RENAL TRANSPLANTATION. CLINICAL - 1

FP846   **EARLY CMV-SPECIFIC T CELL RESPONSE AND EGFR IDENTIFY PATIENTS AT HIGH RISK OF INFECTION AFTER RENAL TRANSPLANTATION**

Francesca Leone[1], Maria Vittoria Mauro[2], Paolo Gigliotti[1], Danilo Lofaro[1], Anna Perri[1], Donatella Vizza[1], Simona Lupinacci[1], Giuseppina Toteda[1], Antonella La Russa[1], Agata Mollica[3], Teresa Papalia[3], Cristina Giraldi[2] and Renzo Bonofiglio[1]

[1]*Annunziata Hospital, "Kidney and Transplantation" Research Center, Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation, Cosenza, Italy,* [2]*Annunziata Hospital, Microbiology and Virology Laboratory, Molecular Clinic, Cosenza, Italy,* [3]*Annunziata Hospital, Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation, Cosenza, Italy*

Introduction and Aims: Assessing the risk of Cytomegalovirus (CMV) viremia in kidney transplant recipients (KTR) may be helpful to indicate in which patient it is worth to start antiviral treatment during preemptive strategy. Therefore, we evaluated whether monitoring T cells directed against pp65 and IE-1 antigens, could predict the onset of viremia.

Methods: In 40 consecutively CMV-seropositive KTR preemptively treated with ganciclovir, we used IFN-γ Elispot to measure CD4+ and CD8+ anti-CMV specific T cells at 30, 90, 180 and 360 days after transplantation. CMV DNAemia was monitored to identify viral infection.

Results: Baseline characteristics are showed in Table 1. CMV viremia occurred in 24 patients (60%) within 120 days after transplantation, so time points used for viral infection prediction were 30 and 90 days. Non-viremic patients had higher anti-pp65, anti-IE-1 T cells and eGFR in the first 90 days post-transplantation (Figure 1). Early CMV specific immune response was significantly correlated to CMV DNAemia and eGFR. At logistic regression anti-pp65, anti-IE-1 T cells and eGFR measured at 30th day were significantly associated to CMV infection (OR: 0.33, 0.32, 0.03 respectively). Cut-off values of 15 SFCs/200000 PBMCs for anti-IE, 40 SFCs/200000 PBMCs for anti-pp65 and 46.6 ml/min/1.73m2 for eGFR respectively predicted the risk of CMV infection with high sensitivity and specificity (AUC > 0.75). Using a classification tree model we identified as high-risk patients, those showing anti-pp65 < 42 SFCs/200000 PBMCs and eGFR < 62 ml/min/1.73m2 as well as anti-pp65 ≥ 42 and anti-IE-1 < 6.5 SFCs/200000 PBMCs (Figure 2).

Conclusions: Monitoring CMV-specific T cell responses and eGFR in the first month post-transplant can identify patients at high risk of CMV infection for whom a preemptive antiviral therapy is recommended.

FP846 Table 1: Main demographic and baseline characteristics of the study group

Characteristics	Patients (n = 40)
Gender (male/female)	23/17
Age (years)	49 ± 12.16
Donor Age(years)	46.9 ± 12.9
eGFR (ml/min/1.73m2)	53.4 ± 17
DGF (%)	19/40 (47.5
Mismatches ≥ 4 (%)	25/40 (62.5)
BPAR (%)	10/40 (25)
Pre-Transplant CMV donor (D)/recipient (R) serostatus	
D+/ R+ (%)	27 (67.5)
D-/ R+ (%)	13 (32.5)
Pre-Transplant anti-CMV IgG titers (UA/ml)	190.7 ± 81

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Table 1:. *Continued*

Characteristics	Patients (n = 40)
CIT (hours)	13.1 ± 4.59
Induction Immunosuppression	
Anti CD25	40/40 (100)
Maintenance Immunosuppression	
FK (%)	34/40 (85)
CsA (%)	6/40 (15)
MMF (%)	40/40 (100)
Steroids (%	40/40 (100)
Patients who experienced post-Transplant CMV DNAemia (%)	24/40 (60)
Patients requiring antiviral treatment (%)	17/40 (42.5)
CMV disease (%)	3/40 (7.5)