

Online Only Lectures – Infections in Solid Organ Transplant Recipients

Speaker: Barbara Alexander, MD

IDBR
INFECTIOUS DISEASE BOARD REVIEW
AUGUST 20-24
2022

Infections in Solid Organ Transplant Recipients

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Infections in Solid Organ Transplant (SOT) Recipients

- SOT is a life-saving intervention
 - 895,308 SOTs performed in U.S. since 1988
 - 41,355 SOTs performed in 2021
- SOT recipients
 - have compromised immunity / increased infection risk
 - are targets for common, emerging & opportunistic pathogens encountered pre- and post-transplant
 - often have atypical infection presentation owing to their compromised immunity / decreased inflammatory response
 - are on complex medical regimens; drug interactions common

Data from Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network database as of July 13, 2021

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW FOR THE BOARD EXAM:

- Infection risk varies based on
 - Organ transplanted
 - Time post transplant
 - Degree of immunosuppression
 - Prophylaxis regimen
 - Unique exposures
- Key drug interactions and drug-induced syndromes
 - Calcineurin inhibitors and azoles, macrolides, rifampin (covered in Dr. Gilbert's antibiotic lecture)
 - Sirolimus associated pneumonitis
 - Calcineurin inhibitors and TTP and PRES

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW FOR THE BOARD EXAM:

- The following major clinical syndromes:
 - CMV syndrome & disease
 - EBV & Post Transplant Lymphoproliferative Disorder (PTLD)
 - BK virus nephropathy
 - Aspergillosis, Mucormycosis & Cryptococcosis
 - Tuberculosis
 - Toxoplasmosis
 - Donor-derived infections

PLAY THE ODDS

The data in the stem let's you "play the odds" as to the most likely diagnosis

- Patient completing valganciclovir prophylaxis 6 weeks prior presenting with fatigue, low grade fever and leukopenia
 - CMV
- Donor died from skiing accident in fresh water lake in Florida and recipient presents 3 weeks post transplant with encephalitis
 - Naegleria
- Renal transplant recipient on valganciclovir prophylaxis presents with asymptomatic renal dysfunction
 - BK Virus
- Lung transplant recipient planted vegetable garden 2 weeks prior while on posaconazole prophylaxis and presents with productive cough and cavitary lung lesion
 - Nocardia

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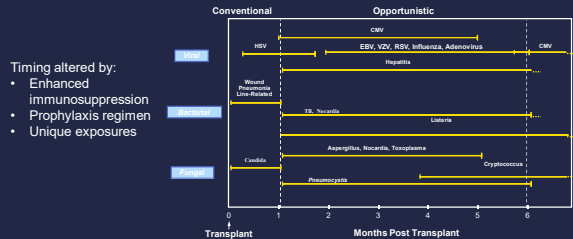
FREQUENCY, TYPE & INFECTION SOURCE IN THE 1ST POST TRANSPLANT YEAR

Transplant Type	Infection Episodes per Patient	Bacteremia	CMV Disease * (%)	Fungal Infections (%)	Most Common Source
Lung	3.19	8-25	39	8.6	Pulmonary
Liver	1.86	10-23	29	4.7	Abdomen & Biliary tract
Heart	1.36	8-11	25	3.4	Pulmonary
Kidney	0.98	5-10	8	1.3	Urinary tract

*CMV, Cytomegalovirus; CMV disease rates in the absence of routine antiviral prophylaxis

Source: Bartlett JH, et al. Frequency and Predictors of Bacterial Infections in Kidney, Liver, Lung, and Heart Transplant Recipients. *Am J Transplant* 2007;7:1209

CLASSIC TIMING OF INFECTIONS FOLLOWING SOLID ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION



“EARLY” BACTERIAL INFECTIONS FOLLOWING SOT

Type & site of early bacterial infection varies based on organ transplanted, surgical approach/technique & transplant center

- Risk of peritoneal soilage/infection greater in liver transplantation with Roux-en-Y biliary drainage
- Recipient colonization with resistant organisms (e.g. MRSA, VRE, CRE) pre-transplant, confers risk of post-transplant infection
- Cluster with unusual pathogen - environmental problem? (e.g. *Legionella*, *M. abscessus* from hospital water distribution systems)

“LATE” BACTERIAL INFECTIONS FOLLOWING SOT

80% OF LATE BACTERIAL INFECTIONS ARE COMMUNITY ACQUIRED

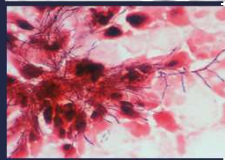
- Streptococcus pneumoniae*
 - Incidence significantly > in SOT (146/100,000) vs general population (12/100,000)
 - Vaccination recommended
- Listeria monocytogenes*
 - Bacteremia (Gram + Rods) / Diarrhea / Meningitis
 - Ampicillin treatment of choice
 - High relapse rate, treat for at least 3-6 wks

Kumar D et al., *Am J of Transplant* 2007;7:1209

LATE BACTERIAL INFECTIONS, CONT.

Nocardia species

- 1%-6% of all SOT recipients
- Presents most often as pulmonary nodules, CNS (15-20%), skin (15%), or bone (2-5%) lesions
- Diagnosis: Culture and/or histopathology
 - Branching, filamentous Gram + Rods
 - Partially acid-fast by modified Kinyoun stain
 - Nocardia* is *Neurotropic*; brain imaging critical
- Treatment:
 - High dose TMP-SMX drug of choice
 - Otherwise, based on susceptibility data & site of infection
- TMP-SMX dose used for PCP prophylaxis not protective



CMV DISEASE AFTER SOT

INDIRECT AND DIRECT EFFECTS

INDIRECT Effects:

- Acute and Chronic Rejection
- Opportunistic Super-Infections (Gram negative bacteria & Molds)

DIRECT Effects:

- CMV Syndrome – most common presentation
 - CMV in blood + fever + malaise, leukopenia, atypical lymphocytosis, thrombocytopenia, or elevated liver enzymes
- Tissue Invasive Disease
 - Evidence of CMV on biopsy + compatible signs/symptoms

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RISK OF CMV DISEASE AFTER SOT

CMV Serologic Status	Risk Category	Incidence of Disease (%)
D+/R-	High	50+
D+/R+ or D-/R+	Intermediate	10-15
D-/R-	Low	0
ALA Therapy (R+)		
Induction	Intermediate	25-30
Rejection	High	65

D, Donor; R, Recipient; ALA, Antilymphocyte Antibody

*Should receive leukocyte depleted blood products

CMV DISEASE AFTER SOT PROPHYLACTIC APPROACHES

UNIVERSAL

All SOT recipients receive therapy during highest risk periods

- Expensive
- May induce resistance
- Some pts exposed unnecessarily

PREEMPTIVE

Treatment based on asymptomatic viral replication in blood

- Optimal viral threshold for initiating therapy not well defined
- Requires serial monitoring with detection assay

NOTE: Letermovir not approved for use in SOT population, only HSCT

CMV PROPHYLAXIS AFTER SOT

Bottomline:

- D+/R- or ALA for rejection → Universal
 - First 3-6 months post-transplant
 - At least 1 month post-ALA for rejection
- R+ → Universal or Preemptive
 - First 3-6 months post-transplant

CMV DISEASE AFTER SOT

- Typically occurs 1-3 months post-transplant
 - Or after prophylaxis is stopped ("late onset")
- Disease of GI Tract and Eye may not have concurrent viremia
 - Diagnosis often requires biopsy/aspiration
- Viral load may continue to rise during first 2 weeks of Rx
 - Don't repeat PCR until Day 14 of treatment
- Treat for 2-3 weeks...
 - DO NOT STOP TIL VIREMIA CLEARs (high risk for relapse)

CMV DISEASE AFTER SOT GANCICLOVIR RESISTANCE

- **Suspect resistance if prolonged (> 6 weeks) (val)ganciclovir exposure AND:**
 - No reduction in viral load after 14 days of treatment
 - No clinical improvement after 14 days of treatment
- **Management of suspected ganciclovir resistance:**
 - Reduce immunosuppression
 - Switch to maribavir or foscarnet (± CMV hyperimmune globulin)

Lurain et al JID 2002; Limaye et al Lancet 2000; Limaye et al JID 2002; Kotton et al Transplantation 2013.

CMV DISEASE AFTER SOT ANTIVIRAL RESISTANCE

Key mutations have been associated with resistance

- UL97 CMV Phosphotransferase gene mutations (most common)

- Imply ganciclovir resistance

Mutations or Deletions	Ganciclovir r200 ^a	Interpretation
W404V/T, V406G, T55 A/G, T55-403 A/G, C319T, R329Q, A330V/G, L335S/V, K339T, G363W, G372D	3-15	High-grade resistance
L403F, E508G, A504L/P/T, E506G, G508R	2-5	Low-grade resistance
V406R, A511V, I595T, N597D, L600I, G605S, C607P	<2	Insignificant grade resistance

^a r200% indicates the percent common; "Varicella zoster" indicates the percent of solid type.

- UL54 CMV DNA Polymerase gene mutations

- May confer resistance to ganciclovir, foscarnet, & cidofovir

Lurain et al JID 2002; Limaye et al Lancet 2000; Limaye et al JID 2002; Kotton et al Transplantation 2013; Torre-Cisneros et al Transplantation Reviews 2016.

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CMV RESISTANCE: NEW DRUG

Maribavir (MBV)

- Multi-modal CMV activity
 - Inhibits CMV DNA replication
 - Interferes with nuclear egress of viral capsid by inhibiting UL97 kinase
- UL97 kinase activates ganciclovir (GCV), thus MBV inhibits GCV activity
 - MBV & GCV should not be used together → ⚠️
- MBV is active against many GCV resistant strains → ⚠️
 - Superior to SOC (Valganciclovir, Foscarnet, or Cidofovir) in HSCT & SOT pts with refractory/resistant CMV infection
 - Cleared CMV viremia & resolved symptoms at 8 weeks
 - FDA approved Nov 2021 for "CMV (with or without genetic mutations that cause resistance) that does not respond to available antiviral treatment."
- No activity against other herpes viruses (HSV/VZV) → ⚠️

Prof. J. Brown G. Antiviral Research 2019; 163:91-105.
Avery RK, et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2021 Dec. Online ahead of print.

CASE 1

- 54 yo male 60 days post-cardiac transplant was treated for rejection with steroids when fever and a non-tender anterior cervical mass appeared.
- Biopsy showed nodal replacement by lymphocytes, many of which stained positively for Epstein-Barr virus as well as for the B cell marker, CD20.
- His plasma EBV viral load was 10,000 copies /ml.

QUESTION #1

The most appropriate treatment for this condition is:

- Cidofovir
- Ganciclovir
- Acyclovir
- Cyclophosphamide
- Rituximab

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EPSTEIN BARR VIRUS: POST TRANSPLANT LYMPHOPROLIFERATIVE DISORDER (PTLD)

EBV transformed B-lymphocytes give rise to PTLN

- A few cases may arise from T-lymphocytes

Risk factors:

- 1st EBV infection
 - Donor seropositive, Recipient seronegative
- Antilymphocytic antibody therapy (T-cell depletion)
- Organ transplanted
 - Intestine > Lung > Heart > Liver > Kidney

EPSTEIN BARR VIRUS POST TRANSPLANT LYMPHOPROLIFERATIVE DISORDER (PTLD)

- ~3% Cumulative 10 year incidence in SOT population
- Incidence varies based on organ transplanted
 - Small Bowel / Multivisceral – up to 32%
 - Lung / Heart / Liver - 3-12%
 - Kidney - 1-2%
- Biphasic pattern of disease after SOT:
 - First peak (20% cases) occurs 1st post-tx year
 - Second peak occurs 7-10 years post-tx

Olagne, J, et al. Am J Transplant. 2011 Jun;11(6):1260-9.

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EPSTEIN BARR VIRUS *POST TRANSPLANT* LYMPHOPROLIFERATIVE DISORDER (PTLD)

Clinical manifestation - wide range

- Febrile mononucleosis-like illness with lymphadenopathy
- Solid tumors
 - Often involve transplanted graft
 - 50% are extranodal masses
 - 25% involve CNS

Definitive diagnosis requires tissue biopsy

- Classification based on histology and clonality
- Molecular (PCR) tests available
 - WHO Standard for Assay Calibration available
 - Whole Blood vs Plasma controversial
 - Misses EBV-negative and some localized cases
- Used as an aid for Diagnosis and Pre-emptive monitoring with stepwise reduction in immunosuppression to reduce PTLD rates

Peltz B et al. *Transplantation*. 2002;73(2):265.
Peters AC, et al. *Transplantation*. 2018; 102(9):1553.

EPSTEIN BARR VIRUS *POST TRANSPLANT* LYMPHOPROLIFERATIVE DISORDER (PTLD)

Treatment:

- Antivirals not effective on latently infected lymphocytes
- Reduce Immunosuppression (Response ~ 45%)
- Rituximab: Anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody (Response ~ 55%)
- Cytotoxic Combination (CHOP, ACVBP) Chemotherapy
 - Reserved for non-responsive disease
 - High treatment associated mortality (13%-50%)
- Adoptive Immunotherapy (EBV cytotoxic T-cells)
 - Under study

Allen et al. *Am J Transplantation* 2013;13:107-120

CASE 2

- 52 yo female S/P cadaveric renal transplant receiving tacrolimus, prednisone and mycophenylate.
- Week 30 post transplant serum creatinine rose from 1.5 to 2.3 mg/dl.
- Tacrolimus levels were in therapeutic range.
- Urinalysis revealed one plus protein and no cells or casts.

QUESTION #2

Which would be most helpful in understanding if BK virus was causing her renal failure?

- A. Presence of decoy cells in urine cytology
- B. Urine BK viral load
- C. Urine culture for BK virus
- D. Plasma BK viral load
- E. Demonstration of BK inclusions in renal tubular epithelium on renal biopsy

QUESTION #2

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POLYOMAVIRUS BK VIRUS NEPHROPATHY

- Ubiquitous, DNA virus
 - 1° infxn – URI during early childhood
 - 80% worldwide population sero+
 - Renal & uroepithelial cells, site of latency
- Cause of nephropathy post renal transplant
 - Up to 15% of renal recipients effected
 - Time to onset 28-40 weeks (majority within 1st yr post tx)
 - Manifests as unexplained renal dysfunction (as does rejection)

Hayashi RY et al. UNOS Database; Abstract 76, 2006 World Transplant Congress; Ramos et al. *J Am Soc Nephrol* 2002;13:2145; Hirsch et al. *Transplantation* 2005;79:1277-1286

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BK VIRUS NEPHROPATHY DIAGNOSIS

- Replication in urine precedes replication in blood precedes nephropathy
- Renal Bx - "Gold Standard" for diagnosis
- Blood PCR
 - Sensitive (100%) but less specific (88%)
 - Cannot rule out rejection
 - Useful as indicator for biopsy
- Urine Cytology, Electronmicroscopy, & PCR
 - Detection in urine: Low PPV but High NPV

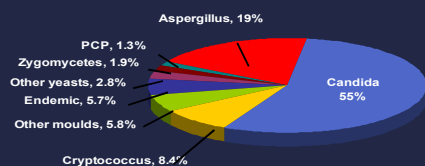
Hirsch et al. Transplantation 2005;79:1277-1286;
Nickoloff et al. NEJM 2000;342(18):1309-1315; Ramos et al. J Am Soc Nephrol 2002;13:2145

BK VIRUS NEPHROPATHY TREATMENT

- Reduce immunosuppression
- Case series with variable success using:
 - Low-dose cidofovir
 - Leflunomide
- New drugs & randomized controlled trials needed
- Preemptive monitoring key to prevention

Hirsch et al. Transplantation 2005;79:1277-1286; Farasati et al. Transplantation 2004;79:116; Vals et al. Transplantation 2003;75:105; Kabambi et al. Am J Transplant 2003;3:186; Williams et al N Engl J Med 2005;352:1157-58.

INVASIVE FUNGAL INFECTIONS IN SOLID ORGAN TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS



Type of fungal infection varied depending on organ transplanted

TRANSPLT data
Data courtesy of P. Pagano, MD.
Pagano P et al. CID 2010;50:1101-1111.

INVASIVE FUNGAL INFECTIONS ACCORDING TO ORGAN TRANSPLANTED N=16,808

	Kidney	Heart	Pancreas	Liver	Lung	Small Bowel
12 Month IFI Incidence (%)	1.3	3.4	4.0	4.7	8.6	11.6
IFI Type (%)						
Candidiasis	49	49	76	68	23	85
Aspergillosis	14	23	5	11	44	0
Other molds	7	10	3	6	26	0
Cryptococcosis	15	10	5	6	2	5
Endemic	10	3	6	5	1	0
Pneumocystosis	1	3	1	0	2	0
Other	4	2	4	4	2	10

Pagano P, Alexander B, Andes D, et al. CID 2010;50:1101-1111

INVASIVE FUNGAL INFECTIONS RISK FACTORS AFTER SOT

Each solid organ group will have unique risks for IFIs

Strongly influenced by medical & surgical factors including technical complexity

Liver

- Re-transplantation
- Pre-tx fulminant hepatic or renal failure
- Heavy *Candida* colonization peri-tx
- Large volume intra-operative transfusions
- Bleeding complications requiring re-operation
- Cholechojejunostomy

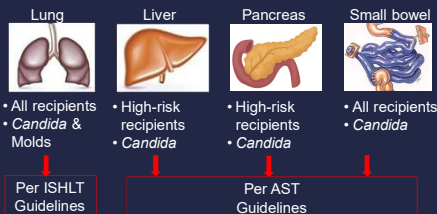
CANDIDA

Lung

- Vulnerable anastomotic site
- Continuous environmental exposure
- *Aspergillus* colonization of airways
- CMV pneumonitis
- Acute rejection
- Obliterative bronchiolitis

ASPERGILLUS

ANTIFUNGAL PROPHYLAXIS FOR SOLID ORGAN TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS



Husain S, et al. J Heart Lung Transpl. 2016;35:361-82; Silveira FR, Kusne, AST ID COP. Am J Transpl. 2013;13:220-27; Singh NM, Husain S, AST ID COP. Am J Transpl. 2013;13:228-41

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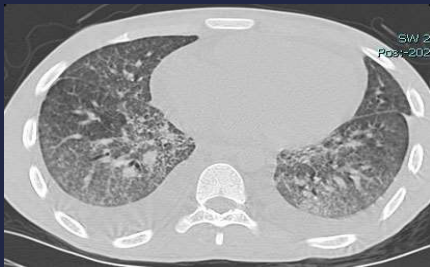
TUBERCULOSIS

- 34-74 fold higher risk of active disease in SOT recipients than general population
- Incidence 1% - 6% (up to 15% in endemic areas)
- Median onset 9 months post-tx (0.5-144 months)
- 33% of infections are disseminated at diagnosis
- Treatment
 - Rifampin-based regimens associated with graft loss/rejection in 25%
- Mortality ~30%
- Treat latent TB prior to transplant when possible

CASE 3

- 35 yo female s/p heart transplant in France 90 days prior presented with fever, dyspnea and a diffuse pneumonia on chest CT.
- She was receiving prednisone, tacrolimus & mycophenolate.
- Both recipient & donor were CMV negative; she was not on CMV prophylaxis.
- She was on inhaled pentamidine for PCP prophylaxis.

CHEST CT



CASE 3

Trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole was started empirically and she began improving.

Bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) was negative for:

- pneumocystis by direct fluorescent antibody stain & PCR,
- fungi by calcofluor white / potassium hydroxide stain,
- mycobacteria by AFB smear,
- bacteria by Gram stain, and
- respiratory viruses by multiplex PCR

Routine bacterial BAL and blood cultures were negative.

QUESTION #3

Assuming trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole was causing her improvement, which additional test on the BAL might have explained her improvement?

- A. PCR for CMV
- B. PCR for toxoplasmosis
- C. PCR for tuberculosis
- D. Galactomannan
- E. Cold enrichment culture for Listeria

QUESTION #3

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TOXOPLASMOSIS

- After SOT, acute toxoplasmosis can develop from reactivation, acquisition via blood transfusion or ingestion of contaminated food or water, or from the donated organ
- Donor seropositive/Recipient seronegative at high risk
- HEART > LIVER > KIDNEY TRANSPLANT
- Presents with myocarditis, pneumonitis & meningitis
- DIAGNOSIS:
 - PCR
 - Giemsa smear of BAL
 - Brain aspirate for tachyzoites
 - Immunoperoxidase stain of endocardial biopsy or other tissue
- TREATMENT: sulfadiazine-pyrimethamine-leucovorin

CASE 4

- Liver transplant recipient on bactrim & valganciclovir prophylaxis presented 21 days post transplant with confusion, tremors, lethargy, anorexia
- Rapid progressive neurologic decline → agitation & delirium → intubation
 - Brain MRI: non-revealing
 - Blood & urine cultures: negative
 - CSF: lymphocytic pleocytosis (25 WBCs/mm³) & elevated protein
 - Gram stain: bacterial, fungal cultures negative for organisms
 - Empiric intravenous ganciclovir, vancomycin, ceftriaxone & ampicillin
 - Day 6 Repeat MRI: diffuse encephalitis
 - Expired 13 days after neurologic symptom onset
 - Donor was previously healthy presenting with subarachnoid hemorrhage
 - Toxicology screen: + cocaine & marijuana
 - Brain CT: expanding subarachnoid hemorrhage
 - Recently on camping trip

QUESTION #4

This presentation is most consistent with:

- A. CMV encephalitis
- B. HHV6 encephalitis
- C. VZV encephalitis
- D. Rabies encephalitis
- E. Cryptococcal meningitis

QUESTION #4

This presentation is most consistent with:

- A. CMV encephalitis
- B. HHV6 encephalitis
- C. VZV encephalitis
- D. Rabies encephalitis
- E. Cryptococcal meningitis


“EXPECTED” DONOR-DERIVED INFECTIONS

➤ Expected = known before tx or for which there are recognized standard prevention guidelines

- Cytomegalovirus (CMV)
- Epstein-Barr virus (EBV)
- Toxoplasmosis

*United Network for Organ Sharing / Organ Procurement and Transplant Network
Ison M et al. Am J Transplant. 2009;9:1929-1935.

“UNEXPECTED” DONOR-DERIVED INFECTIONS VIRUSES, VIRUSES, & PARASITES, OH MY...

- Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus (LCMV)
 - Hamsters and rodents 
 - 4 outbreaks (3 USA, 1 Australia); 9 deaths
- Rabies virus
 - Unreported bat bite in donor 
 - 3 outbreaks (2 USA, 1 Germany); 8 deaths
- Chagas' Disease (Trypanosoma cruzi)
 - Reduviid bug (Latin America) 
 - Screening tests lack sensitivity
 - Multiple transmissions reported
- HIV, Hep C, Hep B, West Nile Virus (WNV)
 - Remember the "Window" prior to development of antibodies
 - Nucleic Acid Tests decrease "window" to ~5-10 days (HIV), 6-9 days (HCV) 

Palmer SA et al. N Engl J Med. 2006;354:2225-2230. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2005;57:799-801. Kozak S et al. Transp. 2002;11:1205-1207. Miller F et al. CID 2010;50:1112-1119. Marmor F et al. Infectious 2007;35(4):219-24. Grossh PA, et al. Am J Transp. 2009;9:519-526.

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TYPICAL PRESENTATIONS OF UNEXPECTED DONOR DERIVED INFECTIONS

- Most present in the first 3 months post transplant

- Look for epidemiologic clues for potential donor exposure in the stem (e.g. possible bat bites, new pet hamsters, tap water nasal irrigations, recent travel to a region endemic for certain pathogens)

PATHOGEN	PRESENTATION
LYMPHO CYTIC CHORIO MENINGITIS VIRUS	ENCEPHALITIS
RABIES	ENCEPHALITIS
TOXOPLASMO SIS	DIFFUSE PNEUMONIA MYOCARDITIS RETINITIS ENCEPHALITIS
WEST NILE VIRUS	MENINGITIS ENCEPHALITIS POLIO MYELITIS-LIKE FLACCID PARALYSIS
CHAGAS' DISEASE	FEVER MYOCARDITIS
ACANTHAMOEBA	SKIN LESION ENCEPHALITIS
BALAMUTHIA MANDRILLARIS	ENCEPHALITIS
VISCERAL LEISHMANIASIS	PANCYTOPENIA HEPATOSPLENOMEGALY
MALARIA	FEVER

VACCINATION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SOT

Update vaccinations pre SOT:

- COVID
- Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Flu, Tdap, Pneumococcal
- Live Varicella, MMR vaccines (≥4 wks pre-tx)
- HiB, Meningococcal if planned splenectomy (e.g. Multivisceral Tx)

Live vaccines are NOT recommended after SOT including:

- Measles Mumps Rubella
- Varicella
- Inhaled influenza
- Oral polio
- Yellow fever
- BCG
- Small pox
- Salmonella typhi (oral)

Recommended post SOT:

(Delay 1 month post-tx; 3–6 months to maximize response)

- COVID
- Pneumococcal
- Tetanus-diphtheria toxoid
- Inactivated Influenza

SOLID ORGAN TRANSPLANT PATIENT TRAVEL

REGIONAL EXPOSURES

- COCCIDIOIDOMYCOSIS: Southwest U.S.
- HISTOPLASMO SIS: Central/Mid-Atlantic U.S.
- VISCERAL LEISHMANIASIS: Spain, Mediterranean Basin
- MALARIA: Tropics
- BABESIA MICROTI: Northeast & Upper Midwest U.S.
- AND ALL THE "NORMAL" RISKS TO TRAVELERS
 - DIARRHEA
 - STIs
 - MDR-TB
 - BLOOD SUPPLY (need for TRANSFUSIONS), etc....
- AVOID LIVE VACCINES: Yellow Fever, Oral typhoid, etc.
- DRUG INTERACTIONS → Transplant meds + travel related prophylactic agents

KEY DRUG TOXICITIES / SYNDROMES

- Calcineurin inhibitors and TTP and PRES (RPLS)
- Sirolimus-induced pneumonitis
 - Progressive interstitial pneumonitis (22% in one study)
 - Risk factors: late switch to sirolimus & impaired renal function
 - Symptoms: dyspnea, dry cough, fever, and fatigue
 - Radiographic & bronchoalveolar lavage consistent with bronchiolitis obliterans organizing pneumonia & lymphocytic alveolitis
 - Recovery with sirolimus withdrawal

Evnrard S et al. N Engl J Med. 2012;367(4):329. Champion L et al. Ann Intern Med. 2006;144:505. Weiner SM et al. Nephrol Dial Transplant. 2007;22(12):3631.

OTHER PEARLS FOR BOARDS...

If you're thinking PCP but its not → think TOXO

Patient presenting atypically during first month post transplant → think donor transmitted infection

- Rabies, WNV, Coccidioides, Chagas, LCMV (look for epidemiologic clues in stem)

Remember drug interactions and syndromes

- Addition of mold active azole leading to acute kidney injury from elevated CNI
- TTP and PRES induced by calcineurin inhibitors
- Sirolimus-induced pneumonitis

Remember *Strongyloides* hyperinfection syndrome

TB- Don't miss a case!

BKV, CMV and EBV/PTLD – know how to diagnose and manage

Thank You!

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