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Supplementary Material

COVID-19 and Kidney Transplantation: an Italian Survey and Consensus

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Gianluigi Zaza, MD, PhD Renal Unit, Department of Medicine, University-Hospital of Verona, Piazzale A Stefani 1, 37126, Verona (VR), Italy Tel. 045.8122528; Fax 045.8027311 E mail: gianluigi.zaza@univr.it Statements not reaching statistical significance (see also Table 3):

- 1. During COVID-19 pandemic, local graft allocation should be preferred to reduce migration of patients from areas of low-incidence to areas of high-incidence of infection.
- 2. During COVID-19 pandemic, graft shipping from areas of high-incidence to areas of low-incidence of infection should be preferred to migration of patients from areas of low-incidence to areas of high-incidence of infection.
- 3. During COVID-19 pandemic, asymptomatic patients with positive nasopharyngeal swabs should receive antibiotic prophylaxis.
- 4. During COVID-19 pandemic, modification of ACE-inhibitors based antihypertensive therapy should be considered in symptomatic kidney transplant recipients with positive nasopharyngeal swabs.

The first two statements did not reach agreement because, as reported by the comment of participants to the consensus, the logistical and ethical challenges related to a change either in the allocation system or in the migration of patients towards transplant centers where they were not referred to nor listed in, seemed difficult to be applied on a large scale, whereas this decision should be taken in a case-by-case fashion.

The third statement did not reach agreement because in a large number of transplant centers, the utilization of antibiotic prophylaxis in viral infections is not part of a standardized therapeutic approach for kidney transplant recipients.

The fourth statement did not reach agreement because, although some reports suggest a role of the interaction between the SARS viruses and ACE2 as a potential factor in their infectivity, and propose the discontinuation of ACE inhibitors and angiotensin-receptor blockers (ARBs), data in humans were considered too limited to support or refute these hypotheses and concerns (1).

REFERENCE:

1. Vaduganathan M, Vardeny O, Michel T et al. Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System Inhibitors in Patients with Covid-19. N Engl J Med 2020 Apr 23; 382:1653-1659.