



The High Risk Recipient

Won't Get Fooled Again: Liver Retransplantation for Hepatitis C: Pro

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Retransplantation (re-OLT) remains a formidable procedure that requires sophisticated decision-making and extensive surgical expertise. Despite previous observations that HCV may be an independent risk factor for increased mortality, several studies demonstrated that reasonable survival can be achieved following retransplantation for recurrent disease. It is exceedingly recognized that a combination of donor, recipient and surgical factors are all important contributors to the overall outcome. Thus, patient and donor selection are crucial for a successful outcome of re-OLT. Relying exclusively on the MELD to predict survival is insufficient. Further, it is ironic that retransplantation is commonly denied based on predicted poor outcomes, when accurate outcome predictors are lacking as well as definitions of 'futile' re-OLT and accepted survival parameters. Development of accurate models that take into consideration parameters other than the recipient will facilitate tailoring of organ distribution to benefit a larger group of patients.

References

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