

Causes of allograft loss and death following AVF ligation

During the follow up period, 31 (17.6%) AVF ligation and 114 (32.2%) non-ligation patients experienced allograft failure. The causes of the 31 allograft failures in the AVF ligation group were: rejection in 10 (32.3%) patients, progressive scarring in the absence of rejection in 7 (22.6%) patients, recurrent disease in 6 (19.4%) patients, concurrent medical events in 5 (16.1%) patients, graft pyelonephritis in 2 (6.5%) patients and BK virus-associated nephropathy in the remaining 1 case (3.2%).

The causes of allograft failure in the 114 (32.4%) of patients without fistula ligation were; rejection in 43 (37.8%) patients, donor derived and progressive scarring in the absence of rejection in 21 (18.4%) patients, recurrent disease in 12 (10.5%) patients, concurrent medical events in 12 (10.5%) patients, graft pyelonephritis in 5 (4.4%) patients and BK virus-associated nephropathy in 6 case (5.3%), and other causes in 15 (13.2%).

During the follow-up period, 29 (16.5%) AVF ligation and 56 (15.9%) non-ligation patients died with a functioning allograft. Causes of death in patients with AVF ligation were 5 (17.2%) malignancy, 8 (27.6%) cardiovascular disease, 7 (24.1%) infection, 7 (24.1%) unknown (occurring in the community unexpectedly) and 2 other specific causes. The causes of death in patients without AVF ligation were: 10 (17.9%) malignancy, 15 cardiovascular disease (26.8%), 19 infection (33.9%), 11 (19.6%) unknown (unexpected occurring in the community) and 1 other specific cause.