



Submission No.: PG11-02

Session : Postgraduate Course 11 (Kidney/Pancreas)

Date & Time, Place : November 16 (Thu), 15:00-16:30, Room 5F-1

Session Title : Pre-transplant screening and post-transplant consideration for complications

Cancer screening in kidney transplant recipients and candidates— update on the current evidence

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Cancer is a major cause of mortality and morbidity in kidney transplant recipients. The overall risk of all cancers is increased by at least 2-3-fold compared to the age and sex-matched general population. Cancer is also the second leading cause of death among kidney transplant recipients. Cancer screening is defined as earlier detection of cancer in an asymptomatic individual. It has strongly been advocated in the general population as trial-based evidence showed at least a 20% mortality benefit from breast, colorectal and cervical cancer screening. This mortality benefit is due to the availability of potentially curative anti-cancerous therapies for early-stage cancers.

While there is no trial-based evidence to support routine cancer screening in kidney transplant recipients, data extrapolated from the general population and observational studies have suggested routine screening may be beneficial and cost-effective. Despite guideline recommendations, uptake for cancer screening remains poor. Understanding patients' preferences and perspectives on cancer screening is crucial for a shared decision-making process and provides the basis for an individualized approach to cancer screening. More importantly, the cost-benefits of routine screening before and after transplantation must be considered. This lecture will discuss the current evidence regarding the strategies, recommendations, patient preferences as well as the cost-benefits of cancer screening in kidney transplant recipients and candidates.