

Minutes
Tissue Typers Meeting (hybrid meeting) Oslo,
September 8. 2023

1. Christian Naper welcomed the participants, followed by a short presentation of all participants (on-site or on-line), please find below a list of participants. All centers were represented.
2. Christian Naper/Line Boulland was elected chairman of the meeting and Jan Peder Amundrød was appointed secretary. Pernille Koefoed-Nilsen and Torsten Eich elected to control the minutes.
3. Changes to the agenda? Are Marin Holm will have his presentation at about 11.30
4. Nordic Kidney Group (NKG) Meeting planned for November 15, 2023, in Copenhagen: Helle Bruunsgaard will report from the Tissue Typers Meeting.
5. Council of Representatives Meeting: Pernille Koefoed-Nilsen will report at the meeting, 29th of May 2024, Aarhus.
6. News from Scandiatransplant (Ilse Weinreich):
 - Updates in YASWA since last year:
 1. Quality control on STEP recipients and donors (STEP QC)
 2. STAMP:
 - a) Own antigens must manually be added to the acceptable antigens in STAMP.
 - b) HLA-DPB1: From the drop-down menu it is only possible to choose the HLA-DPB1-alleles present on the Luminex beads. Additionally, further down the page in YASWA, you can choose to either accept "Own HLA-DPB1 antigens" or "Accept all DPB1-antigens". Then *all* donor HLA-antigens are regarded as acceptable. If the last two options are selected, the choices in the drop-down menu are overruled. (**Important: The last part was changed in YASWA Oct. 6th 2023, so that DPB1 deselected from the AM list will not be regarded as AM. Ilse D. Weinreich**).
 3. Changes in kidney recipient search overview (Search for suitable recipient: Kidney): It is now possible to define which columns you would like to display in the kidney recipient overview.

Waiting time on the Search page is total waiting time. One center also wanted to have the actual waiting time.
 - HLA and infection:

New and active group working with infection guidelines and SCTP board would like to know the HLA accreditation status at each lab.

- Ilse will send out an e-mail to each center with a questionnaire about infections screening of deceased donors and also ask for accreditation certificates.
- Ilse will send an e-mail to each center asking for a copy of EFI accreditation to be shared with SCTP.

Ilse has started to study part-time on a Master in Health Science at Aarhus University

7. Status for STEP (Ilse Weinreich)

- The first STEP run was in April 2019 and the 13th was in April 2023.
- 144 pairs + 7 altruistic donors have been enrolled.
Gothenburg has enrolled the highest number of pairs with 43. Oslo and Helsinki have enrolled 3 pairs each but were not involved in the first runs.
In total 66 cycles/chains.
25 (37,9%) cycles/chains have led to 59 transplantations
41 (62,1%) cycles/chains have been broken
- 59 % of the cycles were broken due to immunological reasons. How to avoid these broken cycles?
 - Some of the problems with non-bead data can be resolved by using ExPlex. (Remember that it is possible to block all C*07 or all DRB1*13 for instance.) ExPlex data can be transferred to YASWA.
 - Odense and Gothenburg are the Centers with most broken cycles due to non-bead data. Pernille K-N from Aarhus illustrated how they use Explex as part of the STEP program to unravel non-bead data.
- It was pointed out that if an ABO incompatible living donor is available, it is a possibility to include the pair in one STEP match-run before proceeding with this donor locally.

Anti A/B titer every third month if ABO incompatible donor is relevant.

STEP meeting in Copenhagen on the 3rd of November. All interested labs can participate.

Notify Ilse.

Mats B raised the question: Can number of eplet mismatches predict t outcome (de-novo DSA and graft survival) in STEP?

- We have high-resolution HLA typed pairs and data from the Luminex single antigen testing.
- Set up a group to come up with a proposal how to use these data in order to answer the question above. Mats takes the responsibility for this.
- Use as many tools as possible to investigate this (HLA-matchmaker, PIRCHE, HLA EMMA).

8. Lung transplantation in Oslo – Are Martin Holm

It seems to be a trend that HLA-mismatches are not indifferent at lungtransplantation. The waitingtime is long and about 1/5 dies on the list. How much longer to wait for a better match? Is it worth it to wait for a better HLA-match? Is it possible to calculate the probability of no HLA mismatch?

Came up a question about the Toronto protocol.

Lunch

9. “Evaluation of sera from STAMP patients.” (Marissa van der Linden – van Oevelen at Eurotransplant

- Purpose: Observed an increased number of patients on STAMP with a transplantability score of 0. Wanted to do a comparison of two programs: STAMP and ET AM.
- 16 samples randomly selected from the STAMP list, two from each center, sent to ETRL. Based on analysis of these samples according til ETRL acceptance criteria, 7/16 were eligible for ET AM.
- Considering plausibility can be useful when defining unacceptable antigens and thereby increase the transplantation frequency.
- Both programs have very good outcome.

10. Follow up on work done by Marissa van der Linden – van Oevelen at Eurotransplant.

- Could we discuss to perform ABO incompatible kidney transplant for B-recipients on STAMP with low anti-A titers?
- Can we improve STAMP?
- Historical data and HLA data regarding the partner and/or children can be useful. Mentioned whether we could register HLA-data for the partner in YASWA? It is better to start doing this locally first.

11. Preliminary data on “Outcome of STAMP patients not transplanted on STAMP exchange”, study. Pernille Bundgaard Kofoed-Nielsen, Mats Bengtsson & Ilse Weinreich

- A problem with STAMP is accumulation of patients with low TS ($\leq 0, 05\%$).
- We could increase the risk or increase the donor pool by collaboration with ET?

- From 2009 to 2022, 86 STAMP-patients have been transplanted outside the program.
- Can we use data from these patients to adjust the STAMP criteria, at least for the group of patients with very low TS? To get transplanted gives better survival compared to dialysis.
- Each center should try to get more knowledge out of these data by investigating their own patients. Ilse will send out a list with which patients to check.
- Then we could try to make uniform guidelines how to handle these patients.
- Nordic Kidney Group will be informed at the next NKG meeting by Helle Bruunsgaard.

12. Delivery of Hamax plates

Uppsala, Oslo, Aarhus, Lund and Gothenburg use Hamax plates. Sales Director Hajer Alm from NordicBiolabs confirmed in July that they could no longer sell the plates, as the CE approval has not been renewed since 2020. We could switch to CDC crossmatching on Terasaki plates instead. However, this requires changes in reagents and other microscopes. That requires a lot of work and time. NordicBiolabs is responsible for the production and sale of the product. However, the manufacturing itself is done by Biohospital Kopparberg Sweden. We will try to buy the plates directly from them.

13. Other issues?

We want to start a process to change exchange obligations 2,3 and 5 for kidneys so that the matching is done at HLA split-level in addition to broad antigens. Ilse will extract data from the last three years. We will look at the data first and then present the idea for Nordic Kidney Group in the future.

14. Next meeting will be in Stockholm, early in September 2024.

It is suggested to combine the Tissue Typer Meeting with other events to reduce traveling, e.g., the STS meeting in May 2024 or the Nordic Kidney Group meeting. It is important that the meeting circulates between the centers to offer the staff of the organizing center the opportunity to participate. This suggestion will be added to the agenda of the Tissue Typer Meeting in Stockholm next year.

List of meeting participants:

Name	Center
Dace Abele	Göteborg
Anna Sihak	Göteborg
Nathalie Alexandersson	Göteborg
Ann-Sofie Liedberg	Lund
Magnus Jöud	Lund
Lise-Lotte Sandell	Lund
Emma Larzenius	Lund
Mats Bengtsson	Uppsala
Ulrika Orebrant	Uppsala
Jouni Lauronen	Helsinki
Juha Perasaari	Helsinki
Kaie Lokk	Tartu
Torsten Eich	Stockholm
Sandra Norrbom	Stockholm
Sveinn Guðmundsson	Reykjavik (Zoom)
Kristjana Bjarnadóttir	Reykjavik
Ilse D. Weinreich	Scandiatransplant
Pernille Koefoed-Nilsen	Aarhus
Connie Larsen	København
Helle Bruunsgaard	København
Marissa M.J.H van der-Linden van Oevelen	Leiden
Are Martin Holm	Oslo
Kjersti Hordnes	Oslo
Line Boulland	Oslo
Jorunn Johansen	Oslo
Christian Naper	Oslo
Ke-Zheng Dai	Oslo
Tore Jensen	Oslo
Jan Peder Amundrød	Oslo