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Session: Xenotransplantation Symposium 1

Date & Time, Place: November 17 (Fri), 13:40-14:40, Room 6F-1

Session Title: Ethical challenges

Ethical Considerations for Xenotransplantation

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There are numbers of ethical issues to be considered in xenotransplantation; the animal right of the donor animal and the animals used for preclinical studies, the genetic modification of the donor animal, the stigmatization of the human recipient, the possibility of outbreak of the novel infection from the porcine xenograft, the complicated safeguards preventing the zoonotic novel infection including the consent process, long term(or life long) surveillance and the privacy infringement, the safety of the clinical trial such as using immunosuppressants and the exclusion/inclusion criteria, the risk/benefit evaluation of the xeno-clinical trial, and the accessibility to the novel therapy. In addition, the use of the decedent model(brain dead human cadaver) raises ethical and regulatory issue. We have to consider these issues prior to conduct the xenotransplantation research including the clinical trial. Sound ethical review and regulation from the responsible authorities are also required.