

AJT Publishes Study by UNOS Researchers

Focus is ethnic and gender-related differences in risk of ESRD after living kidney donation

The *American Journal of Transplantation (AJT)* recently published a study by staff in UNOS' research department and members of the OPTN/UNOS minority affairs committee. The study, published in the August issue, examines the relative risk of end-stage renal disease (ESRD) among prior living kidney donors by the donors' ethnicity and gender.


The lead author of the study was UNOS' **Wida S. Cherikh, Ph.D.**, senior biostatistician and team leader, research department. UNOS co-authors included **Sarah Taranto**, SAS analyst II, and **Brian F. Kramer**, SAS analyst I (no longer at UNOS). The other authors had served as chairs of the OPTN/UNOS minority affairs committee: Carlton J. Young, M.D., associate professor of surgery and director, pancreas transplant program, University of Alabama–Birmingham; Henry B. Randall, M.D., director, abdominal transplantation and hepatobiliary surgery, Saint Luke's Hospital, Kansas City, Mo.; and Pang-Yen (P.Y.) Fan, M.D., medical director, renal transplant program, University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center, Boston.

A summary of the study follows. To read the entire article, visit the *AJT* website (see link below).

ETHNIC AND GENDER-RELATED DIFFERENCES IN THE RISK OF END-STAGE RENAL DISEASE AFTER LIVING KIDNEY DONATION

Using Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) data, the researchers identified 126 cases of ESRD among nearly 56,500 people who became living kidney donors between October 1987 and March 2003.

While the risk of developing ESRD was very low among living kidney donors, the relative risk was higher for African American donors compared with Caucasians, and males compared with females. However, the ethnic and gender-related differences in post-donation ESRD found in the analysis were similar to those previously reported for ESRD in the general population. In addition, of the living donors who developed ESRD, half did so within approximately 10 years of their donation.

The researchers recommend that transplant practitioners use those findings to counsel potential living donors. The researchers also emphasize the need for more comprehensive data collection to further assess the risk of ESRD or other long-term complications among living donors. 

 Visit the *American Journal of Transplantation* website, amjtrans.com, to read the full text of the article.


NOTE: This study was supported by Health Resources and Services Administration contract 234-2005-370011 C. The content is the responsibility of the authors alone and does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of Health and Human Services.

STAFFING SURVEY RESULTS AVAILABLE

The results of the "2010 staffing survey" are now available. As in previous years, only programs that submitted data for their organ-specific programs will have access to the summary and comparison data (see link below).

You are able to generate comparative statistics based on region, type of program (adult or pediatric), and program size (waitlist and organs transplanted) for all of the 2010 program data submitted.

If you have trouble accessing the survey, please contact Angel Carroll at angel.carroll@unos.org.

 To access the staffing survey results, visit the Secure EnterpriseSM website, <https://portal.unos.org/index.aspx>. Go to the transplant administrators icon, navigate to staffing survey and select results, then choose year 2010 from the dropdown list.

UPDATE DEADLINES, 2012

Jan.–Feb.	Dec. 1, 2011
March–April	Feb. 1
May–June	April 4
July–Aug.	June 6
Sep.–Oct.	Aug. 1
Nov.–Dec.	Oct. 3

When you send a release about an upcoming event, please make sure to follow up after the event has occurred with post-event details.

The more action-oriented your photo, the better. It is best to send a digital image in 300 dpi in a tiff or high-resolution jpeg format. Please identify the individual(s) in the photo, and include that information with the release.