Scandiatransplant Heart and Lung Group



Summary of SHLG activities Autumn 2022-Spring 2023

The group got together twice. Teams online-meeting was organized on October 27, 2022, and regular two-day meeting was organized on March 30-31, 2023.

In both meetings, the minutes of previous meetings, transplantation and waiting lists activities, urgent calls, and donor organ rota list activities were discussed and approved by the participants. It was also generally discussed why some offers are not accepted by any center. It was decided that coordinators are encouraged to improve registration of donor data to find out reasons why some donors are not accepted to develop a guide to general rules when to offer.

SPedHLG presented a proposal for changes to transplantation listing rules for pediatric cardiac patients. The proposed changes were accepted unanimously and were amended in the guidelines on October 2022. The following changes were made:

- The following sentence has been added to point #8 (3rd bullet point): Hospital-bound patients < 25 kg supported by long-term VAD may be listed as priority 0 90 days after implantation, even in the absence of major VAD complications.
- Point #8 (3rd bullet point) *intermittent* has been deleted from the following sentence: Patients below 16 years on inotropic support (continuous or intermittent also including home treatment) or more than 12 months support on implantable long-term VAD (in hospital or at home).
- In point #5 Blood group compatibility only is required for organ exchange has been removed so the point now only reads Donor-recipient match is the responsibility of the transplanting center.

Urgent listing for combined heart-and-lung transplantation was discussed and decided that these patients are not eligible for urgent listing, and the guidelines were updated in April 2023.

• Heart-lung recipients are not eligible for priority 0/1 listing.

The revision of YASWA Thorax registry was revised. All the centers have given their commitment to the registry work. It was decided that minimal data sets for all the patients including indication/diagnosis, the death date, and cause of death will be collected. In addition, for all the 2023 patients, at least the minimal data for pre_transplantation, transplantation, and follow-ups should be inserted in the registry. The deadline for data inclusion is January 31, 2024. The data will be presented and discussed in the next spring meeting 2024.

Riga's current situation on the evaluation of the membership was presented and discussed. It was pointed out that the work group chaired by Are Holm did not see any legal or ethical obstacles to granting a membership to the Pauls Stradins Clinical University Hospital in Riga, and therefore the evaluation process will continue.

In both meetings also clinical and research activities were discussed. DCD donation for lung transplantation has been performed in Lund, Gothenburg, and Copenhagen. Now, Copenhagen is the only center with active EVLP program. Totally nine patients have received lung transplantation due to COVID-ARDS encouraging results.

The group have been very active in clinical research. Two clinical investigator-initiated randomized trials have been closed and the results are prepared for publications. ScanCLAD is an investigator initiated, controlled, randomized, open-label, and multi-centre study evaluating if once-daily tacrolimus or twice-daily cyclosporin, reduces the 3-year incidence of Chronic Lung Allograft Dysfunction after lung transplantation. EVOLVD is Cholesterol Lowering With EVOLocumab to Prevent Cardiac Allograft Vasculopathy in De-novo Heart Transplant Recipients. A new randomized clinical trial about the use of Cytosorb in lung injury after lung transplantation has been suggested. There are also many ongoing retrospective registry studies going on.

SHLG board meetings will usually be held as a day meeting in Copenhagen Airport Hotel in February-March and as a overnight meeting in October-November in one of the SHLG centers.