

Long-term outcome post-LTx in adults

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UEG Week Berlin 2025

Presentation

Hepatobiliary

Surgery

October 6, 2025

Liver transplantation outcomes have improved across aetiologies including alcohol-related disease, MASLD, and viral hepatitis, with expanding oncologic indications, though long-term follow-up requires attention to metabolic and cardiovascular complications.

KEY POINTS

- For severe alcohol-related hepatitis, the speaker reported that early transplantation achieved 72% two-year survival compared to 24% in non-transplanted patients, and Italian pilot data showed 100% three-year survival with acceptable relapse rates.
- In MASLD recipients, the speaker stated that 50% developed full metabolic syndrome within two years post-transplant, with cardiovascular events occurring primarily in the first month and one-third progressing to chronic kidney disease.
- An Italian HBV study reported very low viral recurrence rates (2-3%) with prophylaxis, though HCC patients experiencing HBV recurrence showed worse survival outcomes.
- For perihilar cholangiocarcinoma on PSC, the speaker cited 67% ten-year survival and 22% five-year recurrence, while colorectal liver metastasis transplantation showed clear survival benefit over chemotherapy alone in intention-to-treat analysis.
- The speaker noted that protocol liver biopsies are no longer performed routinely and should be reserved only for immune-mediated liver disease, autoimmune hepatitis, or suspected rejection.
- In discussion, the speaker acknowledged that long-term post-transplant follow-up faces challenges from lack of human resources and difficulty coordinating with general practitioners, despite patients requesting more time for lifestyle counseling.

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