

Assessment of Psychosocial Factors Affecting Organ Transplantation

Objectives

- Review the background infrastructure for management of organ transplantation in the United States
- Understand some of the health disparities affecting people in need of organ transplants
- Discuss validated assessments used for pretransplant psychosocial evaluation

Background

Solid Organ Transplantation

- The Organ Procurement and Transplant Network (OPTN) is a national system that links Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs), transplant centers, and histocompatibility laboratories
 - Administered by the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS)
 - Manages the national transplant waiting list and works with OPOs to match donors with recipients
- Expected waiting periods for new transplant candidates:
 - Kidney: 5 years
 - Liver: 11 months
 - Heart: 4 months
 - Lung: 4 months
 - Pancreas: 2 years
 - Kidney/pancreas: 1.5 years