STUDIES ADDRESS LONG-TERM HEALTH OF LIVING KIDNEY DONORS

Highlights

- New equations may help predict the lifetime risk of kidney failure in kidney donor candidates.
- Living kidney donors who develop diabetes or hypertension are at greater risk for experiencing reduced kidney function.
- The findings, which point to the need for revised kidney transplant policies, will be presented at ASN Kidney Week 2015 November 3–8 at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, CA.

San Diego, CA (November 7, 2015) — While it’s important to monitor the health of recipients following kidney transplantation, it’s equally important to assess the ongoing health of living donors who have generously given up an organ. Several studies that will be presented at ASN Kidney Week 2015 November 3–8 at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, CA address various aspects of donor health.

Investigators led by Morgan Grams, MD (CKD Prognosis Consortium) have developed equations to predict the lifetime incidence of kidney failure, or end stage renal disease (ESRD), according to a donor’s baseline demographic and health characteristics before kidney donation. The team found that the predicted predonation lifetime incidence of ESRD varied by age, race, and sex: 2.7%, 1.1%, 0.9%, and 0.6% in 20-year-old black men, black women, white men, and white women, respectively, and 0.6%, 0.3%, 0.3%, and 0.2% in the corresponding 60-year-old candidates. The lifetime incidence of ESRD was higher with additional risk factors, particularly low kidney function. The predicted lifetime incidence of ESRD before donation was <1% in 88% of recent US donors.

“We suggest consideration of predonation lifetime ESRD risk in the evaluation and counseling of potential living kidney donors,” the authors concluded. “Our equations estimate a person's lifetime incidence of ESRD in the absence of donation according to multiple demographic and clinical characteristics.”

In two studies, Hassan Ibrahim, MD, FASN (University of Minnesota) and his colleagues examined the health impacts of 2 conditions in living kidney donors: diabetes and high
blood pressure. The team found that kidney donors who develop diabetes or hypertension have a 2- to 4-times higher risk of experiencing reduced kidney function compared with donors who remain free of these conditions. “Moreover, demographic and laboratory variables can be used to predict individual patients’ risks of developing diabetes and hypertension with reasonable accuracy, especially among white donors,” said Dr. Ibrahim.


Disclosures: 1) Andrew S. Levey owns a patent submitted with Drs. Inker and Coresh for development of precise panel estimated GFR with markers identified using the Metabolon. Kunihiro Matsushita is a consultant for Apex; receives research funding from Kyowa Hakko Kirin, Fukuda Denshi; and receives honoraria from Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma, MSD, Kyowa Hakko Kirin. Bertram L. Kasiske receives honoraria from Astellas. Csaba P. Kovesdy is a consultant for Relypsa, ZS Pharma; receives research funding from Abbvie, Amgen, OPKO, Shire; receives honoraria from Sanofi-Aventis, Relypsa, ZS Pharma; and royalties from UpToDate. Varda Shalev owns a patent in Medial and is a scientific advisor for Belong, Bandmanage, Nuvo. Dorry L. Segev is a consultant for and receives honoraria from Genzyme/Sanofi, Pfizer, Astellas, Novartis

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any drug, changing your diet or commencing or discontinuing any course of treatment. Do not ignore or delay obtaining professional medical advice because of information accessed through ASN. Call 911 or your doctor for all medical emergencies.

Founded in 1966, and with nearly 16,000 members, the American Society of Nephrology (ASN) leads the fight against kidney disease by educating health professionals, sharing new knowledge, advancing research, and advocating the highest quality care for patients.

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