

## SECTION L CAUSE OF DEATH

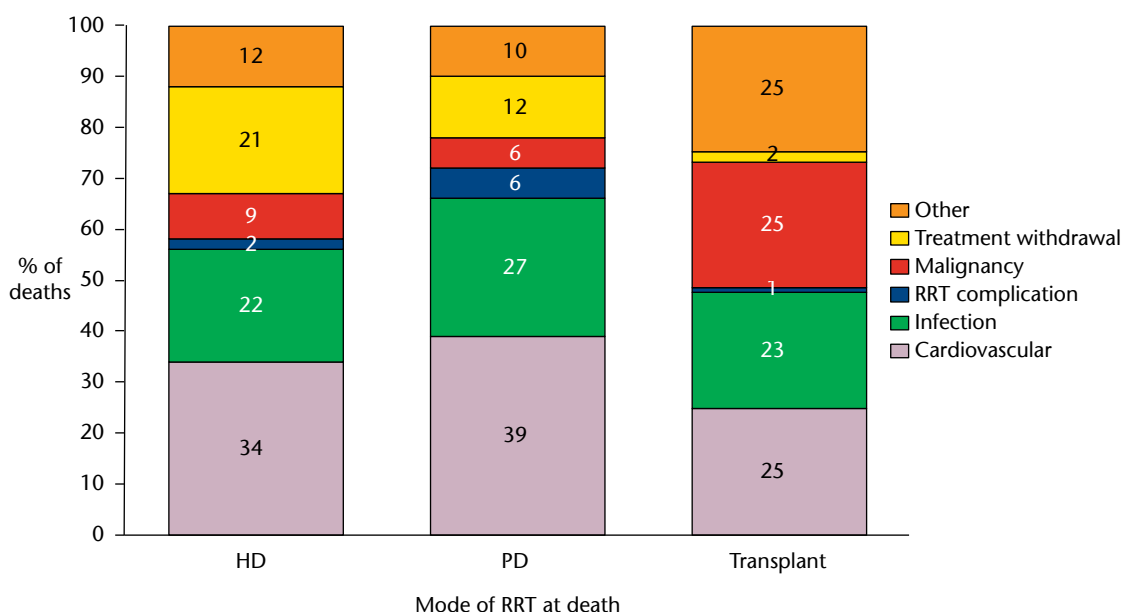
The cause and location of death of patients treated by RRT in Scotland who have died since 1 January 2008 are collected as part of the Scottish Mortality Audit of Renal Replacement Therapy (SMARRT). Whilst these data have been collected routinely since the inception of the SRR, the level of completeness of the data about the circumstances of death have been poor prior to this specific study.

Cause of death has been coded in accordance with ERA-EDTA codes and then aggregated into six groups: cardiovascular, infection, RRT complication, treatment withdrawal, malignancy and other causes of death. The RRT complication group includes deaths due to: hyperkalaemia, haemorrhage from vascular access, PD peritonitis and encapsulating sclerosing peritonitis.

A complete list of the ERA-EDTA cause of death codes and SMARRT groupings is available on the SRR website: <http://www.srr.scot.nhs.uk/Projects/Projects2.html#mortality>

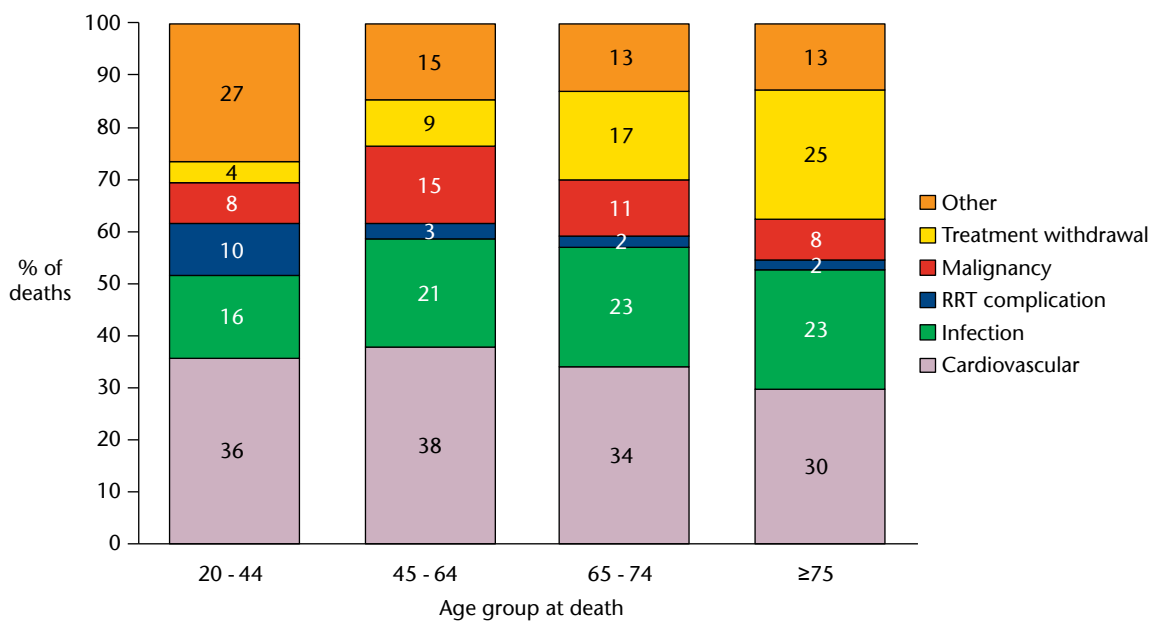
This report contains data about the cause and location of deaths of patients occurring in the two years between 01 January 2010 and 31 December 2011. There were 892 deaths among RRT recipients. Cause of death data are available for 777 (87%) and information on location of death is available for 804 (90%).

### L1 Cause of death and modality of RRT at death 2010-2011

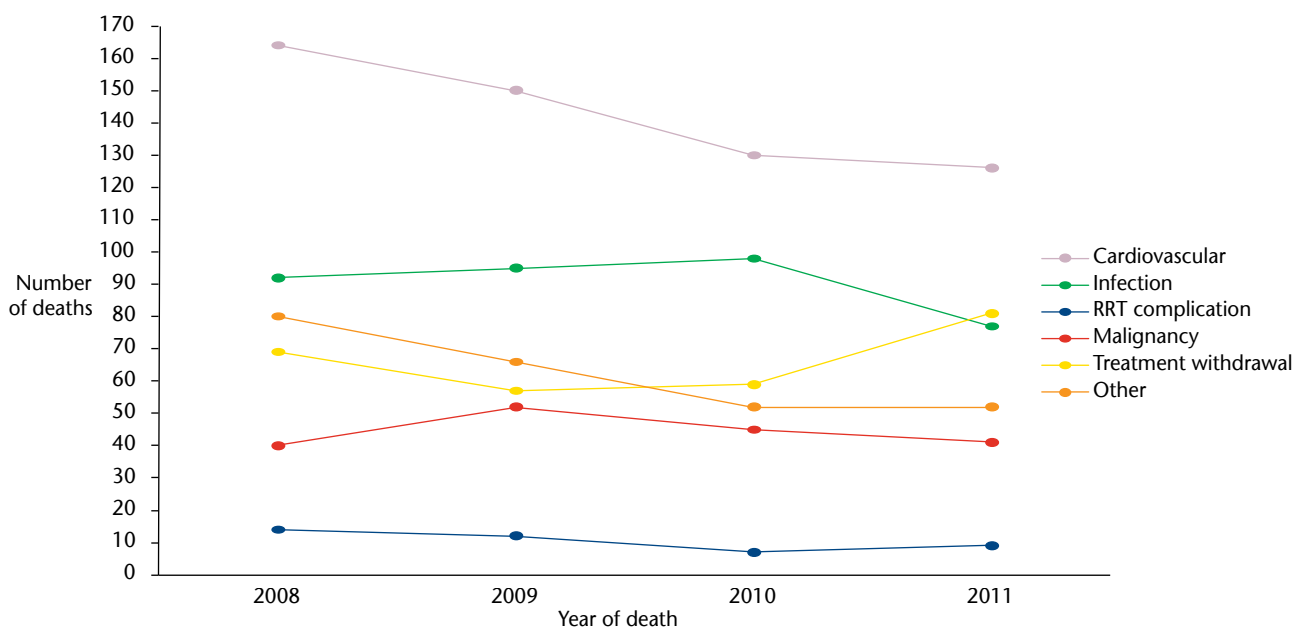


L2 Location of patient death 2010-2011		
Location	Number of patients	Percentage of patients
Usual place of residence	190	21.3
Hospital	565	63.3
Hospice	20	2.2
Community hospital	20	2.2
Place of death unknown	9	1.0
Data missing	88	9.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>892</b>	

L3 Cause of death and age at death 2008-2011



**L4 Cause of death by year 2008-2011**



There is no significant difference in the proportions of each cause of death group when the duration of RRT prior to death is taken into account. Patients who died in the four years 2008-2011 within a year of starting RRT (435 patients, 21.6% of those with data) had the same distribution of cause of death group as those dying after more than one year of RRT (1581 patients, 78.4%).