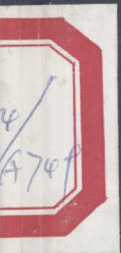


YEAR BOOK[®]

YEAR BOOK OF TRANSPLANTATION 1993

NANCY L. ASCHER
JOHN A. HANSEN
TERRY STROM



1993

The Year Book of TRANSPLANTATION

Editor-in-Chief

Nancy L. Ascher, M.D., Ph.D.

Professor of Surgery, Chief, Transplant Service, University of California, San Francisco

Editors

John A. Hansen, M.D.

Member, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center; Professor of Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle

Terry Strom, M.D.

Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Director, Division of Immunology, Beth Israel Hospital

NOT FOR RESALE

M Mosby

St. Louis Baltimore Boston Chicago London Madrid Philadelphia Sydney Toronto

Vice President and Publisher, Continuity Publishing: Kenneth H. Killion
Sponsoring Editor: Miranda Jackson
Illustrations and Permissions Coordinator: Bernadette R. Bauer
Manager, Literature Services: Edith M. Podrazik, R.N.
Senior Information Specialist: Terri Santo, R.N.
Information Specialist: Nancy Dunne, R.N.
Senior Medical Writer: David A. Cramer, M.D.
Senior Project Manager: Max F. Perez
Project Supervisor: Tamara L. Smith
Production Editor: Wendi Schnauffer
Senior Production Assistant: Sandra Rogers
Production Assistant: Rebecca Nordbrock
Proofroom Manager: Barbara M. Kelly

1993 EDITION

Copyright © December 1993 by Mosby-Year Book, Inc.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without prior written permission from the publisher.

Permission to photocopy or reproduce solely for internal or personal use is permitted for libraries or other users registered with the Copyright Clearance Center, provided that the base fee of \$4.00 per chapter plus \$.10 per page is paid directly to the Copyright Clearance Center, 21 Congress Street, Salem, MA 01970. This consent does not extend to other kinds of copying, such as copying for general distribution, for advertising or promotional purposes, for creating new collected works, or for resale.

Printed in the United States of America

Composition by International Computer Corporation

Printing/binding by Eastman Kodak Company

Mosby, Inc.

11830 Westline Industrial Drive
St. Louis, MO 63146

Editorial Office:

Mosby, Inc.

200 North LaSalle St.
Chicago, IL 60601

International Standard Serial Number: 1060-2968

International Standard Book Number: 0-8151-0251-8

**1993
YEAR BOOK OF
TRANSPLANTATION**

NOT FOR RESALE



Statement of Purpose

The YEAR BOOK Service

The YEAR BOOK series was devised in 1901 by practicing health professionals who observed that the literature of medicine and related disciplines had become so voluminous that no one individual could read and place in perspective every potential advance in a major specialty. In the final decade of the 20th century, this recognition is more acutely true than it was in 1901.

More than merely a series of books, YEAR BOOK volumes are the tangible results of a unique service designed to accomplish the following:

- to *survey* a wide range of journals of proven value
- to *select* from those journals papers representing significant advances and statements of important clinical principles
- to provide *abstracts* of those articles that are readable, convenient summaries of their key points
- to provide *commentary* about those articles to place them in perspective.

These publications grow out of a unique process that calls on the talents of outstanding authorities in clinical and fundamental disciplines, trained literature specialists, and professional writers, all supported by the resources of Mosby, the world's preeminent publisher for the health professions.

The Literature Base

Mosby subscribes to nearly 1,000 journals published worldwide, covering the full range of the health professions. On an annual basis, the publisher examines usage patterns and polls its expert authorities to add new journals to the literature base and to delete journals that are no longer useful as potential YEAR BOOK sources.

The Literature Survey

The publisher's team of literature specialists, all of whom are trained and experienced health professionals, examines every original, peer-reviewed article in each journal issue. More than 250,000 articles per year are scanned systematically, including title, text, illustrations, tables, and references. Each scan is compared, article by article, to the search strategies that the publisher has developed in consultation with the 270 outside experts who form the pool of YEAR BOOK editors. A given article may be reviewed by any number of editors, from one to a dozen or more, regardless of the discipline for which the paper was originally published. In turn, each editor who receives the article reviews it to determine whether or not the article should be included in the YEAR BOOK. This decision is based on the article's inherent quality, its probable usefulness to readers of that YEAR BOOK, and the editor's goal to represent a balanced picture of a given field in each volume of the YEAR BOOK. In

addition, the editor indicates when to include figures and tables from the article to help the YEAR BOOK reader better understand the information.

Of the quarter million articles scanned each year, only 5% are selected for detailed analysis within the YEAR BOOK series, thereby assuring readers of the high value of every selection.

The Abstract

The publisher's abstracting staff is headed by a physician-writer and includes individuals with training in the life sciences, medicine, and other areas, plus extensive experience in writing for the health professions and related industries. Each selected article is assigned to a specific writer on this abstracting staff. The abstracter, guided in many cases by notations supplied by the expert editor, writes a structured, condensed summary designed so that the reader can rapidly acquire the essential information contained in the article.

The Commentary

The YEAR BOOK editorial boards, sometimes assisted by guest commentators, write comments that place each article in perspective for the reader. This provides the reader with the equivalent of a personal consultation with a leading international authority—an opportunity to better understand the value of the article and to benefit from the authority's thought processes in assessing the article.

Additional Editorial Features

The editorial boards of each YEAR BOOK organize the abstracts and comments to provide a logical and satisfying sequence of information. To enhance the organization, editors also provide introductions to sections or individual chapters, comments linking a number of abstracts, citations to additional literature, and other features.

The published YEAR BOOK contains enhanced bibliographic citations for each selected article, including extended listings of multiple authors and identification of author affiliations. Each YEAR BOOK contains a Table of Contents specific to that year's volume. From year to year, the Table of Contents for a given YEAR BOOK will vary depending on developments within the field.

Every YEAR BOOK contains a list of the journals from which papers have been selected. This list represents a subset of the nearly 1,000 journals surveyed by the publisher and occasionally reflects a particularly pertinent article from a journal that is not surveyed on a routine basis.

Finally, each volume contains a comprehensive subject index and an index to authors of each selected paper.

The 1993 Year Book Series

Year Book of Anesthesia and Pain Management: Drs. Miller, Abram, Kirby, Ostheimer, Roizen, and Stoelting

Year Book of Cardiology®: Drs. Schlant, Collins, Engle, Gersh, Kaplan, and Waldo

Year Book of Chiropractic: Drs. Phillips and Adams

Year Book of Critical Care Medicine®: Drs. Rogers and Parrillo

Year Book of Dentistry®: Drs. Meskin, Currier, Kennedy, Leinfelder, Berry, Roser, and Zakariasen

Year Book of Dermatologic Surgery: Drs. Swanson, Salasche, and Glogau

Year Book of Dermatology®: Drs. Sober and Fitzpatrick

Year Book of Diagnostic Radiology®: Drs. Federle, Clark, Gross, Madewell, Maynard, Sackett, and Young

Year Book of Digestive Diseases®: Drs. Greenberger and Moody

Year Book of Drug Therapy®: Drs. Lasagna and Weintraub

Year Book of Emergency Medicine®: Drs. Wagner, Burdick, Davidson, Roberts, and Spivey

Year Book of Endocrinology®: Drs. Bagdade, Braverman, Horton, Kannan, Landsberg, Molitch, Morley, Odell, Rogol, Ryan, and Sherwin

Year Book of Family Practice®: Drs. Berg, Bowman, Davidson, Dietrich, and Scherger

Year Book of Geriatrics and Gerontology®: Drs. Beck, Reuben, Burton, Small, Whitehouse, and Goldstein

Year Book of Hand Surgery®: Drs. Amadio and Hentz

Year Book of Health Care Management: Drs. Heyssel, Brock, Moses, and Steinberg, Ms. Avakian, and Messrs. Berman, Kues, and Rosenberg

Year Book of Hematology®: Drs. Spivak, Bell, Ness, Quesenberry, and Wiernik

Year Book of Infectious Diseases®: Drs. Wolff, Barza, Keusch, Klempner, and Snyderman

Year Book of Infertility®: Drs. Mishell, Paulsen, and Lobo

Year Book of Medicine®: Drs. Rogers, Bone, Cline, O'Rourke, Greenberger, Utiger, Epstein, and Malawista

Year Book of Neonatal and Perinatal Medicine®: Drs. Klaus and Fanaroff

Year Book of Nephrology: Drs. Coe, Favus, Henderson, Kashgarian, Luke, Myers, and Curtis

Year Book of Neurology and Neurosurgery®: Drs. Bradley and Crowell

- Year Book of Neuroradiology:** Drs. Osborn, Eskridge, Harnsberger, and Grossman
- Year Book of Nuclear Medicine®:** Drs. Hoffer, Gore, Gottschalk, Zaret, and Zubal
- Year Book of Obstetrics and Gynecology®:** Drs. Mishell, Kirschbaum, and Morrow
- Year Book of Occupational and Environmental Medicine:** Drs. Emmett, Brooks, Frank, and Hammad
- Year Book of Oncology®:** Drs. Young, Longo, Ozols, Simone, Steele, and Glatstein
- Year Book of Ophthalmology®:** Drs. Laibson, Adams, Augsburger, Benson, Cohen, Eagle, Flanagan, Nelson, Rapuano, Reinecke, Sergott, and Wilson
- Year Book of Orthopedics®:** Drs. Sledge, Poss, Cofield, Frymoyer, Griffin, Hansen, Johnson, Simmons, and Springfield
- Year Book of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery®:** Drs. Holt and Paparella
- Year Book of Pathology and Clinical Pathology®:** Drs. Gardner, Bennett, Cousar, Garvin, and Worsham
- Year Book of Pediatrics®:** Dr. Stockman
- Year Book of Plastic, Reconstructive, and Aesthetic Surgery:** Drs. Miller, Cohen, McKinney, Robson, Ruberg, and Whitaker
- Year Book of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery®:** Dr. Kominsky
- Year Book of Psychiatry and Applied Mental Health®:** Drs. Talbott, Frances, Freedman, Meltzer, Perry, Schowalter, and Yudofsky
- Year Book of Pulmonary Disease®:** Drs. Bone and Petty
- Year Book of Sports Medicine®:** Drs. Shephard, Eichner, Sutton, and Torg, Col. Anderson, and Mr. George
- Year Book of Surgery®:** Drs. Copeland, Deitch, Eberlein, Howard, Ritchie, Robson, Souba, and Sugarbaker
- Year Book of Transplantation:** Drs. Ascher, Hansen, and Strom
- Year Book of Ultrasound:** Drs. Merritt, Mittelstaedt, Carroll, Babcock, and Goldstein
- Year Book of Urology®:** Drs. Gillenwater and Howards
- Year Book of Vascular Surgery®:** Dr. Porter
- Roundsmanship® '93-'94: A Student's Survival Guide to Clinical Medicine Using Current Literature:** Drs. Dan, Feigin, Quilligan, Schrock, Stein, and Talbott

Journals Represented

Mosby subscribes to and surveys nearly 1,000 U.S. and foreign medical and allied health journals. From these journals, the Editors select the articles to be abstracted. Journals represented in this YEAR BOOK are listed below.

APMIS: Acta Pathologica et Microbiologica Scandinavica

Acta Radiologica

American Journal of Clinical Nutrition

American Journal of Clinical Pathology

American Journal of Hematology

American Journal of Kidney Diseases

American Journal of Medicine

American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology

American Journal of Roentgenology

Annals of Internal Medicine

Annals of Surgery

Annals of Thoracic Surgery

Archives of Disease in Childhood

Archives of Neurology

Archives of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Archives of Surgery

Australian and New Zealand Journal of Medicine

Blood

Bone Marrow Transplantation

British Journal of Haematology

British Journal of Ophthalmology

Cancer

Cancer Nursing

Cancer Research

Chest

Clinical Genetics

Clinical Infectious Diseases

Clinical Nephrology

Diabetes

Diabetologia

European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

European Journal of Haematology

European Journal of Nuclear Medicine

Gynecologic and Obstetric Investigation

Human Immunology

Human Reproduction

International Journal of Dermatology

Journal of Clinical Oncology

Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

Journal of Experimental Medicine

Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation

Journal of Immunology

Journal of Infectious Diseases

Journal of Pediatric Surgery

Journal of Surgical Research

Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery

Journal of the American Medical Association

Journal of the American Society of Nephrology

Kidney International

Klinische Wochenschrift

Lancet
Leukemia
Mayo Clinic Proceedings
Nephrology, Dialysis, Transplantation
Nephron
New England Journal of Medicine
Oncology Nursing Forum
Ophthalmology
Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology
Pain
Pediatric Nephrology
Pediatric Pulmonology
Pediatric Research
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences
Reviews of Infectious Diseases
Scandinavian Journal of Immunology
Scandinavian Journal of Infectious Diseases
Scandinavian Journal of Urology and Nephrology
Schweizerische Medizinische Wochenschrift
Science
Surgery
Surgery, Gynecology and Obstetrics
Therapeutic Drug Monitoring
Thorax
Transfusion
Transplantation
Transplantation Proceedings
Wiener Klinische Wochenschrift

Standard Abbreviations

The following terms are abbreviated in this edition: acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), the central nervous system (CNS), cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), computed tomography (CT), electrocardiography (ECG), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and magnetic resonance (MR) imaging (MRI).

Table of Contents

JOURNALS REPRESENTED	xi
1. Kidney Transplantation	1
The Donor Kidney and Supply Side Problems	1
Renal Transplantation: Prognostic Factors	9
Renal Transplantation: Late Complications	22
Rejection: New Diagnostic Techniques	31
Therapies	44
Recipient Disease	58
2. Liver Transplantation	63
3. Heart Transplantation	75
Recipient Support/Operative Techniques	75
Pediatric	79
Mechanisms of Rejection	81
Immunosuppression—Chronic Rejection	84
4. Lung Transplantation	87
5. Pancreas and Bowel Transplantation	95
6. Bone Marrow Transplantation	103
Marrow Transplantation in Patients With Nonmalignant Diseases	103
Marrow Transplantation for Genetic Diseases	107
Marrow Transplantation in Patients With Malignant Disease	115
7. HLA and Donor Matching	131
8. Preservation	141
Immunosuppression and Cyto-reductive Therapy	146
Pretransplant Cyto-reductive Therapy	155
9. Hematopoietic Stem Cells, Growth Factors, and Cytokines	159

10. Immunology of Pregnancy, Maternal Responsiveness, and Fetal Immunogenicity	177
11. Supportive Care and Transplant-Related Complications	183
12. Infection	215
13. Graft-vs.-Host Disease	231
14. Immune Reconstitution and Long-Term Follow-up	255
15. Experimental Transplantation	263
Antigen Recognition/Effector Mechanisms	263
Models	268
Tolerance	272
Cytokines	279
Prophylaxis/Treatment for Rejection	281
Xenotransplantation	286
SUBJECT INDEX	293
AUTHOR INDEX	317

1 Kidney Transplantation

The Donor Kidney and Supply Side Problems

►↓ Some potential transplant recipients never receive an allograft; many others wait a very long time for a graft. Why? Once a potential donor is identified are there donor markers that predict delayed graft function? Which is the best preservation solution for maintaining the viability of the donated kidney? What measures can be used in the preoperative period to best ensure graft viability and long-term engraftment? Can we use living donors without harming the donor? Read on.—Terry Strom, M.D.

Factors Affecting the Waiting Time of Cadaveric Kidney Transplant Candidates in the United States

Sanfilippo FP, Vaughn WK, Peters TG, Shield CF III, Adams PL, Lorber MI, Williams GM (Duke Univ, Durham, NC; United Network for Organ Sharing, Richmond, Va; Methodist Med Ctr, Jacksonville, Fla; et al)

JAMA 267:247–252, 1992

1–1

Background.—Equitable access to donor organs is a subject of some controversy. Reports have suggested that blacks have a longer waiting period than do whites, and foreign nationals appear to have received preferential treatment at certain centers. The relative impact of factors that might account for differences in waiting time of cadaveric kidney transplant candidates was evaluated.

Methods.—Patient data were obtained from the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) of the United States. All U.S. transplant centers and organ procurement organizations are required to be members of the OPTN. Multivariate analyses were used to identify associations between 36 patient, donor, and center factors, with waiting time for the 23,468 cadaveric renal transplant candidates listed between October 1, 1987, and June 30, 1990.

Results.—Immunologic factors had the greatest effect on waiting time for a cadaveric kidney. Among these factors were presensitization to HLA antigens, O or B blood type, candidacy for a repeat transplantation, and expression of rare HLA-A or HLA-B antigen phenotypes. Waiting times were significantly shorter for younger patients and those listed at multiple centers. Mean waiting times were 11.9 months for

whites and 15.4 months for blacks. Patients whose local center had a small number of transplantation candidates and those who lived in areas with a high kidney organ recovery rate had shorter waiting times.

Conclusion.—Immunologic factors are the most important in determining the waiting time for a cadaveric kidney, although other variables result in a longer wait for blacks. Increased organ donation from blacks should help to shorten this time. Further, the OPTN should consider whether it is fair for patients who can afford it to be listed at multiple centers. This practice discriminates against socioeconomically disadvantaged recipients.

► It is impossible to make wise policy decisions without data. It is well known that presensitization to HLA and blood group phenotype can have a major impact on the waiting time for patients to receive a cadaveric renal transplant. Indeed, this analysis confirmed that recipient blood group O and greater than 80% panel reactive antibody (PRA) levels had the greatest adverse effect on the waiting time. What are other factors that are important in delaying a transplant? In rank order, they are blood group B, moderate PRA, low local organ recovery rates, and previous transplantation.

What factors are associated with short waiting times? Patients listed at multiple centers, low local patient:donor ratios, recipients younger than 15 years of age, and a high rate of local imported:exported kidneys are such factors. Black candidates had a longer waiting time than did whites; however, this discrepancy appears to arise from technical factors and not prejudice. When compared with white candidates, African-American candidates were far less likely to be available for transplant when a graft became available because of illness, refusal to undergo a transplant, or inability to locate the candidate. These factors are superimposed on the differences in the distribution of HLA and ABO antigens between African-Americans and whites that put blacks (who represent a high percentage of candidates, whereas whites constitute a high percentage of donors) at a disadvantage to receive a graft promptly. Nonetheless, the racial difference in waiting time is modest (15.4 months for blacks vs. 11.9 months for whites).—T. Strom, M.D.

Effect of Preservation Solution on Results of Cadaveric Kidney Transplantation

Ploeg RJ, for The European Multicentre Study Group (Univ Hosp Leiden, The Netherlands)

Lancet 340:129–137, 1992

1–2

Objective.—The University of Wisconsin (UW) organ transplant preservation solution reportedly allows successful transfer of canine pancreas, kidney, and liver after relatively long cold ischemia times. Its effects on renal graft survival were examined in a randomized multicenter trial comparing UW solution with EuroCollins solution in 695 cadaver

Delayed Graft Function (DGF) and Permanent Non-Function (PNF) for Both Preservation Solution Groups			
	UW (n=352)	EuroCollins (n=343)	p
<i>DGF</i>			
No	272	229	..
Yes	80 (23%)	114 (33%)	0.003
<i>PNF</i>			
No	339	321	..
Yes	13 (3.7%)	22 (6.4%)	0.14

(Courtesy of Ploeg RJ, for The European Multicentre Study Group: *Lancet* 340:129-137, 1992.)

kidney recipients. The UW solution was used in 352 cases; the EuroCollins solution was used in 343.

Results.—Both delayed graft function necessitating dialysis and a permanent lack of function were more frequent in the EuroCollins group (table). Delayed graft function remained less frequent in the UW group after adjusting for factors known to influence the onset of graft function. Donor factors predicting delayed graft function included older age, intracerebral bleeding, and oliguria. More than 90% of patients in both groups were alive after 1 year. The 1-year graft survival in the UW group was 6% higher than in the EuroCollins group. Renal function, as reflected by the serum creatinine, was better in UW-preserved kidneys.

Conclusion.—The use of UW preservation solution rather than EuroCollins solution correlates with better renal graft function and increased graft survival.

► The utility of the 2 most widely used organ preservation solutions (UW and EuroCollins) was analyzed in a randomized, prospective trial conducted by 54 transplant centers belonging to the Eurotransplant organ-sharing system. The incidence of delayed graft function was 10% lower in grafts preserved with UW solution than in grafts preserved with EuroCollins (33% vs. 23%), and the incidence of permanent nonfunction was also lower in the UW group (table). Overall graft survival and renal function were better in the UW group than in the EuroCollins group. Transplants manifesting delayed graft function had a reduced rate of engraftment (about 15%) at 1 year. In grafts that functioned promptly, 92% of transplants in the UW group and 87% of transplants in the EuroCollins group were functioning at 1 year.—T. Strom, M.D.

Intraoperative Albumin Administration Affects the Outcome of Cadaver Renal Transplantation

Dawidson IJA, Sandor ZF, Coopender L, Palmer B, Peters P, Lu C, Sagalowsky A, Risser R, Willms C (Univ of Texas Southwestern Med Ctr, Dallas)

Transplantation 53:774-782, 1992

1-3

Objective.—Because the prognostic importance of early malfunction or delayed function of a cadaver kidney graft remains uncertain, intraop-

Summary Descriptive Statistics for Patients

	IF (n = 332)	DF (n = 106)	P	Test
Age (years)	37.8±11.4	39.6±11.3	0.169	t test
Race (W/B/L %)	38/35/23	43/36/21		
OR time (min)	234±51	252±54	0.002	t test
Electrolyte solutions (ml/kg)	57±23	55±18	0.26	t test
Albumin (g/kg)	0.84±0.52	0.59±0.52	<0.0001	t test
Mannitol (g)	22.9	21±12	0.48	t test
Furosemide (mg)	96±68	87±69	0.27	t test
Blood loss (ml)	451±356	577±409	0.0025	t test
Blood transfusion (U)	1.2±1.3	1.5±1.4	0.0247	t test
Hospital stay (days)	16.1±10.3	26.2±16.1	<0.0001	t test
WIT (min)	0.9±2.5	1.5±3.1	0.0594	t test
CIT (hr)	22.7±7.5	26.5±8.1	0.0001	t test
UO <30 min (%)	67.8	12.3	0.001	Chi-square test
UO 0.5-12 hr (%)	30.7	9.4	<0.001	Chi-square test
UO >12 hr (%)	1.5	78.3	0.001	Chi-square test
Graft survival (%)				
1 month	94.6	68.9	<0.001	Fisher's test
3 months	85.6	59.2	<0.001	Fisher's test
6 months	79.4	53.1	<0.001	Fisher's test
12 months	74.3	48.9	<0.001	Fisher's test
Patient survival (%)				
1 month	98.8	97.7	0.19	Fisher's test
3 months	97.2	92.3	0.041	Fisher's test
6 months	95.0	87.3	0.032	Fisher's test
12 months	93.2	87.3	0.12	Fisher's test

Note: Patient demographic data, intraoperative drug/fluid management, time delay of urine production onset (UO), warm (WIT) and cold (CIT) ischemia times, time of urine output onset, graft survival, and patient survival associated with immediate function (IF), and delayed function (mean ± standard deviation). (Courtesy of Dawidson IJA, Sandor ZF, Coopender L, et al: *Transplantation* 53:774-782, 1992.)

erative factors were analyzed in a series of 438 cadaver kidney recipients. The patients, all adults, underwent transplantation in 1982-1990. Delayed function was defined as a need for hemodialysis in the first week after transplantation.

Findings.—The frequency of delayed function declined from 46% in 1982 to 15% in 1990. It correlated with a 25% lower 1-year graft survival rate and a 3-month mortality of 10%, compared with 3% when the graft functioned immediately. Significant factors affecting the outcome included the cold ischemia time, intraoperative albumin administration, the duration of surgery, and recipient age (table). A high dose of albumin (1.2 to 1.6 g/kg) led to more rapid urine output and a larger urine volume as well as a lower serum creatinine level 1 week postoperatively. Graft survival at 1 year improved from 59% to 78% with a higher dose of albumin.

Conclusion.—Infusion of albumin during cadaver kidney transplantation substantially improves the outcome.

► Cadaver kidney graft recipients who sustain a period of primary graft function have a much poorer rate for successful engraftment than do patients with adequate immediate function. In this large retrospective analysis, several of the usual suspects were linked to delayed graft function: a protracted period of cold ischemia and a longer duration of surgery. However, the failure to load the recipient with albumin intraoperatively proved more detrimental to achieving immediate function than did any factor except prolonged cold ischemia. Delayed graft function was associated with a significant increase in graft failure and patient mortality (table). The beneficial effect of albumin infusion on early graft function is dose dependent. High doses of albumin are more beneficial than are low doses. Albumin loading, like calcium blocker treatment, may serve to protect the integrity of the graft, and it may well make the organ more likely to withstand and recover from immune-mediated injury should this insult arise.—T. Strom, M.D.

The Relationship Between Cadaver Donor Interleukin 6 Levels and Delayed Graft Function in Kidney Transplantation

Ludwin D, Sandler S, Russell JD, Churchill DN, Gaudie J (McMaster Univ, Hamilton, Ont)

Transplantation 53:222-223, 1992

1-4

Objective.—The ischemically damaged kidney may be vulnerable to inflammatory reaction. Interleukin-6 (IL-6) is one of the mediators implicated in renal injury. The relationship between delayed graft function (DGF) and IL-6 levels in cadaver kidney donors was examined. Data were obtained from 27 consecutive cadaver kidney donors at a single center and from the 52 recipients.