

Minutes from Virtual meeting in the Prevention of transmission of infectious diseases committee meeting on February 14th, 2022

Present: Morten Hagness, Susanne Dam Poulsen, Ingvild Nordøy, Ola Blennow; Már Kristjánsson, Ilkka Ilkka Helanterä.

- 1) Morten presented Scandiatransplant organization and activity.
- 2) Covid 19 in deceased organ donation: Morten presented international guidelines (given below); all were developed in summer/fall 2021. He further presented published data on solid organ donation from donors with either resolved or active Covid-19.¹⁻⁷ There are some emerging data that this can be done safely, however the data is sparse and so far in case reports and a few case-series. The general opinion in the group was to be cautious at this point because of the risk of transmission to solid organ recipients with the high mortality/morbidity this represents. In certain cases within the guidelines and in all cases where organs are utilized beyond the guidelines the Committee wants to be notified in order to monitor the situation.
- 3) The Committee discussed a question from a member hospital on how to manage Paxlovid, 5 days course with cyclosporine or tacrolimus. Ilkka did a short presentation. The AST guidelines and some local protocols suggest dramatic increase in CNI concentration due to interactions. However, data are lacking.⁸ There are several concerns about the Paxlovid: A) There is little information about it except what has been supplied by Pfizer and the FDA. B) The interaction with CNIs is troublesome, particularly early after organ transplantation when the immunosuppression is at its peak⁹ A half dose of tacrolimus during co-administration with close monitoring of CNI concentrations is suggested by the group. The issue will be reviewed when more evidence is provided. Regarding the use of monoclonal antibodies, a suggestion to use sotrovimab as first choice when transplant recipients contract Covid-19, omicron variant, but with caution considering the BA.2 variant, was supported by the group.^{10,11}
The Committee agreed upon not making a recommendation on this issue, because this is a rapidly evolving field with existing guidelines, but to provide the discussion in the minutes from the meeting.
- 4) Question from Scandiatransplant Coordinator Group on common AB prophylaxis was postponed to the meeting in May
- 5) It was decided that next meeting will be in Oslo on May 24th.

Organizational guidelines on Covid 19 and deceased dorgan donation:

NHS: <https://nhsbtdbe.blob.core.windows.net/umbraco-assets-corp/20342/pol304.pdf>

Canada: https://journals.lww.com/transplantationdirect/Fulltext/2021/10000/Clinical_Practice_Guideline_for_Solid_Organ.10.aspx

AST: https://www.myast.org/sites/default/files/Donor%20Testing%20Document_07.07.21.pdf

European Committee (Partial Agreement) on Organ transplantation: Guide to the quality and safety of organs for transplantation 8th edition. (In press)

Refecences:

1. Molnar MZ, Hall IE, Raghavan D, et al. Kidney transplantation from SARS-CoV-2-positive deceased donor. *American journal of transplantation : official journal of the American Society of Transplantation and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons*. 2021.
2. Romagnoli R, Gruttadauria S, Tisone G, et al. Liver transplantation from active COVID-19 donors: A lifesaving opportunity worth grasping? *American journal of transplantation : official journal of the American Society of Transplantation and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons*. 2021;21(12):3919-3925.
3. Wall AE, McKenna GJ, Onaca N, et al. Utilization of a SARS-CoV-2-positive donor for liver transplantation. *Proc (Bayl Univ Med Cent)*. 2022;35(1):62-63.
4. La Hoz RM, Mufti AR, Vagefi PA. Short-term liver transplant outcomes from SARS-CoV-2 lower respiratory tract NAT positive donors. *Transpl Infect Dis*. 2022;24(1):e13757.
5. Kute VB, Fleetwood VA, Meshram HS, Guenette A, Lentine KL. Use of Organs from SARS-CoV-2 Infected Donors: Is It Safe? A Contemporary Review. *Curr Transplant Rep*. 2021;8(4):281-292.
6. Koval CE, Poggio ED, Lin YC, Kerr H, Eltemamy M, Wee A. Early success transplanting kidneys from donors with new SARS-CoV-2 RNA positivity: A report of 10 cases. *American journal of transplantation : official journal of the American Society of Transplantation and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons*. 2021;21(11):3743-3749.
7. Eichenberger EM, Kaul DR, Wolfe CR. The pandemic provides a pathway: What we know and what we need to know about using COVID positive donors. *Transpl Infect Dis*. 2021;23(5):e13727.
8. Wang AX, Koff A, Hao D, Tuznik NM, Huang Y. Effect of Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir on Calcineurin Inhibitor Levels: Early Experience in Four SARS-CoV-2 Infected Kidney Transplant Recipients. *American journal of transplantation : official journal of the American Society of Transplantation and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons*. 2022.
9. Fishbane S, Hirsch JS, Nair V. Special Considerations for Paxlovid Treatment Among Transplant Recipients With SARS-CoV-2 Infection. *Am J Kidney Dis*. 2022.
10. Zhou H, Tada T, Dcosta BM, Landau NR. Neutralization of SARS-CoV-2 Omicron BA.2 by Therapeutic Monoclonal Antibodies. *bioRxiv*. 2022.
11. Iketani S, Liu L, Guo Y, et al. Antibody Evasion Properites of SARS-CoV-3 Omicron Sublineages 2022.