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Session : Concurrent Symposium 15 (Lung)

Date & Time, Place : November 18 (Sat), 15:30-17:00, Room 5F-2

Session Title : Lung transplant program in Asia

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## **India**

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**LUNG TRANSPLANT IN ASIA/INDIA** Dr Unmil Shah The science of lung transplant has undergone pathbreaking research leading to development of novel organ preservation techniques, newer induction methods, immunosuppression protocols, etc. The goal has been to improve life expectancy post lung transplant. Lung Transplant remains the definitive treatment option for select End Stage Lung Disease. Not much is known about lung transplants in developing world. The objective is to highlight unique challenges lung transplant programs in developing countries, present possible solutions, and discuss clinical outcomes. Major challenges for lung transplants in developing countries include late referral, shortage of donors, lack of well-trained dedicated multidisciplinary teams, and relatively increased burden of infections. Establishing lung transplant program in developing countries is feasible and can provide survival rates comparable with developed countries. Governmental and institutional investments, increasing awareness about the organ donation, and continuous education and training of healthcare staff are key steps to successfully address these challenges. Also novel advances like EVLP (Ex -Vivo Lung Perfusion), DCD (Donation after cardiac death), etc can prove to be game changers in circumventing some of these challenges. Also organisations like Asian Society of Transplantation can play important role in developing Lung Transplant programs in Asia by having more representation from various Asian countries, conducting CMEs and Workshops, Educational newsletters, etc. Countries like India, China, Korea, Japan, etc have started Lung Transplant programs with comparable outcomes to Western programs. Few countries like Japan, Korea specialise in Living-donor lobar lung transplantation (LDLLT) developed to offset the mismatch between supply and demand for those patients awaiting cadaveric lung transplantation (CLT).. India has seen development of Lung transplant programs since last 10 yrs with multiple centres. Covid -19 pandemic created awareness not only among medical professionals but also society & community regarding lung transplant in select End stage lung disease. It also brought newer & better understanding into ECMO as a bridge to Lung transplant. My topic will cover challenges and current status regarding Lung Transplant programs in INDIA. The talk will also cover proposed solutions to those challenges as well as highlighting specific achievements and comparable outcomes of Lung transplant program.