**Figure 1.** Flow chart describing the selection, randomization and follow-up process of the Clinical Evaluation of the Dose of Erythropoietins (C.E. DOSE) trial.

- Male or female individuals (age ≥18 years) with ESKD, receiving hemodialysis, treated with ESA or without side effects to ESA treatment

**Randomization**

- 4000 IU/week iv. EPO alfa or beta or equivalent doses of any other ESA
  - Assessment of clinical outcomes (composite of major cardiovascular events, cardiovascular mortality, safety of treatments), quality of life, and costs

- 18000 IU/week iv. EPO alfa or beta or equivalent doses of any other ESA
  - Assessment of clinical outcomes (composite of major cardiovascular events, cardiovascular mortality, safety of treatments), quality of life, and costs