Sequential hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) followed by kidney transplant If successful patient is free of immunosuppression

• Paul Grimm,



 Pediatrics, Stanford University, Stanford, California, USA,



Dec, 23, 1954



First successful identical twin kidney



Current Kidney Graft Outcome



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Long-term kidney transplant graft survival—Making progress when most needed

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Median Kidney Transplant Survival is 11.7 years for deceased donor & 19 years for Living Donor

Am J Transplant. 2021;00:1-9.

Post Transplant Problems

• Drug toxicity



















Post Transplant Problems

- Drug toxicity
- Viruses
 - EBV, CMV, BK
- New Onset Post Transplant Diabetes mellitus

Long term outcome of Pediatric Kidney Transplant

- All SOT Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto 1991-2014, 42% kidney
- Ontario Cancer Registry does NOT include non-melanoma skin cancer



Elevated Risk of Cancer After Solid Organ Transplant in Childhood: A Population-based Cohort Study

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PROBLEM

- Immunosuppression prevents rejection
- ALSO reduces the body's defenses
 - Cancer
 - Infection
- Immunologic processes that cause rejection are the same ones that protect from infection and cancer



Tolerance through Chimerism



Stem Cells

- Only about 10,000 in your body
- Divide maybe once every year or so



Goal of Stem Cell Transplantation->Chimerism

- Mixed-
 - Stem cells of donor and recipient coexist
 - Little risk of Graft vs Host Disease (GvHD) and low risk of infection



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Mixed Chimerism for Kidney Transplant 8 Centers The ONE Study

• 6 different cell recipes



Figure 1. Schematic of The ONE Study. Abbreviations: MMF, mycophenolate mofetil; Treg, regulatory T cell.

Mixed Chimerism-Stanford Adult Tolerance Protocol

Stanford Tolerance Induction HLA-<u>matched</u> Kidney and Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation



Withdraw immunosuppression if: -stable mixed chimerism >180 days -no evidence of rejection -no GVHD



GvHD is caused by cells that are NOT the stem cells... So why not just give the stem cells?



- Lonely Stem cells need a village
 - Don't grow well
 - Get rejected
 - Patient gets infections

What cells cause GvHD?



Stanford Children's

- αβ T-cell depletion: decrease risk of GvHD
- CD19+ B-cell depletion/Rituximab: to prevent EBV reactivation and PTLD



Engineered Stem Cell Infusion

- >70 Patients
- Metabolic disease, immune deficiency, bone marrow failure, genetic disease
- Very low rates of infection/graft failure/ need for retransplant or death

 $TCR\alpha\beta/CD19$ depleted HSCT from an HLA-haploidentical relative to treat children with different nonmalignant disorders

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Schimke Immuno-Osseous Dysplasia (SIOD)

- Autosomal recessive disorder, mutation of the SMARCAL1 gene
 - SMARCAL1 -annealing helicase important for DNA repair
- 1/ 10⁶ to 3x10⁶ births
- Progressive, multisystem disorder
- Short stature with spondyloepiphyseal dysplasia (dwarfism),
- T-cell deficiency
- Kidney failure before age 10
- Bone marrow failure
- Strokes and death in the 20's
- Kidney Transplant outcome- POOR
 - Infection
 - Rejection
 - Cancer
 - GVHD



Lipska-Zietkiewicz BS, et al. (2017) PLoS ONE 12(8):e0180926

Stem Cell & Kidney Transplant Protocol for Schimkes

- Stem cell transplant
- If 100% chimeric (i.e. the donor bone marrow has "taken")
- Living donor kidney transplant from donor who gave stem cells.
- No immunosuppression needed
- No risk of rejection
- No risk of PTLD, Cancer, Nonadherence
- No "countdown to the next kidney transplant"



Figure 1. Sequential αβ T-Cell–Depleted and CD19 B-Cell–Depleted Haploidentical HSCT and Kidney Transplantation in Three Patients with SIOD.

Outcome- Short Term

- Engraftment by day 15 for WBC and platelets
- 1 patient mild skin GVHD
 - Treated with burst of prednisone & fully recovered
- Kidney transplant from SCT donor
 - 5-10 months post SCT
 - Steroid and tacrolimus taper withdrawn by 1 month post transplant

Outcome- Long Term

- 20, 21, 32 months, after kidney transplant
 - GFR> 100,
 - no immunosuppression
 - no complications
 - 100% chimerism
- Mixed Lymphocyte Culture
 - Donor specific- nonresponse ~ tolerance
 - 3rd party and Mitogen- Normal response

3 Schimke Patients







Milestone

- The first time pediatric SCT was performed with the express purpose of immunosuppression for an organ transplant
- Benefits seem to outweigh the risks
- Long term follow-up needed

- Moving Forward
 - FDA Approved expanded indication (IDE)

Working toward the future

- Is this safe???
- Genetic disease like Cystinosis
- Diseases which may come back in the transplanted kidney (FSGS, IgA nephropathy and Lupus)
- Otherwise normal children and teens with high risk of nonadherence
- Resource limited areas of the world?
- Other organs like living donor liver?
- Maybe any transplant?

4th patient- Focal Segmental GlomeruloSclerosis

- First kidney transplant from mom
 - Lost in 3 months from recurrent FSGS
- On HD for 10 years... considering stopping dialysis
- α/β T cell depleted, CD19 depleted stem cell transplant.
 - Conditioning was with 7.5 mg/kg rabbit anti-thymocyte globulin, 100 mg/kg cyclophosphamide, fludarabine (27.5mg initial dose & pharmacokinetics determined subsequent 3 doses) melphalan 100 mg/m², rituximab 200 mg/m² and a single dose of 200 cGy total body irradiation
 - 13.6×10⁶/kg CD34 positive stem cells and 0.1×10⁵/kg TCR α/β T cells
 - Platelets and neutrophils engrafted day 14.
- Readmitted for Graft vs Host Disease (Skin Grade 4, Liver Grade 2) which responded to therapy
- Readmitted for intensive nutrition and rehabilitation.

4th patient- FSGS

- On SCT day #362 he received a living donor kidney transplant from the SCT donor dad
- Post Transplant course uneventful
- Last followup, 4.25 months after kidney transplant, normal kidney function





First SCT for human cystinosis

Allogeneic transplant demonstrated stabilized renal function, corrected polyuria and improved photophobia

Allogenic HSC Transplant

University Hospital Leuven

- 16 year old male
- Diagnosed at 2.7 years old, started on cysteamine
- Age 15 years cysteamine toxicity
- Age 16 years fully matched HLA transplant
- Acute GvHD
- First few months
- Kidney function stabilized
- Polyuria resolved
- 6 months
- Photophobia score reduced from 5 (unable to open eyes even inside dark room) to 0 (no photophobia)

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Cystine crystal reduction (31%) in macrophages in gastric mucosa at 30 months post transplant

BEFORE TRANSPLANT





30 MONTHS POST TRANSPLANT



Am J Transplant. 2018;18:2823-2828.

First SCT for human cystinosis

- Moderate to severe GvHD
- Adenovirus & Parvovirus Infections
- Brain injury (pontine myelinolysis) with seizure, reduced level of consciousness
- Salvage stem cell transplant
- Kidney failure-> dialysis
- Pneumonia and died at age 19

5th Patient- Cystinosis

- 15 year old, CKD 4
- Central catheter, Testicular sperm harvest, stored pheresis stem cells for rescue
- The following month started conditioning
 - TBI 200cGy, Melphalan, Fludarabine, Cyclophosphamade, ATG, Rituximab
- Engrafted day 12, discharged from hospital day 21
- Plan Kidney Transplant at 6 months post SCT

5th Patient- Cystinosis- Granulocyte Cystine (<1.9)



5th Patient- Cystinosis, Skin Problems

- Month 0.5- Biopsy #1 maybe drug induced spongiotic dermatitis
- Month 5- Biopsy #2 maybe GVHD or phototoxicity
 - Started steroids,
- Month 6, rash better but HHV6 positive so started valganciclovir and weaned steroids
- Month 6.5 rash worse, Biopsy #3 maybe GVH, maybe drug induced
 - added tacrolimus



No cystine crystals in 2 month biopsy using glutaraldehyde fixation

5th Patient- Cystinosis- GFR



5th Patient- Cystinosis

- Month 7 rash better but now uremic & hypertensive, trilineage bone marrow suppression, ill with infected line
- Admit to hospital, antibiotics, change line, start dialysis
- Within few days, back to himself, feeling well, appetite great and labs improving
- Rash nicely improved with no other sign of GVHD
 - wean steroids

5th Patient- Cystinosis

• When does he get to the Kidney Transplant?



Why Research?



The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

BRIEF REPORT

Sequential Stem Cell–Kidney Transplantation in Schimke Immuno-osseous Dysplasia

Alice Bertaina, M.D., Ph.D., Paul C. Grimm, M.D., Kenneth Weinberg, M.D., Robertson Parkman, M.D., Karen M. Kristovich, P.N.P., Giulia Barbarito, M.S., Elizabeth Lippner, M.D., Girija Dhamdhere, Ph.D., Vasavi Ramachandran, M.S., Jordan M. Spatz, M.D., Ph.D., Sahar Fathallah-Shaykh, M.D.,
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It may take years for the immune system to completely return to normal after HSCT



Expert Opin Biol Ther (Informa). 2008;8:583-597.

Stanford Children's Stem Cell & Kidney Transplant Protocol (3)

- Offering to pediatric genetic disease patients (including cystinosis)
- Haploidentical or fully matched living donor
 - (Unmatched maybe/some day)
- Pre dialysis or on dialysis acceptable
- No strong DSA