

Evaluation of barriers to kidney transplantation in a dialysis unit

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* Background

- Best treatment option for end stage renal disease.
- Treating team should inform patients that kidney transplantation is an alternative treatment option that:
 - Improves quality of life
 - Increases survival
 - Contributes to independence and a healthy lifestyle.
 - Improves family relationships and contributes to a more relaxed lifestyle.

➤ Transplantation rates in Israel is low compared to other western countries.

➤ Aim of study: to evaluate barriers to kidney transplantation in a hemodialysis unit:

- difficulties of registration to the waiting list.
- assessment of knowledge of live donor transplantation.

* Methods

- Questionnaires were distributed to patients and nursing staff.
- Patients:
 - willingness to perform required tests.
 - if they received instructions from nursing staff about the process.
 - difficulties involved.
- Staff:
 - level of knowledge
 - involvement in the process
 - understanding of the significance of transplant to patients

* Results

➤ 10 patients and 10 nurses were evaluated.

➤ Patient:

- 20% were aware of the option of transplantation from living donors.
- 100% expressed the need for more assistance in the process

➤ Staff:

- 100% felt the need for further education
- 80% had low awareness of the option and were not involved in the process at all.

* Conclusions

- Continuous education of both staff and patients is important.
- Educational programs about the process necessary for enrolment on the transplant list and the process involved in transplantation from live donors should be provided for nursing staff in dialysis units.
- The number of patients receiving kidney transplants may be increased by establishing a structured and orderly system within dialysis units.

**THANKS
FOR
LISTENING**