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Liver transplantation and aging

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Abstract

An increase in the average life expectancy, paralleled by a demographic shift in the population with end-stage liver disease lies behind the rising demand for liver transplantation (LT) among the elderly. Some of the most common indications for LT including hepatocellular carcinoma, alcohol-related liver disease, chronic hepatitis C and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease tend to affect older patients. Transplant professionals are faced with an increasing demand for LT among elderly patients in an age of organ shortage and it is important that risk and benefits are carefully weighed in order to achieve the optimum use of precious liver grafts.

Key words: Liver transplantation; Elderly; Hepatocellular carcinoma; Alcohol-related liver disease, Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease; Hepatitis C virus

Core tips: An increase in the average life expectancy paralleled by a demographic shift in the population with end-stage liver

Match Overview

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Liver transplantation and aging - is there a limit?



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Overall, there is no universally accepted **upper age limit** for **liver transplant** donors, which means that **donor age** can be pushed over 80 years of age on the grounds of careful selection. Significant improvements have been achieved with older donors. 104 Differences in **post-transplant** outcomes between younger and older donors have been narrowing. **Machine perfusion techniques**, which are currently under development, may help further improve outcomes when **transplanting older** ...

Cited by: 15

Author: François Durand, Josh Levitsky, François...

Publish Year: 2019

[How important is donor age in liver transplantation?](#)

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Jun 07, 2016 · The **age** of **liver** donors has been increasing in the past several years because of a donor shortage. In the United States, 33% of donors are age 50 years or older, as are more than 50% in some European countries. The **impact** of donor age on **liver transplantation** (LT) has been analyzed in several studies with contradictory conclusions.

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Older age at **transplantation** inevitably impacts long-term survival. Even though similar outcomes can be achieved 1 year after **liver transplantation** in patients below or over 60 years of age, 23 most series have shown that 5-year post-transplant survival is significantly lower in recipients older than 60–70 years of age ().Five-year survival is generally 10 to 20% lower in patients aged ≥ 60 ...

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Liver transplantation is an effective treatment for end-stage **liver** disease in the pediatric population.

The 1-year survival rate in the United States is now approximately 80%, with some series ...

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/339858041_Donor_age_in_liver_transplantation

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The **scenario in liver transplantation is much more complex than in kidney transplantation since aging of the liver has less functional consequences**. In addition, by contrast to patients with end-stage renal diseases who can be placed on dialysis, no effective artificial liver support exists.

Author: François Durand, Josh Levitsky, François Cauchy, Hélène Gilgenkrantz, Olivier Soubrane, Claire Franc...

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Aging liver transplant recipients are at significant risk of chronic kidney disease due to pre-existing kidney disease, metabolic factors, calcineurin inhibitors nephrotoxicity and other insults. 49 Age at **liver transplant** is one of the leading factors for progressive kidney disease and death after **transplant**.

Liver Transplant

Medical Procedure

A surgical procedure where the diseased liver is replaced with a healthy liver from a donor.

Type of procedure: Open

Recovery time: Can take several months

Duration: About 6-12 hours

Hospital stay: Typically several days

May treat

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Liver Failure

Rare

Liver failure is the inability of the liver to perform its normal synthetic and ...

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Cirrhosis of the Liver

Common

Cirrhosis, also known as liver cirrhosis or hepatic cirrhosis, is a condition ...

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What to expect before procedure

- The evaluation performed to assess if the patient is a suitable candidate for a liver transplant involves several lab, imaging tests and psychological assessment that span through multiple hospital visits.
- Blood tests, urine tests, lung function tests, tests to check the functioning of heart etc; are performed.
- In addition to lab or imaging tests such as pulmonary function tests, coronary artery catheterization, chest X- ray, CT scan, kidney and liver function tests, other blood tests, information about the mental/emotional state, financial conditions, and family support is also collected.