**Appendix 1 (online only): Overview of testing methods**

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| **Table 1. Overview of testing methods** | | | | | |
| Geriatric condition | Testing method | | Source | Range of score (Cut-off value) | Additional information |
| **Geriatric assessment** | | | | |  |
| Cognition |  | | Patient | ≥1 impaired test |  |
|  | MMSE (27) | | Patient | 0-30 (<25) |  |
|  | Clock (29) | | Patient | 0-14 (<11) |  |
|  | ECR (30) | | Patient | 0-16 (<14) |  |
|  | Semantic fluency test (28) | | Patient | - (<5th percentile) | *Corrected for age and education level* |
| Comorbidity | CIRS-G (20)  - Severe | | Patient | ≥ 2x score 3 or ≥1x score 4 | *Renal comorbidity excluded* |
| Functional status | KATZ-6 (ADL) (21) | | Patient | 0-6 (≥1) |  |
|  | LiADL (IADL) (22) | | Patient | 0-7 (≥1) |  |
| Mobility | TUG (26)  - Mildly impaired  - Severely impaired | | Patient | -  10-20 seconds  >20 seconds | *- If patients were immobile the TUG was scored as severely impaired.*  *- Average of three measurements* |
| Mood | GDS (23,24) | | Patient | 0-15 (≥5) |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |
| Nutritional status | MNA (25)  - At risk for malnutrition  - Malnourished | | Patient | 0-30  17-23.5  <17 |  |
| Frailty | Geriatric assessment | | Patient | 0-7 (≥2 Geriatric impairments\*) |  |
|  | Fried frailty index (6) | | Patient | 0-5 (≥3) |  |
|  | - 4 meter walking test | | Patient | - (>6 seconds) |  |
|  | - Handgrip strength (51) | | Patient | Men  ≥70 years: 21.3kg  <70 years: 28.2kg  Women  ≥70 years: 14.7kg  <70 years: 15.4kg |  |
|  | GFI (37) | | Patient | 0-15 (≥4) |  |
| **Other** | | | | |  |
| Additional subjective cognitive tests | | | | | |
|  | NPI (32) | Caregiver | | 0-12 (≥1 yes) |  |
|  | IDDD (33) | Caregiver | | 0-33 (≥1 yes) |  |
|  | IQCODE(52) | Caregiver | | 0-5 (mean ≥3.38) |  |
| Additional mobility tests | | | | | |
|  | Falls | Patient | | ≥1 in previous 6 months |  |
|  | FTBS (53) | Patient | | 0-4 (≥1) | *If patients were immobile the TUG was scored as severely impaired.* |
| Health related quality of life | | | | | |
|  | EuroQol-5D (36) | Patient | | 0-5 (≥1) |  |
|  |  |  | |  |  |
| Caregiver burden | EDIZ (34)\*\* | Caregiver | | 0-9 (≥4 moderate burden, (≥7 high burden) |  |
| MMSE, mini mental state examination; ECR, enhanced cued recall; CIRS-G, Cumulative illness rating scale for geriatrics; ADL, activities of daily living, IADL, instrumental activities of daily living; LiADL, Lawton instrumental activities of daily living scale; TUG, timed up and go test; GDS, geriatric depression scale; MNA, mininutritional assessment; GFI, Groningen Frailty Index; NPI, neuropsychological inventory; IDDD, interview of deterioration in daily life dementia; IQCODE, informant questionnaire on cognitive decline; FTBS, Four test balance scale; EDIZ, ‘Ervaren druk door informele zorg’.  \* Impairment in cognition, comorbidity, ADL, IADL, mobility, mood or nutrition.  \*\* The EDIZ scores were dichotomized and summed subsequently. Scores 1 and 2 were recorded into 0 (not perceiving pressure) and scores 3, 4 and 5 were recorded into 1 (perceiving pressure). | | | | | |

**Appendix 2 (online only): Flow chart recruitment**

Screening by treating nephrologists

Consented and available for data collection (n=285)

Eligible (n=242)

**Appendix 3 (online only): Geriatric impairments per age group**

**Exclusion**

Communication problems (n=3)

Died before inclusion (n=3)

**Refused**

Patient felt not fit enough (n=31)

Family disagrees (n=3)

Unknown reason (n=2)

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| **Table 5. Geriatric impairments per age category in the group initiating dialysis** | | | | |
|  | Age category (in years) | | |  |
|  | 65-74 (n=94) | 75-84 (n=82) | ≥85 (n=20) | P-value |
| Cognition | 58 (62%) | 61 (74%) | 13 (65%) | 0.20 |
| Mood | 25 (27%) | 32 (39%) | 3 (15%) | 0.06 |
| Functional status |  |  |  |  |
| - ADL | 24 (26%) | 25 (31%) | 8 (40%) | 0.41 |
| - iADL | 70 (75%) | 65 (79%) | 19 (95%) | 0.12 |
| Mobility | 15 (17%) | 17 (22%) | 4 (20%) | 0.65 |
| Nutritional status | 6 (6%) | 3 (4%) | 1 (5%) | 0.72 |
| Severe comorbidity | 41 (44%) | 36 (44%) | 4 (20%) | 0.12 |
| Frail according to GA | 69 (73%) | 66 (81%) | 15 (75%) | 0.54 |
| ADL, Activities for daily living; IADL, Instrumental activities of daily living; GA, Geriatric assessment | | | | |

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| **Table 6. Geriatric impairments per age category in the group choosing for maximal conservative management** | | | | |
|  | Age category (in years) | | | |
|  | 65-74 (n=11) | 75-84 (n=47) | ≥85 (n=31) | P-value |
| Cognition | 6 (55%) | 34 (72%) | 22 (71%) | 0.50 |
| Mood | 2 (18%) | 19 (40%) | 10 (32%) | 0.35 |
| Functional status |  |  |  |  |
| - ADL | 4 (36%) | 20 (43%) | 16 (52%) | 0.61 |
| - iADL | 8 (73%) | 37 (79%) | 31 (100%) | 0.02 |
| Mobility | 2 (18%) | 15 (34%) | 11 (38%) | 0.49 |
| Nutritional status | 0 (0%) | 1 (2%) | 0 (0%) | 0.64 |
| Severe comorbidity | 7 (64%) | 16 (34%) | 16 (52%) | 0.11 |
| Frail according to GA | 9 (82%) | 40 (85%) | 29 (94%) | 0.44 |
| ADL, Activities for daily living; IADL, Instrumental activities of daily living; GA, Geriatric assessment | | | | |