

Psychosocial Needs of Organ Transplant Patients and Care Givers

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- Master of Social Work/Licensed-CMS
- Psychosocial evaluation/selection criteria
- Patient selection committee-MDT
- Waitlist-ongoing pre issues
- Transplant admission/hospitalization/discharge
- Transplant clinic acute/long term
- Counseling, Case Work, Group Work

Major Categories of Problems Addressed (NASW/NKF)

- Adjustment to Chronic Illness and Treatment as they relate to QOL
- Physical, sexual, and emotional relationship problems
- Educational, vocational, and ADL problems
- Crisis and chronic problem solving
- Problems related to treatment options
- Resource needs
- Advanced directives
- Counseling, Case Work, Group Work,

Transplant Resources

- Uninsured
- Private Insurance
- Medicare
 - Traditional FFS
 - HMO/PPO
 - Supplement
- Medicaid
- Veteran' s Administration/Tri Care
- Indian Health Services
 - Tribal Services

Psychosocial Aspects of the Organ Transplant Experience

- Broad conclusions from meta analyses
 - QOL improved for physical functioning, daily activities and social functioning
 - QOL inconsistent for psychological health
 - QOL varies by type of transplant
 - Renal recipients had better overall QOL outcome than heart recipients
 - Many psychosocial problems remain for some patients
- Engle, D., 2(2001) Psychosocial aspects of the organ transplant experience: what has been established and what is needed for the future. Journal of Clinical Psychology, 57(4), 521-549.

The Patient Experience Post-Transplant

- Anxiety at discharge
 - Medication side effects
 - Family adjustment to wellness
 - Organ rejection and compliance
 - Financial costs
 - Rehabilitation and return to work
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- Engle, D., 2(2001) Psychosocial aspects of the organ transplant experience: what has been established and what is needed for the future. Journal of Clinical Psychology, 57(4), 521-549.

Difficulties Returning to Work

- Goal of transplant to return patient to normal functioning
- Physical health, mental and emotional well-being, and social functioning
- Social functioning and psychological well-being includes return to productive employment
- Engle, D., 2(2001) Psychosocial aspects of the organ transplant experience: what has been established and what is needed for the future. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 57(4), 521-549.

Factors Associated with Return to Work

- Physically able to work
- No loss of health insurance
- Longer length of time after transplant
- Education level > 12 years
- No loss of disability income
- Shorter length of disability before transplant

Paris, W., et al, (1993). Returning to work after heart transplantation. Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation, 12(1 Pt 1), 46-53, discussion 53-54.

Returning to Work

- Age
- Length of disability before transplant
- Control over working conditions
- Type of health insurance including cost of medication

Meister, N., et al, (1986). Returning to work after heart transplantation. Journal of Heart Transplantation, 5(2), 154-161

Returning to Work

- Returned to work 32%
- Retired 25%
- Medically disabled 7.5%
- Insurance disabled 35%

Meister, N., et al, (1986). Returning to work after heart transplantation.
Journal of Heart Transplantation, 5(2), 154-161

Returning to Work Following Renal Transplant

- 57% of patients not working
- Employed and unemployed patients 90% covered by Medicare and /or Medicaid
- 67% of patients with Medicaid reported that decision not to work related to fear of losing benefits and could not afford immunosuppressive medications without it

Markell, M.S. et al, (1997). Unemployment in inner-city renal transplant recipients: Predictive and sociodemographic factors. American Journal of Kidney Disease, 29(6), 881-887.

Swiss Transplant Consortium 2018

- Kidney, liver, heart, lung
- 49.8% employed 12 months post tx
- Major predictor pre-tx employment status
- Stratified pre-tx employed vs not employed
 - Age
 - Self perceived health at 6 months post-tx
 - Transplanted organ

Swiss Transplant Consortium 2018

- RTW influenced by
 - Education level
 - Depression at 6 months post-tx
 - Wait time in employed group pre-tx
 - Disability income in not employed group pre-tx

Vieux, L., Simcox, A.A., Mediouni, Z. et al. Predictors of Return to Work 12 Months After Solid Organ Transplantation: Results from the Swiss Transplant Cohort Study. J Occup Rehabil 29, 462–471 (2019)

Thank You