

Relationship Between Post Kidney Transplantation Antithymocyte Globuline Therapy and Wound Healing Complications

Introduction and Objectives: Wound healing disorders are probably the most common of post transplantation surgical complications. It is thought that wound healing disturbance occurs due to drug's antiproliferative effects and immunosuppressive drugs. On the other hand success of transplantation is dependent on immunosuppressive therapies. Antihuman thymocyte globulin (ATG) has been widely used as induction therapy but the impact of this therapy on wound healing disturbance is not fully understood. The present study investigates wound complications according to ATG receipt among renal transplant patients.

Materials and Methods: In this study the medical records of 333 kidney transplant patients were assessed for wound healing disorders. Among these 333 patients, 92 patients received ATG and the rest of the patients were considered as Non-ATG group. ATG group received 5 doses of 1.5 mg/kg ATG along with the standard protocol of the drugs.

Results: Mean age of patients was 38.9 years. 92 out of 333 (23.7%) patients received ATG. 21 (6.3%) patients developed wound healing complications. There was a significant relationship between ATG therapy and wound complications ($P=0.034$). Also there was a significant difference in wound complications between both genders ($P=0.002$). No statistical difference was observed between age and wound healing complication ($P=0.28$). There was no significant difference between mean duration of hospitalization between ATG and Non-ATG group ($P=0.9$).

Conclusion: We concluded that ATG increases the risk of overall wound complications and in order to avoid the risk of reinterventions and impairment of graft function it is needed to pay more attention to the patients treated with this immunosuppressant.