

Table 3. Diabetic kidney disease-related indicators over time by group.

Parameters	Time point	Experimental (n=87)	Control (n=85)	Between-group difference (95% CI)	Geometric mean ratio (experimental/control) (95% CI)	F value (group × time)	η²	P value for Interaction
Serum albumin, mean ± SD, g/L	Baseline	39.36 ± 3.71	38.75 ± 3.67	0.61 (−0.52 to 1.74)		138.258	0.452	<0.001
	Week 4	39.68 ± 3.72	38.31 ± 3.75	1.37 (0.25 to 2.49)				
	Week 8	40.73 ± 3.68	39.20 ± 3.74	1.53 (0.41 to 2.65)				
	Week 12	40.51 ± 3.67	40.31 ± 3.68	0.20 (−0.91 to 1.31)				
Serum creatinine, mean ± SD, μmol/L	Baseline	96.96 ± 6.89	95.08 ± 6.78	1.88 (−0.18 to 3.94)		102.977	0.380	<0.001
	Week 4	96.51 ± 6.88	96.61 ± 7.16	−0.10 (−2.20 to 2.00)				
	Week 8	86.63 ± 7.10	90.30 ± 6.77	−3.67 (−5.73 to −1.61)				
	Week 12	86.64 ± 6.95	88.10 ± 7.37	−1.46 (−3.61 to 0.69)				
BUN, mean ± SD, mmol/L	Baseline	9.02 ± 1.69	9.46 ± 2.18	−0.44 (−1.03 to 0.15)		96.139	0.365	<0.001
	Week 4	8.21 ± 1.44	9.19 ± 1.42	−0.98 (−1.42 to −0.54)				
	Week 8	7.38 ± 1.36	8.47 ± 1.35	−1.09 (−1.50 to −0.68)				
	Week 12	7.69 ± 1.35	8.36 ± 1.51	−0.67 (−1.10 to −0.24)				
24h-UP, geometric mean, g/24h ^a	Baseline	0.64	0.61	0.03 (−0.02 to 0.08)		89.588	0.348	<0.001
	Week 4	0.58	0.59	−0.01 (−0.05 to 0.03)				
	Week 8	0.45	0.55	−0.10 (−0.13 to −0.07)				
	Week 12	0.38	0.52	−0.14 (−0.18 to −0.10)	0.73 (0.65 to 0.82)			
UACR, geometric mean, mg/mmol ^b	Baseline	34.5	34.9	−0.4 (−2.7 to 1.9)		41.832	0.200	<0.001
	Week 4	30.1	33.8	−3.7 (−5.7 to −1.7)				
	Week 8	27.0	32.9	−5.9 (−7.8 to −4.0)				
	Week 12	21.0	29.0	−8.0 (−9.8 to −6.2)	0.72 (0.65 to 0.80)			

Table 3. Diabetic kidney disease-related indicators over time by group. (Cont'd)

Parameters	Time point	Experimental (n=87)	Control (n=85)	Between-group difference (95% CI)	Geometric mean ratio (experimental/control) (95% CI)	F value (group × time)	η ²	P value for Interaction
Urinary podocyte count, geometric mean, cells/mL ^a	Baseline	6.1	6.0	0.1 (−0.3 to 0.5)		82.954	0.331	<0.001
	Week 4	5.2	6.2	−1.0 (−1.4 to −0.6)				
	Week 8	3.7	5.5	−1.8 (−2.2 to −1.4)				
	Week 12	2.4	5.0	−2.6 (−2.8 to −2.4)	0.48 (0.43 to 0.54)			
UPCX/Ucr, geometric mean, µg/g ^a	Baseline	8.8	8.9	−0.1 (−0.8 to 0.6)		105.230	0.385	<0.001
	Week 4	7.9	8.6	−0.7 (−1.5 to 0.1)				
	Week 8	6.1	8.2	−2.1 (−2.8 to −1.4)				
	Week 12	5.5	7.6	−2.1 (−2.5 to −1.7)	0.72 (0.66 to 0.79)			

24h-UP: 24-hour urinary protein; BUN: blood urea nitrogen; CI: confidence interval; SD: standard deviation; UACR: urinary albumin-to-creatinine ratio; UPCX/Ucr: urinary podocalyxin-to-urinary creatinine ratio; η²: partial eta-squared (effect size)

Between-group difference (experimental – control) at each time point, estimated from linear mixed-effects model.

F value and P value for group × time interaction from linear mixed-effects model (df₁=3, df₂=684 for all parameters).

Partial eta-squared (η²): small ≥0.01, medium ≥0.06, large ≥0.14.

The ratio with 95% CI is presented only at week 12 for log-transformed variables, derived directly from the mixed-effects models on the log scale.

^aValues are geometric means back-transformed from linear mixed-effects models performed on log-transformed data; between-group differences and CIs were computed on the log scale and back-transformed.