandakumar Mooppil<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Dietetics Department and <sup>2</sup>Medical Services, The National Kidney Foundation

A total of 1694 haemodialysis patients were included in the study, which 57.1% were males, 56.6% were Chinese, and 72.4% were diabetics. The mean age was 60.0±11.0 years old. The median ESRD vintage was 102 days. The median HGS was significantly higher in males (18.0kg) than in females (8.0kg),  $p < 0.001$ , while females had significant higher mean BMI ( $24.5 \pm 5.5 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ) than that of males ( $24.0 \pm 4.4 \text{ kg/m}^2$ ),  $p < 0.05$

### **Result:**

**The ROC curves shows that the AUC had good accuracy in women (AUC=0.716) and sufficient accuracy in men (AUC=0.658).**

**The HGS cutoff value to identify malnutrition defined by SGA were 10.5kg for females and 16.5kg for males in HD patients.**



# Hand-grip strength among older adults in Singapore: a comparison with international norms and associative factors

Hui Lin Ong<sup>†</sup>, Edimansyah Abdin<sup>†\*</sup>, Boon Yang Chua, Yunjue Zhang, Esmond Seow, Janhavi Ajit Vaingankar, Siow Ann Chong and Mythily Subramaniam

## Abstract

**Background:** Hand-grip strength (HGS) serves as a proxy measure for muscle function and physical health. Studies have shown that low HGS is associated with common age-related disorders including frailty and sarcopenia. The aim of the present study was to establish the normative values of HGS among older adults in Singapore and to compare it with data from Western and other Asian countries. The study also aimed to explore the sociodemographic and anthropometric correlates of HGS.

**Methods:** Data were collected from 2043 men and women aged 60 years and above who took part in the Well-being of the Singapore Elderly study in 2013. HGS was obtained using a Jamar Plus + digital hand dynamometer. Normative data were stratified by; 5-year age groups, sex and ethnicity. Relationships between the HGS with various sociodemographic and anthropometric correlates were examined using multiple linear regression analysis.

**Results:** The mean HGS demonstrate a decreasing trend with increased age across all ethnic groups and sexes. HGS among Singapore older adults were relatively low compared to Western and other Asian countries. Males in the youngest age group (60-64) and of Chinese ethnicity attained greater HGS values than their counterparts. When the regression analysis was stratified for sex, significant associations were found between height, upper arm circumference with HGS in the males sample, and between height, weight, waist circumference and HGS in the females sample.

**Conclusions:** Older adults in Singapore have a relatively weak HGS compared to other countries. Greater height and weight, and smaller waist circumference are independently associated with greater HGS in females but not males. These results facilitate the interpretation of HGS conducting using Jamar digital-type dynamometers among the older adults in Singapore.

**Keywords:** Anthropometry, Aging, Hand strength

The mean HGS for the males and females participants in the youngest age group (60-64 years) was 31.1 kg and 18.2 kg respectively while it dropped to 18.5 kg for males and 12.4 kg for females participants in the oldest age group (85+ years).

The mean HGS showed a decreasing trend with increasing age among all three ethnic groups in both sexes.

**Table 2** Means and standard deviations (SD) of hand-grip strength (kg) by age, sex and ethnicity groups

| Age group (years) | Females |                 |                   |                 |                  | Males |                 |                   |                 |                  |
|-------------------|---------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
|                   | n       | Total Mean (SD) | Chinese Mean (SD) | Malay Mean (SD) | Indian Mean (SD) | n     | Total Mean (SD) | Chinese Mean (SD) | Malay Mean (SD) | Indian Mean (SD) |
| 60-64             | 322     | 18.17(5.16)     | 18.58(4.78)       | 15.83(4.14)     | 18.01(4.82)      | 294   | 31.14(7.85)     | 31.24(7.63)       | 30.36(9.23)     | 28.97(6.83)      |
| 65-69             | 261     | 18.61(4.20)     | 18.93(3.98)       | 15.85(4.14)     | 17.06(4.58)      | 216   | 29.31(7.15)     | 29.80(7.24)       | 27.27(6.32)     | 27.37(6.76)      |
| 70-74             | 153     | 16.39(4.22)     | 16.61(4.61)       | 14.66(4.31)     | 16.26(4.90)      | 124   | 26.34(5.39)     | 26.36(5.44)       | 24.80(6.18)     | 24.07(6.33)      |
| 75-79             | 189     | 14.74(5.85)     | 15.29(5.65)       | 12.08(4.72)     | 13.38(4.59)      | 136   | 23.68(6.60)     | 23.80(6.16)       | 24.27(10.10)    | 22.57(6.76)      |
| 80-84             | 86      | 13.82(4.80)     | 14.12(4.74)       | 10.75(4.96)     | 12.68(4.78)      | 91    | 24.16(7.81)     | 24.27(6.34)       | 24.80(9.92)     | 23.77(7.79)      |
| 85+               | 83      | 12.36(5.47)     | 12.79(6.47)       | 10.34(6.60)     | 11.24(5.57)      | 88    | 18.46(13.77)    | 18.12(13.21)      | 18.97(12.47)    | 18.14(12.18)     |

# Handgrip strength assessment

**Step (1):** Administer the test on non-active vascular access hand or else dominant hand for those patients using perm catheters.

**Step (2):** Ask patient to stay in a seated position with hand in adduction and elbows flexed on a 90-degree angle. Patient starts to apply maximum strength after a verbal cue.

“Squeeze as hard as you can after I count till 3.” “Squeeze harder, harder... Relax”

**Step (3):** Perform 3 trials with intervals of at least 30 seconds between them. Record the measurements in the form. The maximum value of the 3 grip strength measurements of the hand will be used.



## Summary

- A complete nutrition assessment is important to identify patients who are at risk / should consists of a combination of objective and subjective parameters, e.g. patient history (medical/ weight changes), physical examination, functional assessment, dietary adequacy and laboratory tests.
- The main goal is to identify patients at risk/ malnourished and to start timely and appropriate nutritional intervention.

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Thank you