

**Harvard Medical School Department of
Continuing Education and the Renal Division
of Brigham and Women's Hospital**



Nephrology Rounds
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The Highly Sensitized Renal Transplant Recipient

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Objectives:

This issue of *Nephrology Rounds* will allow the reader to:

- Identify sensitized patients who have developed antibodies against human leukocyte antigens (HLA).
- Understand recent advances that have made kidney transplantation possible in these patients through a decrease in antibody production.
- Define the immunologic features of sensitized patients.
- Describe the methods of detecting alloantibodies and the current desensitization protocols.
- Review the clinical outcomes in a sensitized renal transplant recipient.

Questions:

1. A positive complement dependent cytotoxicity (CDC) is an absolute contraindication for transplantation.

True False

2. Woman with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) are disproportionately sensitized compared to men.

True False

3. Patients become sensitized to human leukocyte antigens (HLA) through blood transfusions, previous transplants, or pregnancies.

True False

4. Current desensitization approaches include intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIg), plasmapheresis (PP), and rituximab or a combination of these.

True False

5. Donor specific antibody (DSA) activity may result in allograft injury through a variety of mechanisms, including both complement-dependent and independent.

True False

6. IVIg inhibits complement binding and B-cell activation only.

True False

7. Rituximab is an anti-complement of differentiation (CD)20 antibody that inhibits B-cell proliferation.

True False

8. Antibody-mediated rejection (AMR) is a T-cell mediated process.

True False

9. The higher the panel reactive antibody (PRA), the higher the incidence of long-term graft loss.

True False

10. The major mechanism by which PP works is by rapid reduction of anti-HLA antibodies.

True False

11. This issue of *Nephrology Rounds* adequately addressed the topic, and the data and discussion were fair and balanced.

AGREE DISAGREE

12. Potential conflicts of interest disclosed by the author on the back page were properly expressed.

AGREE DISAGREE

13. The information presented in this issue of *Nephrology Rounds* will increase my clinical knowledge and improve the care of my patients.

AGREE DISAGREE

14. *Nephrology Rounds* from Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School is an effective CME program.

AGREE DISAGREE

Comments/Topic Suggestions: _____

To receive AMA category 1 credit, you must correctly answer 60% of questions 1-10, and answer 11-14.

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