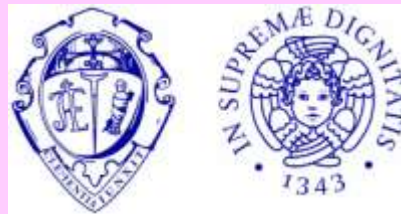




# Nuovi farmaci nella gestione del trapianto renale

M.Francesca Egidi

*Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria Pisana*



# Nuovi farmaci nella gestione del trapianto renale

- La terapia immunosoppressiva dopo trapianto d'organo e' un problema molto complesso
- Negli ultimi 50 anni, sono stati fatti incredibili progressi nel trattamento e nella cura dei pazienti con migliorata sopravvivenza del paziente e dell'organo trapiantato
- Tuttavia gli effetti collaterali ed i rischi correlati alla terapia immunosoppressiva a lungo-termine, **richiedono una personalizzazione del trattamento per rispondere alle caratteristiche individuali**



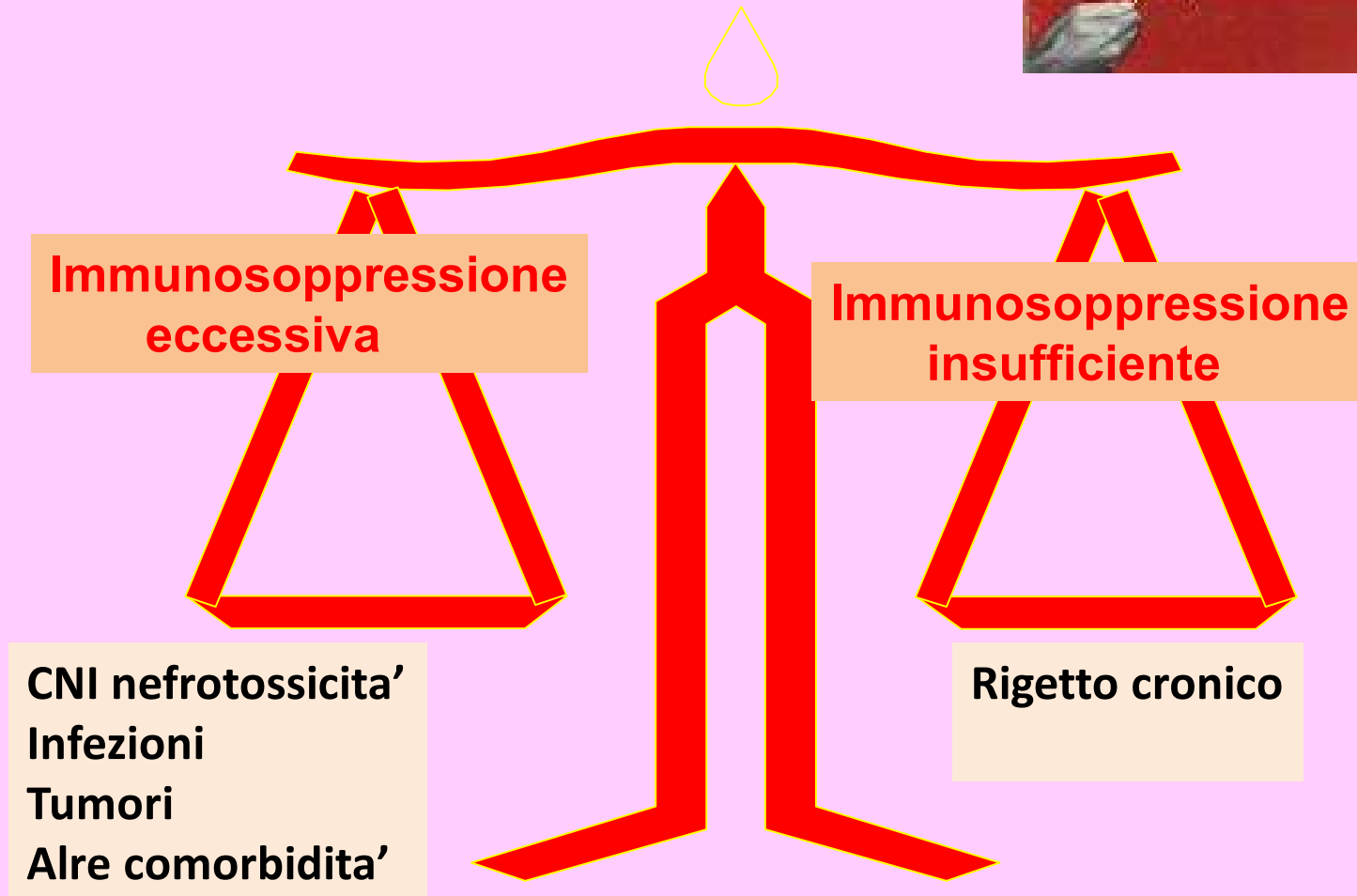
## **Immunosoppressione convenzionale :**

- Ottimi risultati a breve termine
- Mancanza di risultati soddisfacenti a lungo termine



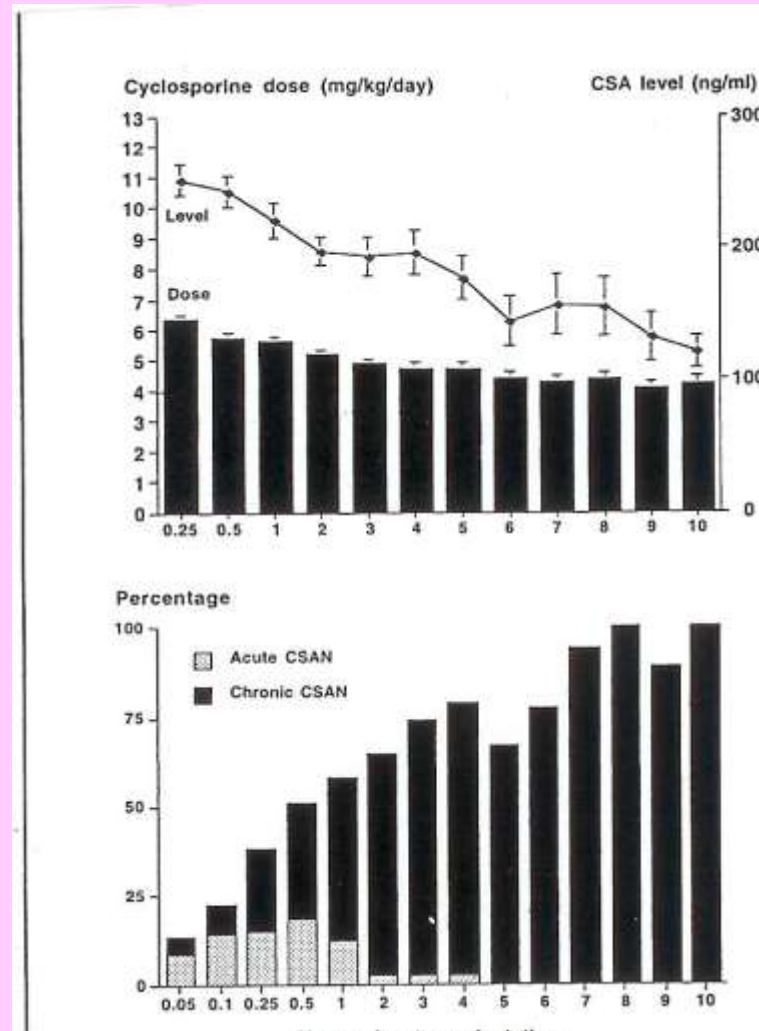
**Strategie per prolungare la sopravvivenza  
del rene trapiantato**

# Immunosoppressione adeguata ed appropriata: rischi e benefici



# Calcineurin Inhibitor Nephrotoxicity: Longitudinal Assessment by Protocol Histology

*Nankivell BJ et al. Transplantation 78: 557-65, 2004*



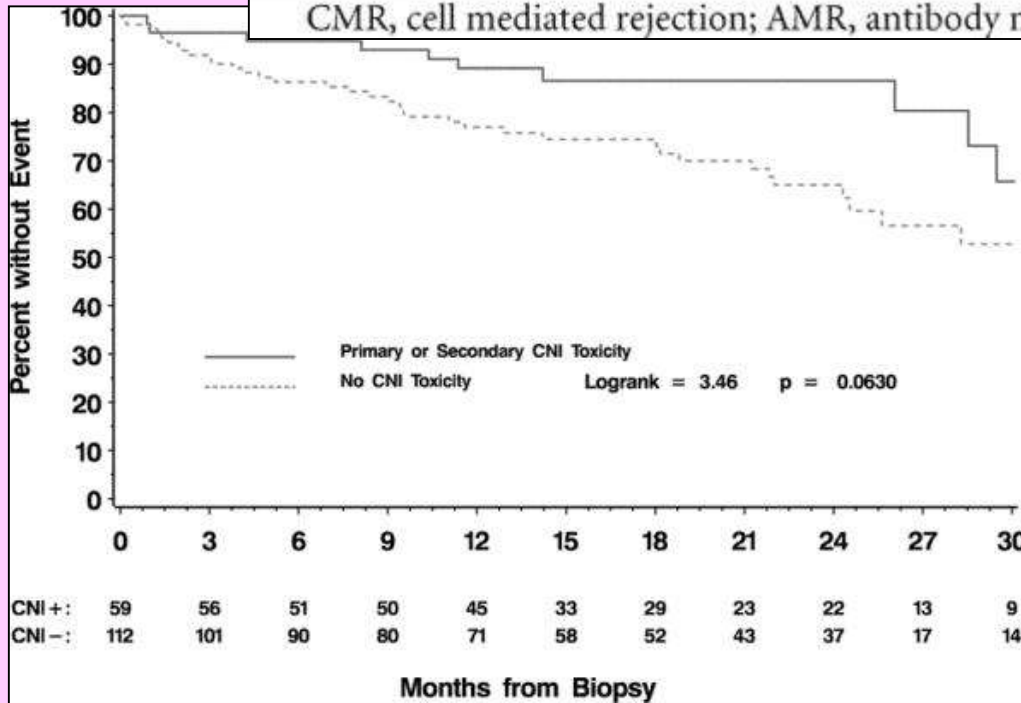
# Evidence for Antibody-Mediated Injury as a Major Determinant of Late Kidney Allograft Failure

*Gaston R. et al. Transplantation 90(1):68-74, 2010*

**TABLE 2.** Local primary and secondary diagnoses at entry biopsy, by % of patients with each diagnosis

Chronic allograft nephropathy	49%
Calcineurin inhibitor nephrotoxicity	35%
Acute rejection (CMR and AMR)	27%
Other (e.g., pyelonephritis)	23%
Transplant glomerulopathy	21%
Recurrent disease	9%

CMR, cell mediated rejection; AMR, antibody mediated rejection.



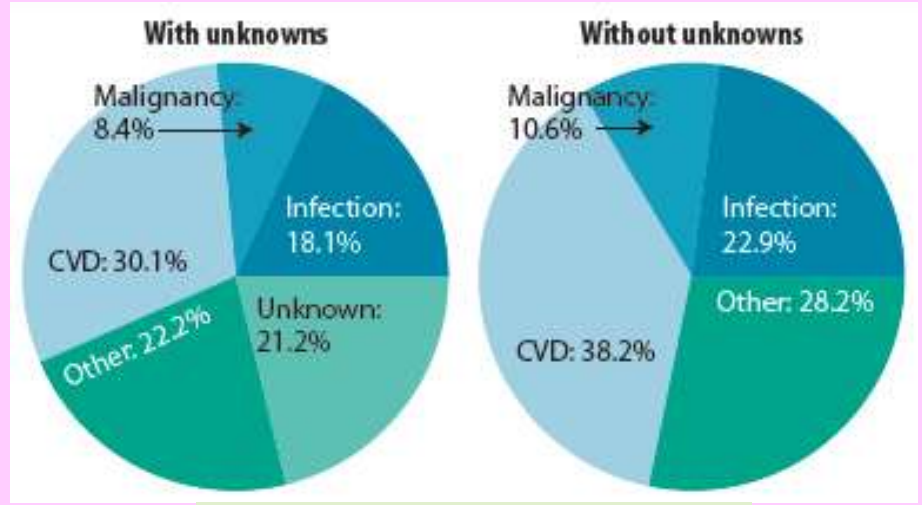
Kaplan-Meier analysis of the impact of primary or secondary local diagnosis of calcineurin inhibitor (CNI) nephrotoxicity on kidney allograft survival after for-cause biopsy.

# Sopravvivenza del rene trapiantato e' multifattoriale

Causes of late Kidney Allograft Loss

**50% Death with graft function**

**50% Chronic allograft failure**



Causes of death with functioning graft patients age 18 & older, 1997–2006 combined

Alloantigen dependent

40-80%

Alloantigen independent

20-40%

- Acute rejection
- Histocompatibility mismatch
- Suboptimal immunosup.
- Prior sensitization
- Medication noncompliance
- Ongoing humoral injury

- Brain death cytokine release
- Ischemic injury and DGF
- CNI nephrotoxicity
- Older donor age
- Hypertension
- Hyperlipidemia
- Proteinuria
- Infection

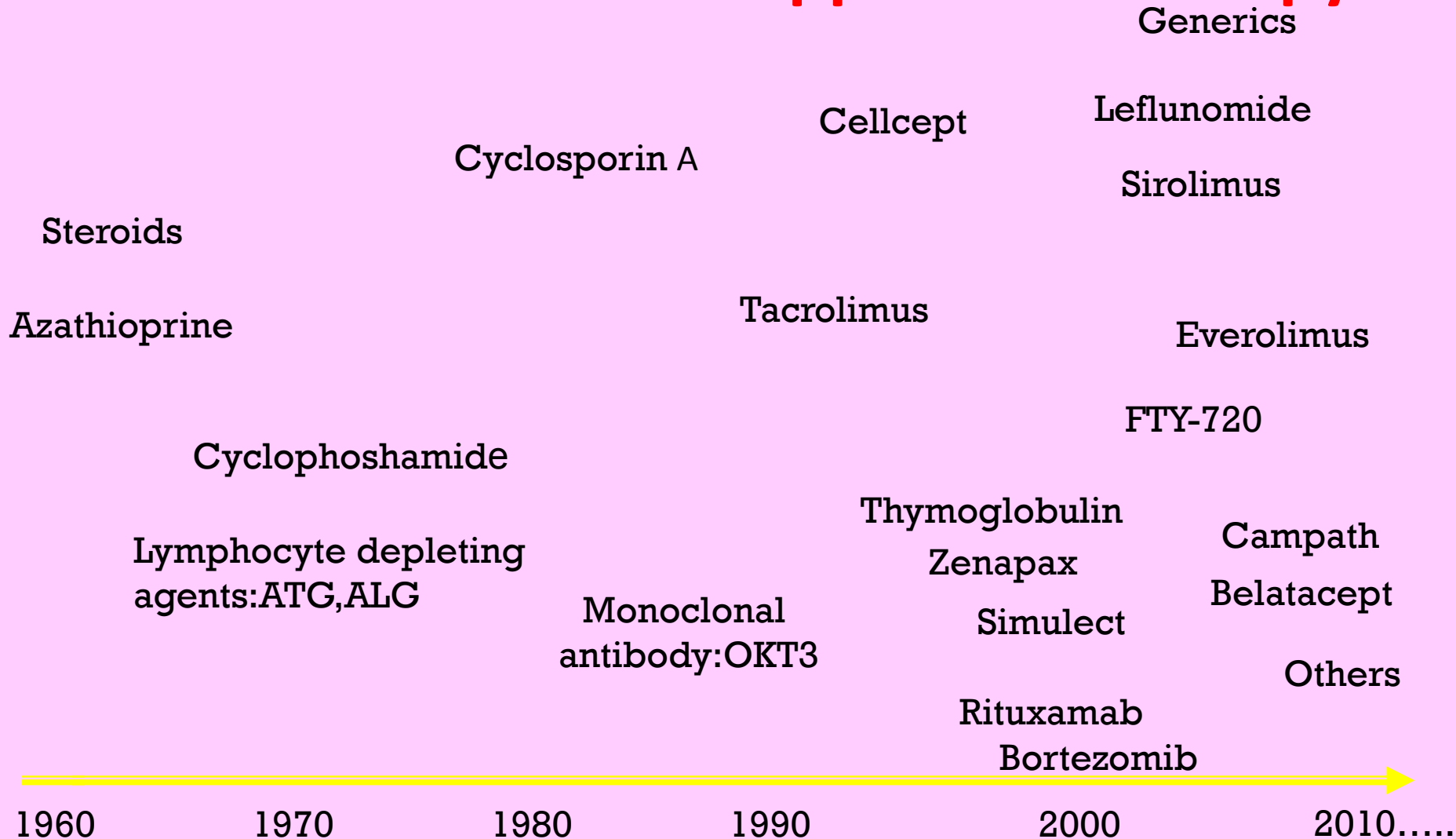
- Drugs toxicity
- Recurrent disease
- New disease

# History of Immunosuppressive Therapy

- 1959- “Total body radiation” con trapianto tra gemelli eterozigoti. Sopravvivenza >20 anni: J.Murray, J. Hamburger
- Mercaptopurina prolunga la sopravvivenza nel trapianto di cane :R.Calne, C. Zukwoski , Inghilterra
- 1961- Impiego dell’Azatioprina nell’uomo: J.Murray (Nobel 1990)
- 1983- Ciclosporina A viene approvata come immunosoppressore nell’uomo



# Evolution of Immunosuppressive Therapy



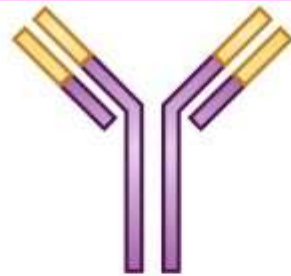
# Anticorpi Monoclonali



**Mouse**

(-momab)

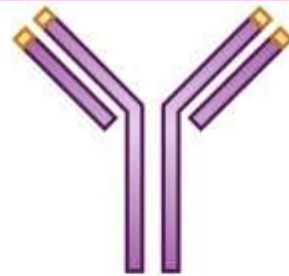
100% murine



**Chimera**

(-ximab)

75% human  
25% murine



**Humanized**

(-zumab)

95% human  
5% murine



**Human**

(-umab)

100% human



# Growing Shortage for Organ Supply

## Deceased donors:

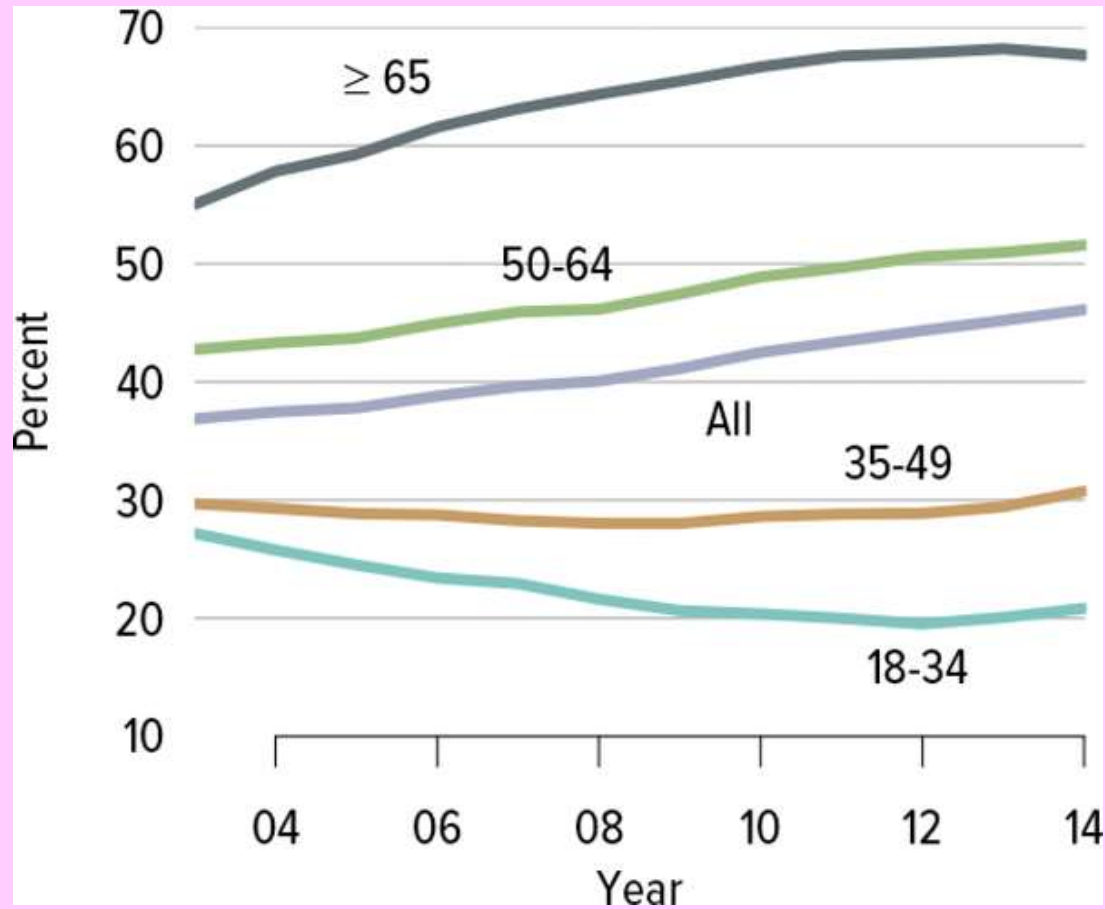
- Expanded Criteria Donor Kidneys (ECD)
- Non heart beating donors (NHBD)= Donation after circulatory death (DCD)
- Dual kidneys

Living Donors

Immunological barriers

Which is the appropriate IS?

# Adults willing to accept an ECD kidney, by age



# Subgroups with significant survival benefits after ECD transplantation

Patients older than 40 yr

Long median waiting time (> 4 yr)

Patients with diabetes or hypertension

Dialysis patients with vascular access problems

Dialysis patients whose life expectancy in dialysis is lower than the estimated waiting time for kidney transplantation

# Expanded criteria donor kidney transplantation:

## Maximizing benefits

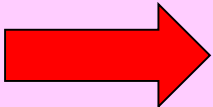
Modifying allocation rules for ECD kidneys in an effort to match the appropriate kidney to the appropriate recipient

Minimizing risk factors for DGF: Lowering CIT, pulsatile perfusion preservation

Preimplantation renal biopsy for ECD kidney recipients

Simultaneous dual ECD kidney transplantation

 Restricting the use of ECD kidneys to patients of low immunological risk

 Applying individualized immunosuppressive regimens

# Fasi e Ruoli

## Terapia Immunosoppressiva

- Induzione

- Mantenimento

- Trattamento rigetto acuto

Prevenzione e trattamento

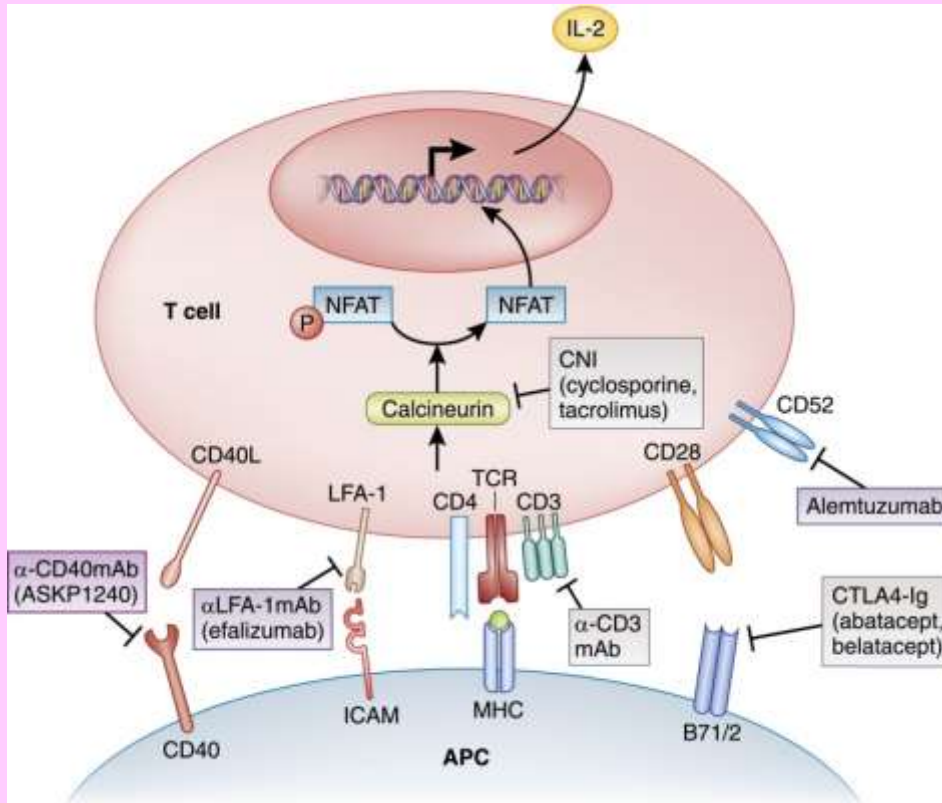
- rigetto cronico  
(anticorpo mediato)

- CAI

(Chronic allograft injury)

# T Cell-Directed Therapy

- Agent targeting signal 1  
Interaction of T cell receptor (TCR )  
with antigen presenting cell (APC)



Calcineurin Inhibitors:  
**Cyclosporine\***  
**Tacrolimus\***

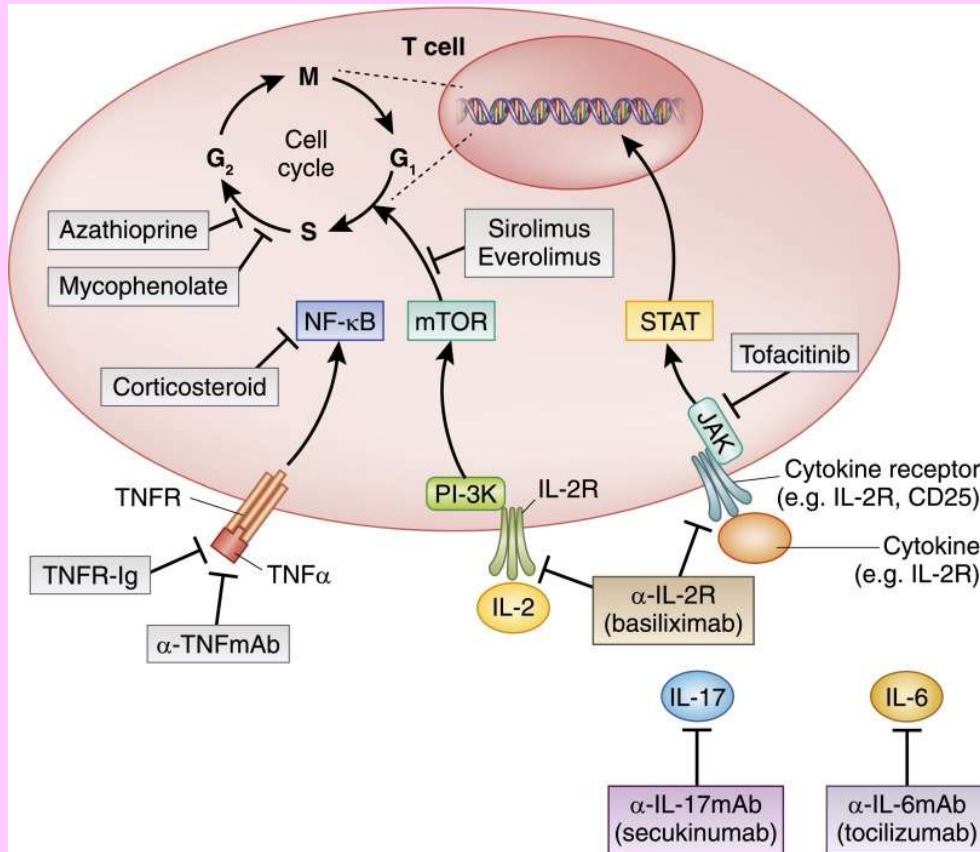
- Agent targeting signal 2  
Costimulation by additional T cell/APC

Abatacept  
**Belatacept\***  
Anti-CD40 mAb

**\*Maintenance IS**



# Antiproliferative agents



mTOR inhibitors  
**Sirolimus\***  
**Everolimus\***

# Antimetabolite agents

Azathioprine  
**Mycophenolate\***  
Leflunomide

**\*Maintenance IS**

# B Cell-Directed Therapy

Inhibition of:  
 humoral response to auto-or alloantigen  
 APC function  
 B/T cell interaction  
 Plasma Cell function (Ab production)

Anti –CD20 targeting:

**Rituximab\***

Ocrelizumab

Ofatumumab

Anti-CD22 targeting:

Epratuzumab

Plasma Cell targeting:

**Bortezomib\***

B Cell differentiation:

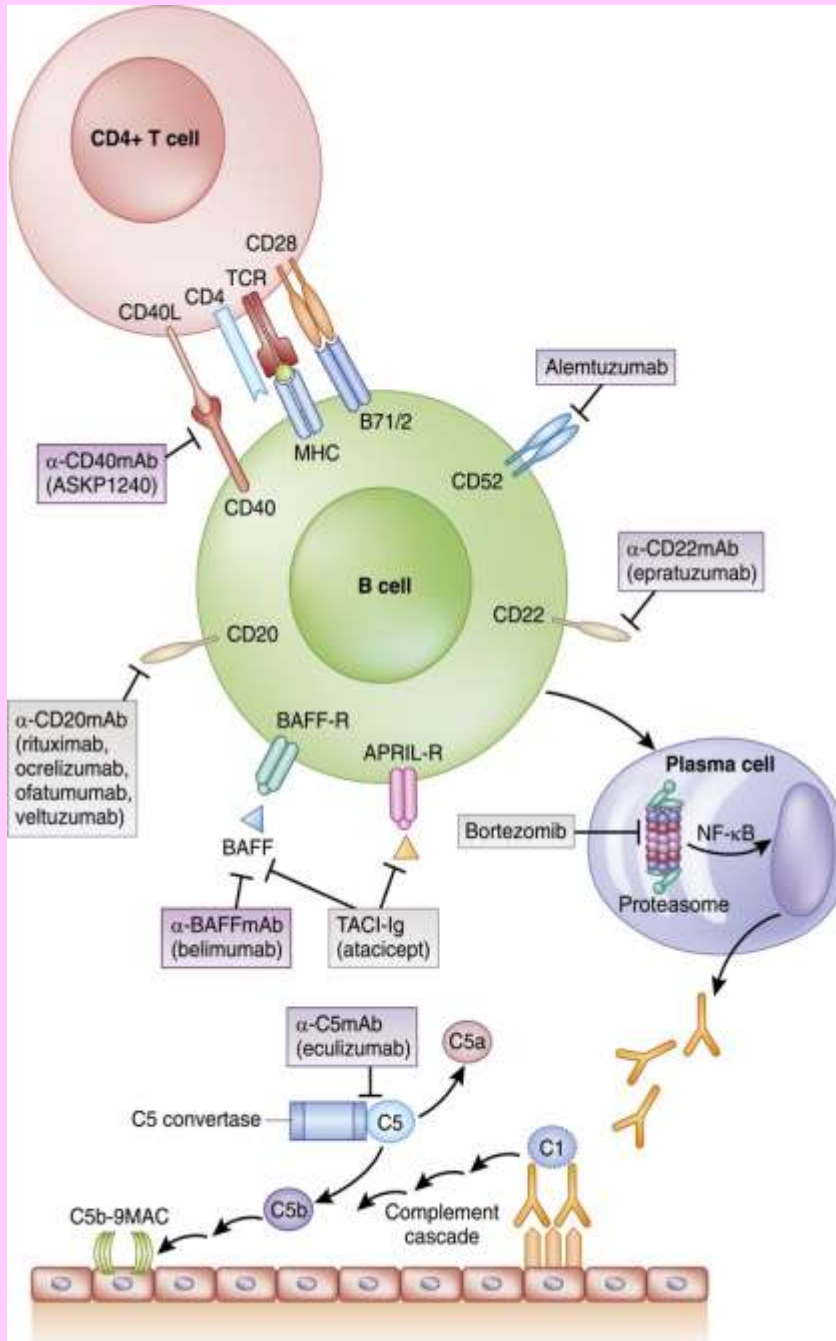
targeting:

Belimumab

Atacicept

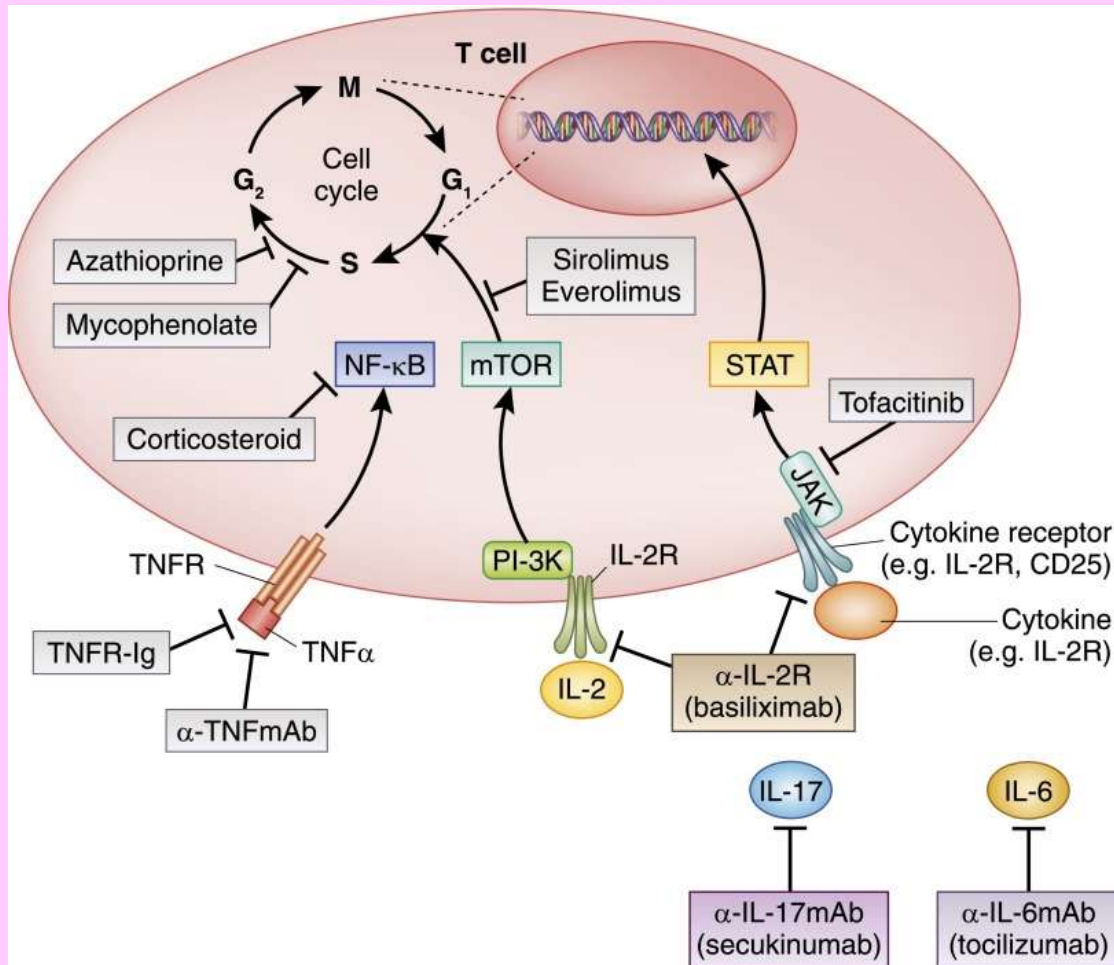
Complement Inhibition:

**Eculizumab\***



**\*-Desensitization protocols**  
**- Ab mediated rejection**  
**-DSA removal**

# Agents targeting cytokines



Janus Kinase Inhibition  
(Tofacitinib)  
IL-2 receptor antagonist  
**Basiliximab\***  
Anti TNF-α  
IL-1, 6, 17

**\*Induction agents**

# “Induction” Agents

Campath-1H

Rituximab

Basiliximab

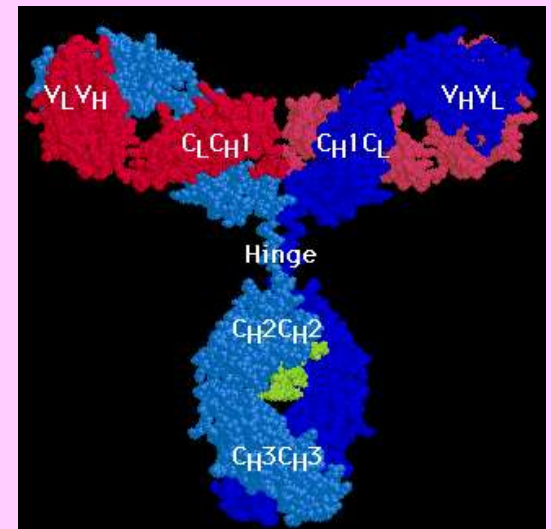
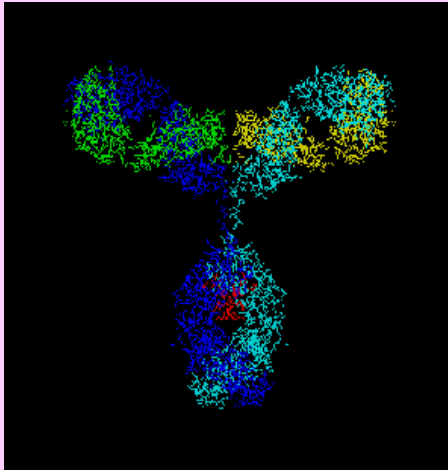
Daclizumab

Thymoglobulin

OKT3

MALG

ATGAM



# Thymoglobulin: Benefits

- Decrease and delay onset of acute rejection
- Delay introduction of calcineurin inhibitors
- Useful in high risk population/ situations such as delayed graft function
- Predictable suppression of T cells
- Repeat courses possible
- New Clinical Trends:
  - Pre-transplant administration/Role in the ischemia-reperfusion injury
  - Desensitization protocol
  - Impact on *de novo* DSA
  - Tolerance induction

## Pros and Cons of Depleting and Nondepleting Antibodies

Depleting Antibodies	Nondepleting antibodies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rejection rare during use</li><li>• Calcineurin inhibitors can be used sequentially (ie, delayed)</li><li>• Acute side effects with administration</li><li>• Associated with increased infection and malignancy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rejection occurs during use</li><li>• Calcineurin inhibitors should not be delayed</li><li>• No acute side effects</li><li>• Very safe, not associated with complications of over-immunosuppression</li></ul>

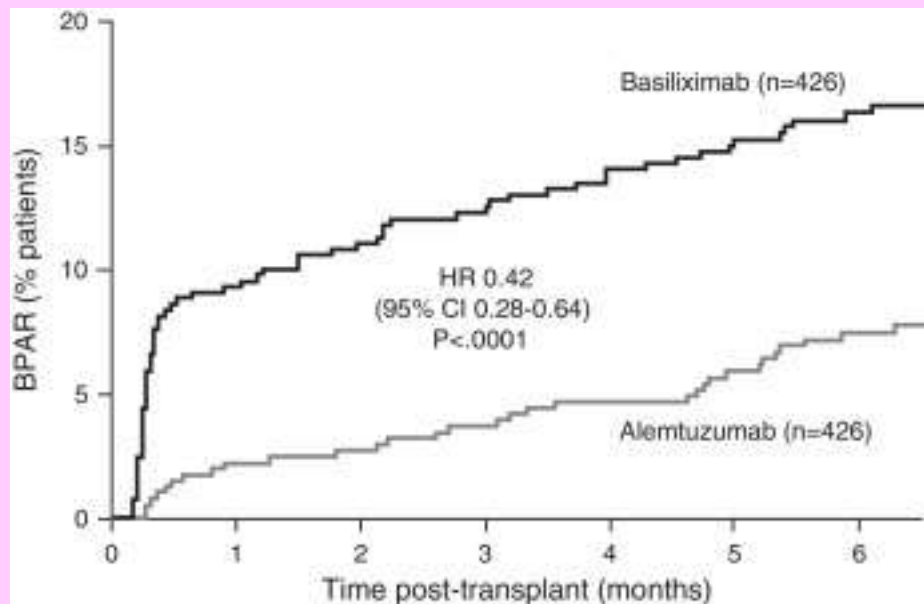
# Induction therapy should be individualized based on immunologic and nonimmunologic risk factors

- The majority of patients can be induced by anti-IL-2R antagonist mAbs
- T-cells depleting agents should be considered for
  - Sensitized patients (PRA, DSA, retransplants)
  - Patients with DGF
  - African-American young recipients
  - Patients who will receive sparing regimens

# CAMPATH-1H

- Humanized anti-CD 52 antibody
- Lympholytic antibody against both T and B cells
- Risk of cytokine release syndrome, prevented with intra-operative methylprednisolone





Incidence of biopsy-proven acute rejection (BPAR) in 852 unselected kidney transplant patients randomized to alemtuzumab induction with low-exposure tacrolimus, low-dose mycophenolic acid and no steroids, or to basiliximab induction with standard tacrolimus

***Lymphocyte-depleting induction and steroid minimization after kidney transplantation: A review***  
***Naesens M et al. Nefrologia 2016***

# “Maintenance” Agents



FTY720

Everolimus

Mycophenolate sodium

Sirolimus

Generic cyclosporine

Mycophenolate Mofetil

Microemulsion CsA

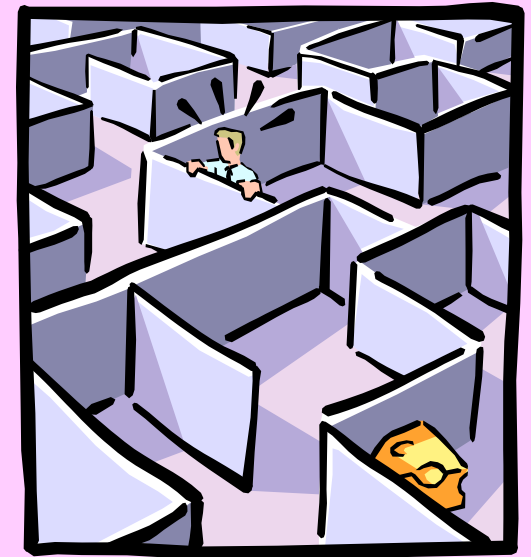
Tacrolimus

Cyclosporine

Azathioprine

Cyclophosphamide

Corticosteroids



# Corticosteroids

❑ Cornerstone of immunosuppression since the earliest days of clinical transplantation

❑ Precise mechanisms of action are unknown

Inhibit function of dendritic cells

Inhibit translocation to nucleus to NF- $\kappa$ B

Promote lymphocyte death by apoptosis

Suppress production of IL-1,2,3,6 , TNF- $\alpha$ ,  $\gamma$ -IFN

Inhibit expression of adhesion molecule

Reduce inflammatory cell migration

# Corticosteroids

- ❑ Steroid-sparing strategies have been attempted in recent decades to avoid morbidity from long-term steroid intake among kidney transplant recipients
- ❑ Most protocols use low dose prednisone indefinitely
- ❑ Steroid-free maintenance immunosuppression protocols
- ❑ **Challenge:**
  - to identify the subset of KTX recipients who may not benefit from steroid- free regimen
  - to identify the subset of KTX who may benefit from steroid –free regimen

# Corticosteroid Withdrawal

Initial randomized studies showed that complete withdrawal of CS from an immunosuppressive regimen including CsA led to increases in acute rejection and the relative risk for graft failure

*Hricik DE et al. JASN 1993;4:1300*

*Schulak JA et al. Clin Transplant. 1994;8: 211*

*Ahsan et al. Transplantation 1999;68:1865*

*Luan F et al. Kidney Int. (2009), 76, 825-830*

# **Steroid avoidance or withdrawal for kidney transplant recipients.**

[Haller M et al. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2016](#)

## **OBJECTIVES:**

To evaluate the benefits and harms of steroid withdrawal or avoidance for kidney transplant recipients.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA:**

All randomized and quasi-randomized controlled trials (RCTs) in which steroids were avoided or withdrawn at any time point after kidney transplantation were included.



Studies awaiting assessment: 1 (1 report)

### 2016 review update

Included studies: 48 (224 reports, 7803 participants)

- Adult kidney transplant recipients: 45 studies (213 reports, 7457 participants)
- Child kidney transplant recipients: 3 studies (11 reports, 346 participants)

### Comparisons

- Steroid withdrawal versus maintenance: 26 studies (4022 participants)
- Steroid avoidance versus maintenance: 19 studies (3401 participants)
- Steroid withdrawal versus steroid avoidance: 3 studies (380 participants)

### Outcomes reported

- All-cause mortality: 34 studies (3771 participants)
- Graft loss: 31 studies (3424 participants)
- Acute rejection: 23 studies (3012 participants)
- Biopsy-proven acute rejection: 18 studies (2629 participants)
- Infection: 19 studies (4026 participants)
- CMV infection: 13 studies (3496 participants)
- New-onset diabetes after transplantation: 18 studies (3408 participants)
- Cardiovascular events: 6 studies (1620 participants)
- Malignancy: 12 studies (2613 participants)
- Serum creatinine: 16 studies (1467 participants)
- Creatinine clearance: 16 studies (2019 participants)

# Conclusions

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

22 AUG 2016

- No significant difference in patient mortality in studies comparing steroid withdrawal vs maintenance
- No significant difference in graft loss @1 year after TX
- Increased risk for acute rejection in patients treated with steroid for less than 14 days after TX and for patients who were withdrawn from steroid @any later time point after TX





# Steroids : Yes/Not?

- ↑risk for acute rejection
- Probable less risk for acute rejection with TAC, MMF, T-cell depleting agents (Thymoglobulin, Alemtusumab)
- Steroid avoidance may be inadvisable in pts with high immunological risk or at risk of recurrent glomerular disease (patients with autoimmune diseases?)
- Better to avoid steroid for <1 week rather than later W/D (↑risk for rej. if steroid discontinued after 8 days?)
- Rapid steroid W/D → less risk for several complications (cataract, vascular necrosis, CMV etc.).
- CV benefits are not completely established  
Positive effects for lipid profile, weight gain, NODAT



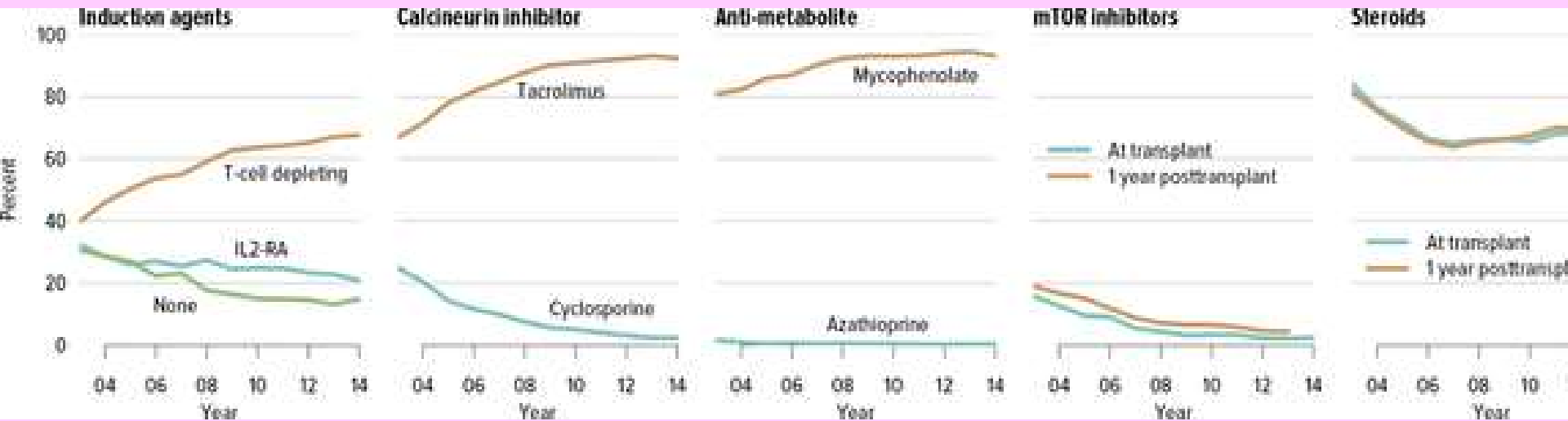
# Steroids : Yes/Not?

- ↑ risk for *de novo* DSA (probably not with Thymo induction?)
- Role of protocol biopsies (↑fibrosis?)
- CNl and steroid free regimens  
Belatacept+MMF, Belatacept +Sirolimus

# Conventional Immunosuppressive Protocols

1. Cyclosporine/MMF/Steroids
2. Tacrolimus/MMF/Steroids
3. Cyclosporine/Sirolimus/Steroids
4. Tacrolimus/Sirolimus/Steroids
5. Cyclosporine/Everolimus/Steroids
6. Tacrolimus/Everolimus/Steroids
7. Sirolimus/MMF/Steroids
8. Everolimus/MMF/Steroids

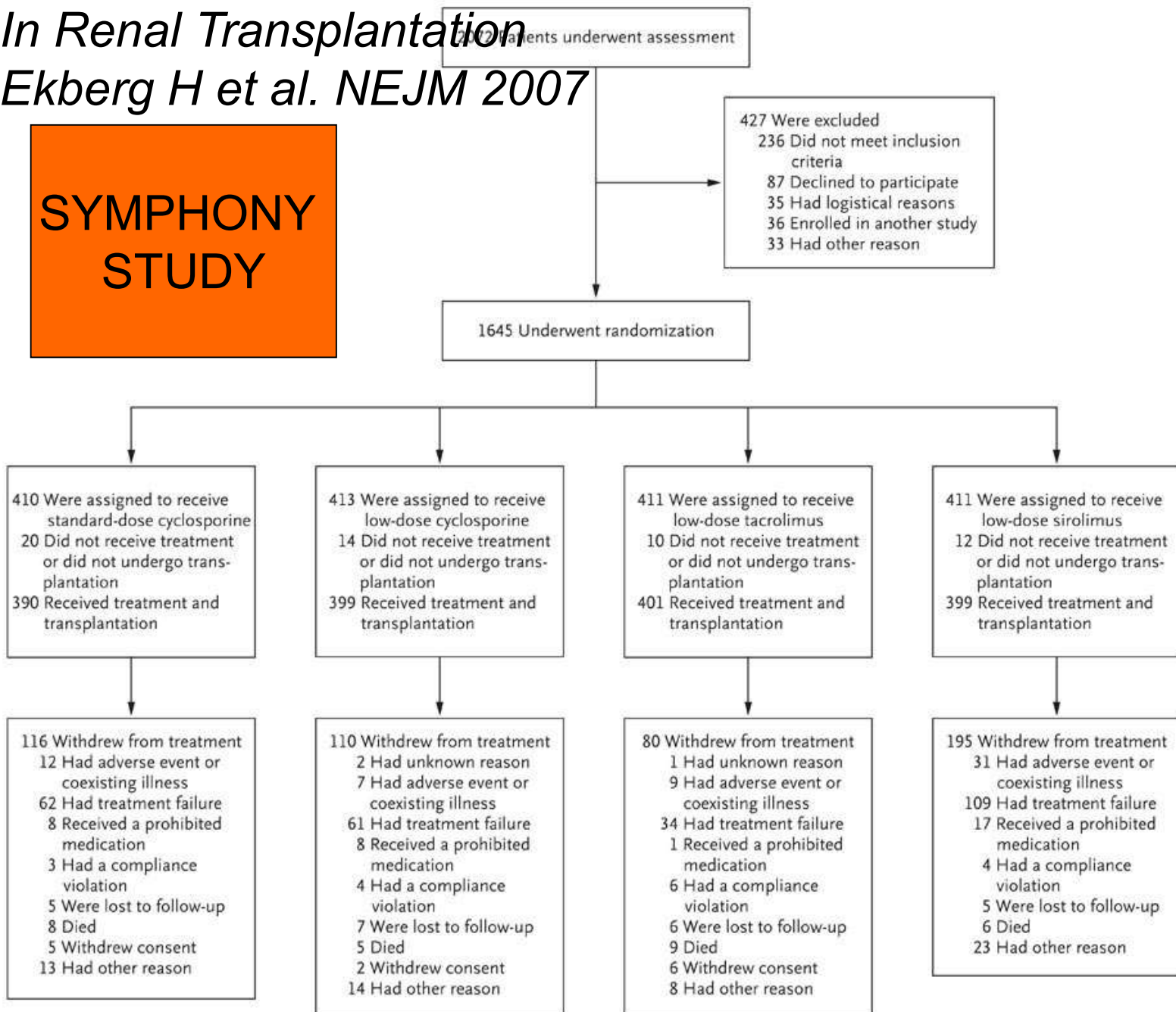
# Immunosuppression in adult kidney transplant recipients



# Reduced exposure to CNI In Renal Transplantation

Ekberg H et al. NEJM 2007

## SYMPHONY STUDY



# SYMPHONY STUDY

**Table 2. Primary End Point and Selected Secondary End Points.\***

End Point	Standard-Dose Cyclosporine (N=390)	Low-Dose Cyclosporine (N=399)	Low-Dose Tacrolimus (N=401)	Low-Dose Sirolimus (N=399)
<b>Primary end point</b>				
Mean calculated GFR — ml/min‡	57.1±25.1	59.4±25.1	65.4±27.0	56.7±26.9
P value for comparison with tacrolimus	<0.001	0.001	Reference	<0.001
<b>Secondary end points</b>				
Mean measured GFR — ml/min§	63.5±25.4	65.3±26.6	69.6±27.9	64.4±28.5
P value for comparison with tacrolimus	0.01	0.10	Reference	0.02
Mean calculated GFR — ml/min¶	46.2±23.1	50.2±23.1	54.3±23.9	47.5±26.1
P value for comparison with tacrolimus	<0.001	0.007	Reference	<0.001
<b>Acute rejection  </b>				
At 6 mo				
Biopsy-proven (excluding borderline values) — %	24.0	21.9	11.3	35.3
P value for comparison with tacrolimus	<0.001	<0.001	Reference	<0.001
At 12 mo				
Suspected and treated — %	32.8	29.5	17.2	43.5
P value for comparison with tacrolimus	<0.001	<0.001	Reference	<0.001
Biopsy-proven (including borderline values) — %	30.1	27.2	15.4	40.2
P value for comparison with tacrolimus	<0.001	<0.001	Reference	<0.001
Biopsy-proven (excluding borderline values) — %	25.8	24.0	12.3	37.2
P value for comparison with tacrolimus	<0.001	<0.001	Reference	<0.001
Antibody treated — %	6.3	4.7	2.3	6.6
P value for comparison with tacrolimus	0.006	0.08	Reference	0.005
<b>Allograft survival  </b>				
Censored for death of patients with functioning allograft — %	91.9	94.3	96.4	91.7
P value for comparison with tacrolimus	0.007	0.18	Reference	0.007
Uncensored for death of patients with functioning allograft — %	89.3	93.1	94.2	89.3
P value for comparison with tacrolimus	0.01	0.56	Reference	0.01

# SYMPHONY STUDY

Daclizumab+MMF+Steroids  
with

**Low-dose Tacrolimus**

May be advantageous for renal function, graft survival, acute rejection rates

-----

*Effect of different IS regimens on the evolution of distinct metabolic parameters: evidence from the Symphony study*

*Claes K et al NDT 2012*

CyA: highest uric acid values and BP

SIR: worst lipid control

TAC: “ a possible NODAT could not be excluded



# BELATACEPT



- Fusion protein composed of the Fc fragment of human IgG1 linked to the extracellular domain of cytotoxic T-lymphocyte-associated antigen 4 (CTLA-4)
- Inhibits T-cell activation through costimulation blockade
- Approved by U.S FDA and EMA 2011

*Vincenti F, et al. A Phase III Study of Belatacept-based Immunosuppression Regimens versus Cyclosporine in Renal Transplant Recipients (BENEFIT Study). Am J Transplant 2010*

*Durrbach A. et al. A Phase III Study of Belatacept Versus Cyclosporine in Kidney Transplants from Extended Criteria Donors (BENEFIT-EXT Study). Am J Transplant. 2010*



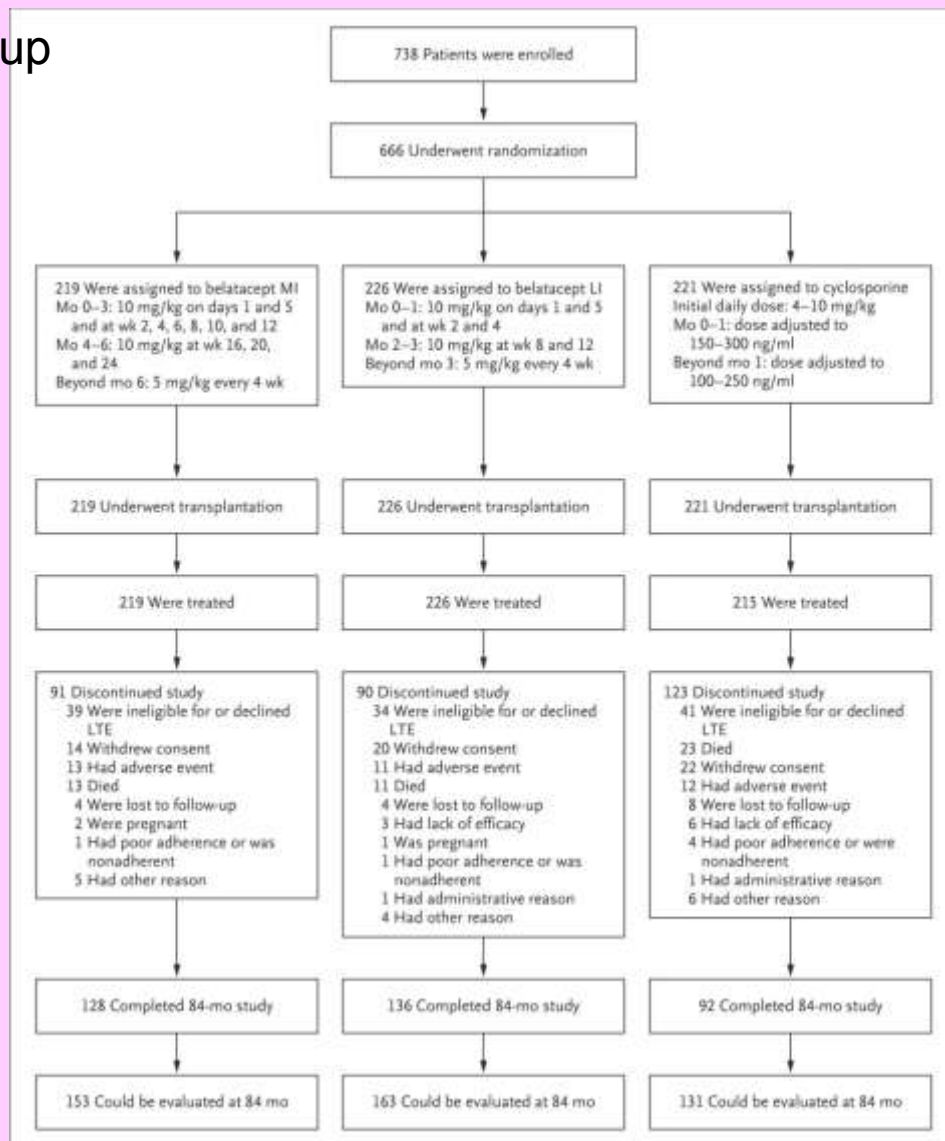
# Belatacept and Long-Term Outcomes in Kidney Transplantation

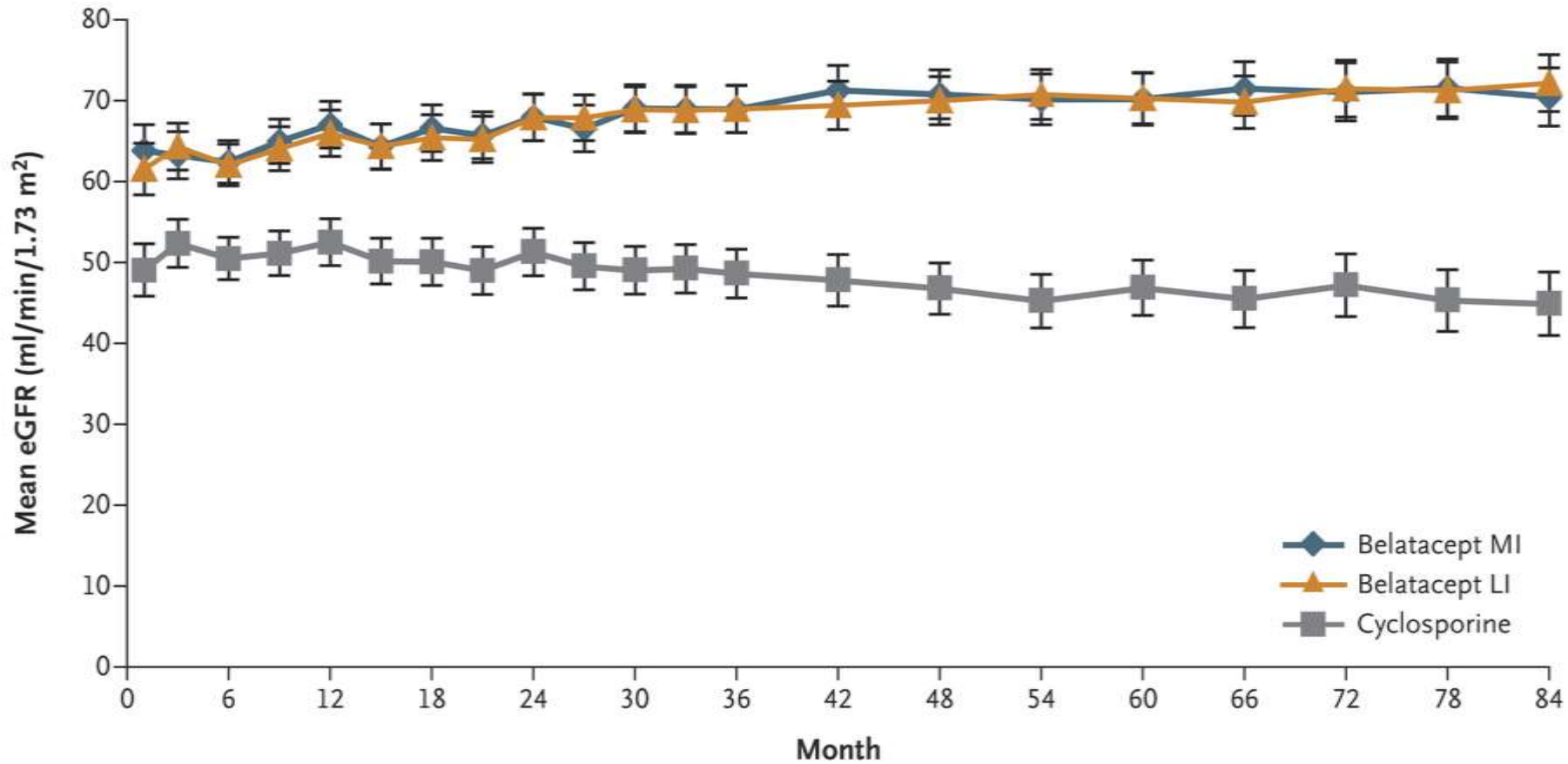
*Vincenti F. et al. NEJM 2016*

Randomized, single-blind, parallel-group study with an active control  
 Cadaver (Standard Criteria) or LD recipients TX  
 1:1:1 Ratio  
 Basiliximab Induction, MMF, Steroids

Primary objective @12 months:  
 Pt and graft survival  
 Renal function (eGFR)  
 Incidence of acute rejection

Outcomes @ 84 months





## *Vincenti F. et al. NEJM*

- Patients assigned to more –intensive or less-intensive belatacept regimens @ 7 years had 43% (38%-45%) reduction in the risk of death and graft loss (44%-41%) as compared with control CyA group
- Improvement in renal function with belatacept sustained @ 7 years
- DSA development significant lower in both belatacept groups than in CyA group
- Trial was with CyA and not with Tacrolimus!



# Trapianto da donatore vivente

Aspetti:  
Etici  
Psicologici  
Educativi  
Legali

Controindicazioni assolute e relative

Percorso di idoneità alla donazione

Donatore idoneo

- Problematiche
- del ricevente:
  - mediche
  - immunologiche
  - psicologiche

Donatore non idoneo

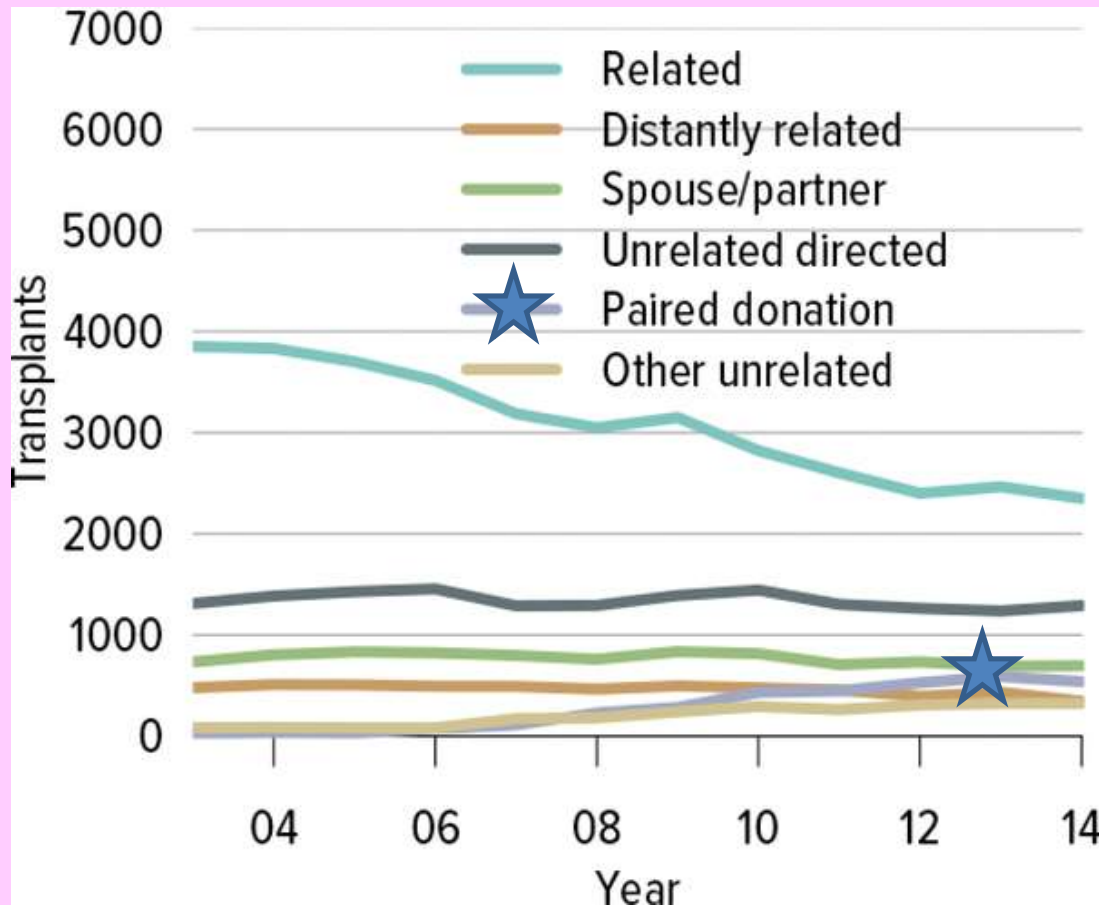
Altri donatori?

Immunosoppressione

# Kidney transplants from living by donor relation



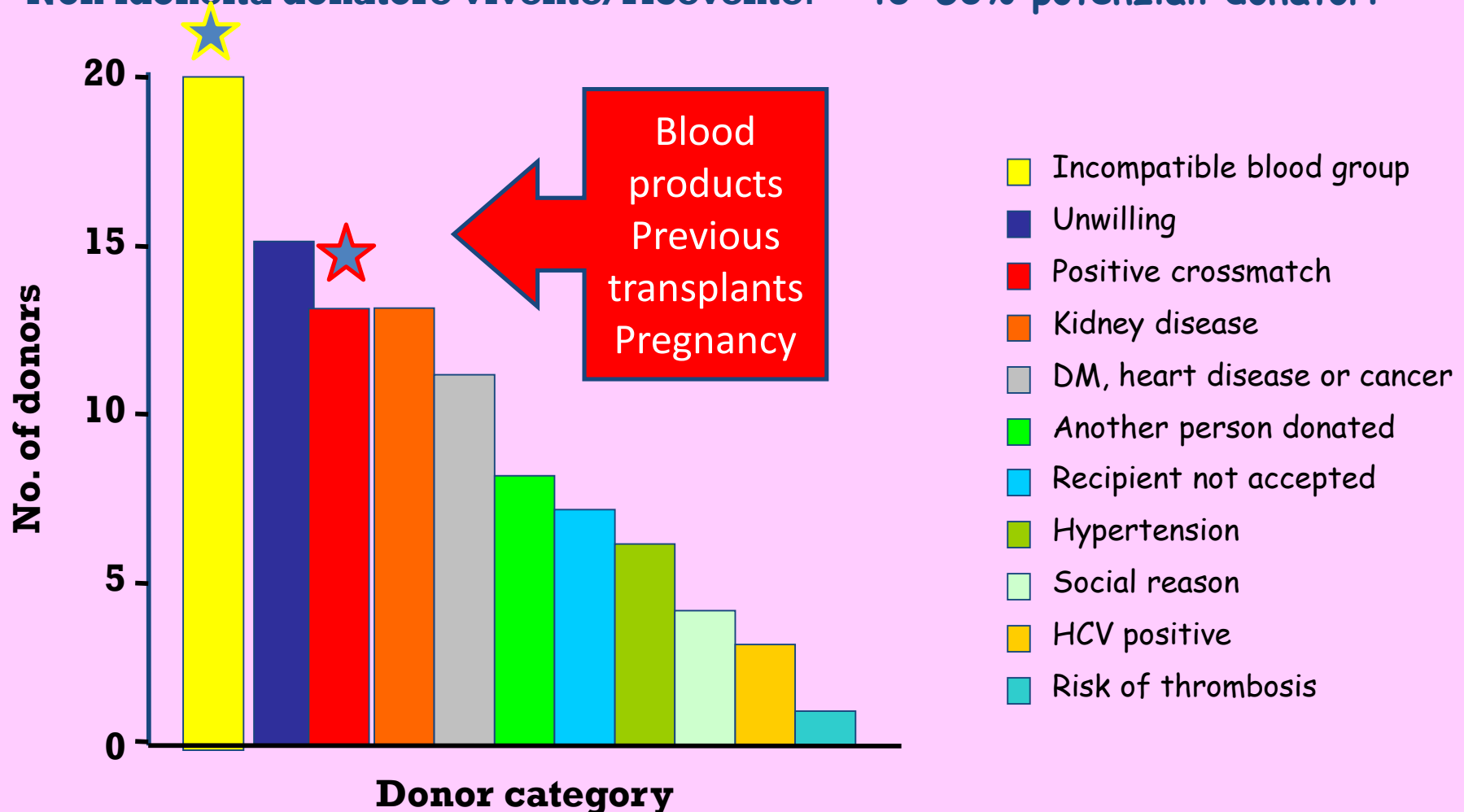
**Prelievo laparoscopico**



**Prelievo robotico**

# Il trapianto di rene da donatore vivente: il superamento delle barriere di incompatibilità biologica

Non idoneità donatore vivente/ricevente: ~ 40-50% potenziali donatori



# Come rimuovere questi anticorpi?

1. Immunoabsorption (IA)
  1. on protein A columns (IgG only)
  2. on donor tissue (all isotypes sink):
    1. Irradiated donor lymphocytes
    2. auxiliary liver graft (high regenerative index)
2. Plasmapheresis
3. High-dose (2 g/kg per 2 doses) intravenous immune globulins (IVIg)
4. Rituximab (375 mg/m<sup>2</sup> – 1 g per 2 doses)
5. Various combinations of these
  - **plasmapheresis** (1-1.5 volumes) + (splenectomy) + **low-dose** (100 mg/kg of body weight per dose) **IVIg** [the day of infusion] and 30) + **rituximab** (1 g regardless of weight [or, in children, 375 mg/m<sup>2</sup> of body-surface area] on days 7 and 22)

**Trapianti di Rene Immunologicamente  
Incompatibili (Lug. 2009 - Dic. 2016)**

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22 coppie solo ABOi

6 coppie ABOi + DSA

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**ABOi Titolo Agglutinine da 1:8 a 1:4096**





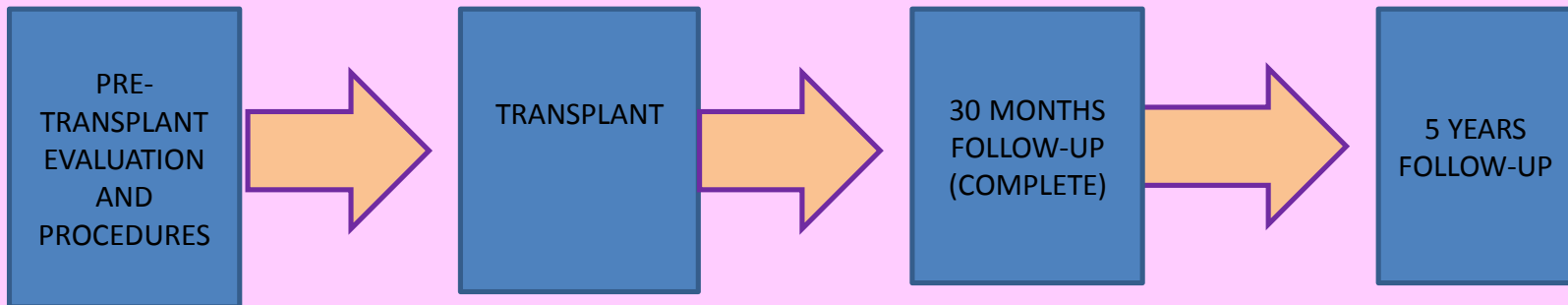
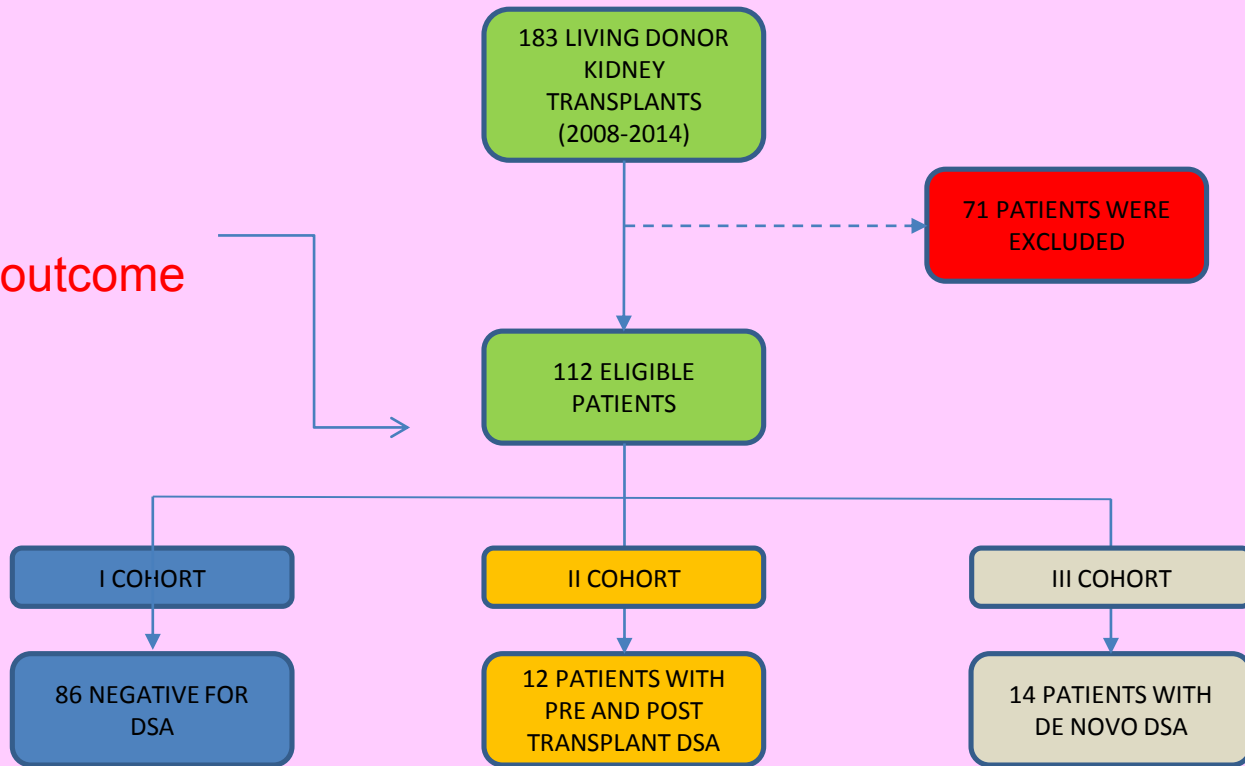
UNIVERSITY OF PISA

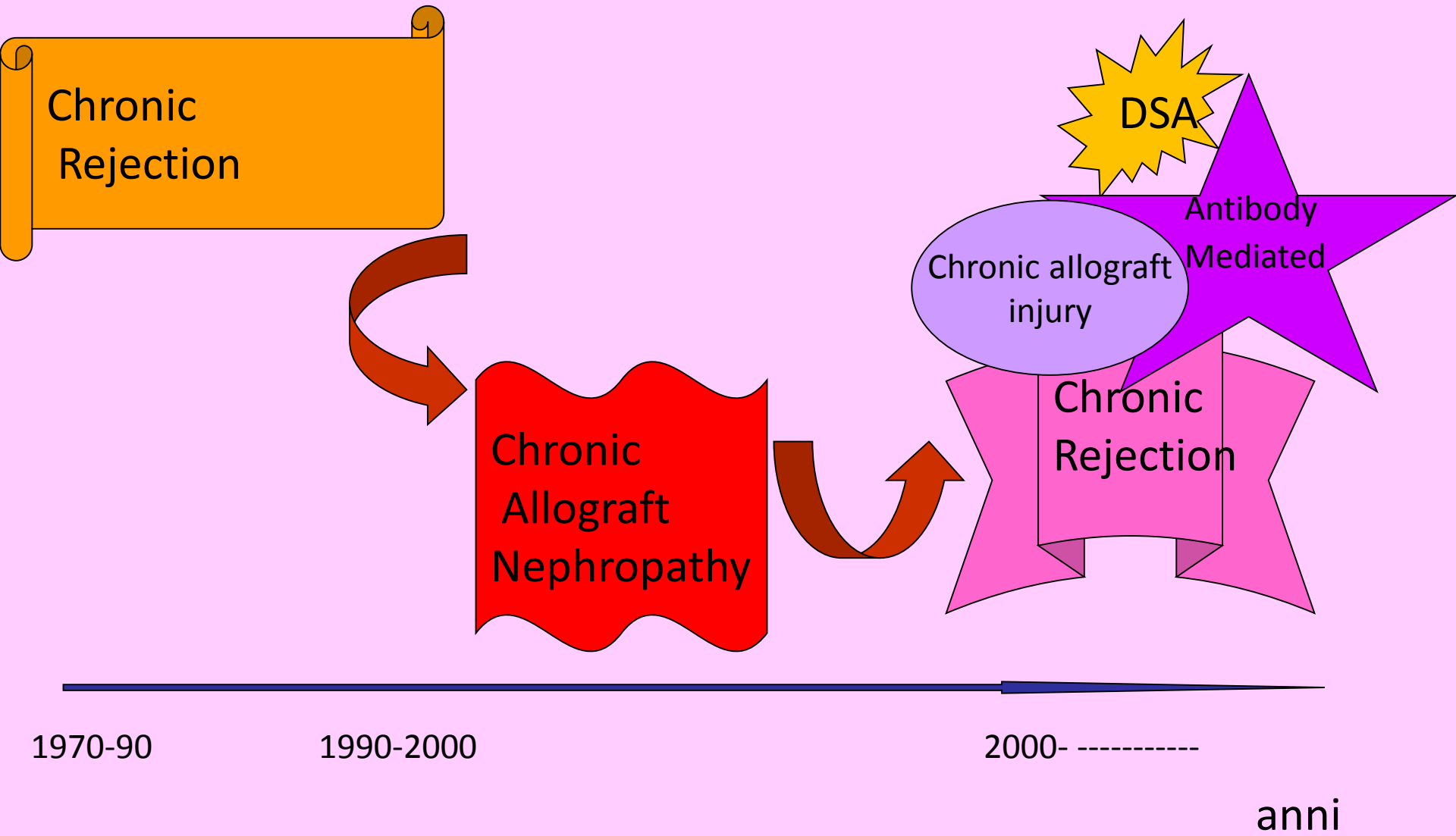
**CLINICAL IMPACT OF DONOR  
SPECIFIC ANTIBODIES IN LIVING  
DONOR KIDNEY  
TRANSPLANTATION**

*D Giannese, D Moriconi, A Mazzoni, S Gabbriellini, L Mariotti, U Boggi,  
MF Egidi*

Submitted to AJT 2016

Worst outcome





Chronic  
Rejection

Chronic  
Allograft  
Nephropathy

Chronic allograft  
injury

Chronic  
Rejection

DSA

Antibody  
Mediated

1970-90

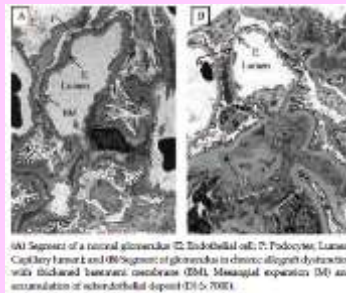
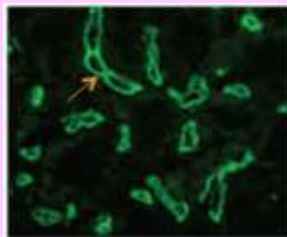
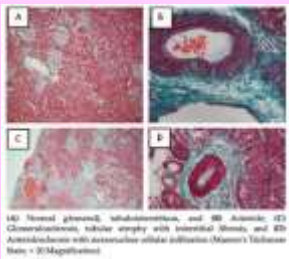
1990-2000

2000- -----

anni

# Chronic Allograft Injury (CAI)

- Seconda causa di perdita del rene trapiantato (la prima è la morte del paziente con rene funzionante)
- Le biopsie renali effettuate per protocollo ad un anno mostrano CAI nel 40-50% dei casi



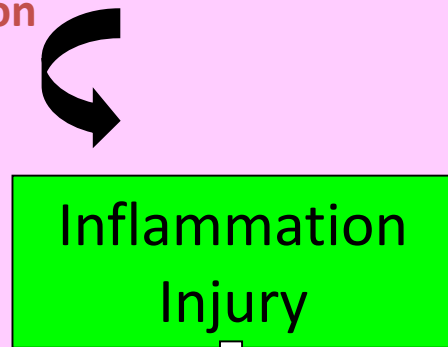
# Chronic allograft injury (CAI)

## Immunological factors:

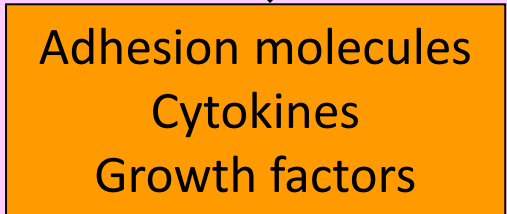
Acute and sub-acute rejection  
HLA mismatches  
Donor specific antibodies (DSA) →  
Chronic rejection

## Non immunological factors

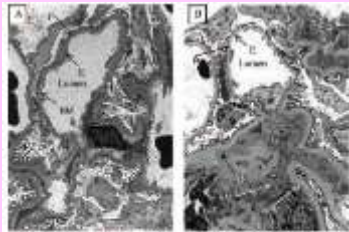
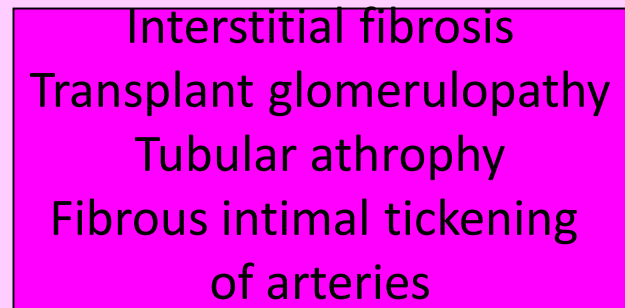
Ischemia /reperfusion injury  
Delayed graft function  
Donor factors (age)



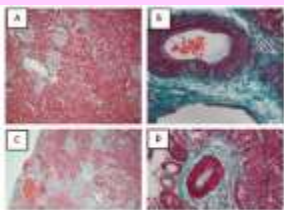
CNI toxicity  
Viral nephritis (CMV, Polyomavirus)  
Hypertension  
Hyperlipidemia



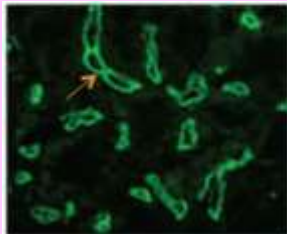
## Accelerated senescence



(A) Segment of a normal glomerulus. (B) Endothelial cell; P, Podocyte; Lamina; Capillary lumen; L and M, Segment of glomerulus in chronic allograft dysfunction with thickened basement membrane (BM), Mesangial expansion (M) and accumulation of subendothelial deposit (D) (x 5,700X).



(A) Normal glomeruli, tubulointerstitium, and (B) Arteries. (C) Glomerular sclerosis, tubular atrophy with interstitial fibrosis, and (D) Arteriosclerosis with arteriosclerotic plaques (Masson's Trichrome stain). (© Magnification)



# Donor Specific Antibodies (DSAs)

- ↑ risk for antibody-mediated rejection (AMR)
- Allograft dysfunction and proteinuria
- First appearance may be months to years before graft dysfunction

## Major cause of allograft failure

- *Everly MJ, Terasaki PI. Seminars in Immunology 2012;24:143*
- *Lachmann N et al. Transplantation 2009; 87 (10):1505*
- *Worthington JE et al. Transplantation 2003;75 (7): 1034*

# Donor Specific Antibodies (DSA)

- **Pre-existing DSA**

restimulation of previously sensitized memory population  
early and specific cooperation of T-B cells

- ***de novo* DSA**

in previously non-sensitized patients

- **Other antibodies**

autoantibodies to cryptic antigens:  
antiperlecan/LG3, anti-endothelium,  
anti- angiotensin II receptor,  
against minor histocompatibility Ag \*

# HLA-incompatible transplantation (DSA)

## Sources of allosensitization

### 1. blood transfusion (even leucodepleted units => prefer epoetins)

#### HLA and RBC immunization after filtered and buffy coat-depleted blood transfusion in cardiac surgery: a randomized controlled trial

Volume 43, June 2003 **TRANSFUSION** 765

*Leo van de Watering, Jo Hermans, Marian Witvliet, Michel Versteegh, and Anneke Brand*

**CONCLUSION:** Buffy coat removal, and additional WBC reduction by filtration, either before or after storage, result in similar posttransfusion alloimmunization frequencies after a single transfusion event with multiple RBCs.

**= 16.1%**

Vox Sang 1997;72:238-241

Received: November 11, 1995  
Revised manuscript received: November 19, 1996  
Accepted: November 27, 1996

*Ellen Toaning<sup>a,c</sup>  
Anne Catrine Simonsen<sup>c</sup>  
Erik Hjelm<sup>d</sup>  
Arne Svejgaard<sup>c</sup>  
Niels Morling<sup>b</sup>*

#### Platelet Alloimmunization after Transfusion

**A Prospective Study in 117 Heart Surgery Patients**

They received mostly saline-adenine-glucose + mannitol red blood cell components (poor in leukocytes and platelets) in connection with cardiac surgery.

HLA antibodies were detected by the standard lymphocyte cytotoxicity techniques.

We detected lymphocytotoxic HLA antibodies in 21 patients (17.9%), of whom **18 (15.4%)** had had no detectable antibodies before transfusion.

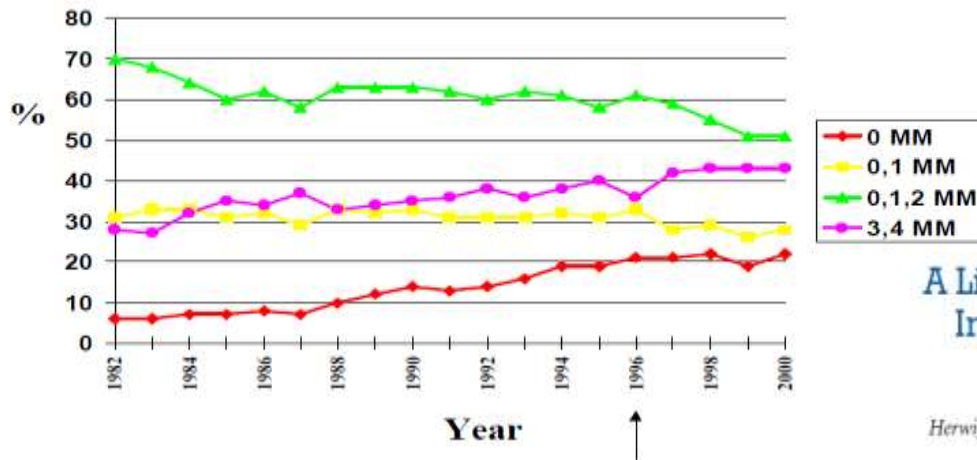


# HLA-incompatible transplantation (DSA)

## Sources of allosensitization

- pregnancy (F vs. M = 33% vs. 17%)
- prior allotransplantation (2<sup>nd</sup> vs 1<sup>st</sup> 52% vs. 15%; PBHSCT > BMHSCT; Lapierre, 2002)

HLA-matching in ET 1982-2000



Introduction of the  
Acceptable  
Mismatch program

## A Lifetime Versus a Graft Life Approach Redefines the Importance of HLA Matching in Kidney Transplant Patients

Herwig-Ulf Meier-Kriesche,<sup>1,4</sup> Juan C. Scornik,<sup>2</sup> Brian Susskind,<sup>2</sup> Shehzad Rehman,<sup>1</sup> and Jesse D. Schold<sup>1</sup>

Transplantation • Volume 88, Number 1, July 15, 2009

www.transplantjournal.com | 23

**Results.** There was no appreciable change in PRA for patients receiving a first 0 HLA-A, -B, -DR, or 0 HLA-A, -B-mismatched kidney transplant; contrariwise, there was a significant increase in PRA by increasing HLA mismatch of the first transplant. Only 10% of patients became sensitized after a 0 HLA-A, -B-mismatched transplant, whereas the proportion rose up to 37% with increasing HLA mismatches. Other factors, notably younger age and African American race, also contributed to a higher PRA at relisting.

**Conclusions.** Although there might be a limited impact of HLA matching on acute rejection and graft survival, many patients might be negatively impacted from poor HLA matching of their first kidney transplant when needing a second transplant. This might be particularly important in patients with a long life expectancy because of the high likelihood of needing a second transplant during their lifetime.

# Does *de novo* development of anti-HLA antibodies predict long-term graft failure?

American Journal of Transplantation 2009; 9: 2632-2641  
Wiley Periodicals Inc.

© 2009 The Authors  
Journal compilation © 2009 The American Society of  
Transplantation and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons  
doi: 10.1111/j.1600-6143.2009.02800.x

## De Novo Donor-Specific Antibody at the Time of Kidney Transplant Biopsy Associates with Microvascular Pathology and Late Graft Failure

L. G. Hidalgo<sup>a,\*</sup>, P. M. Campbell<sup>a,b</sup>, B. Sis<sup>a</sup>,  
G. Einecke<sup>c</sup>, M. Mengel<sup>a</sup>, J. Chang<sup>b</sup>, J. Sellares<sup>d</sup>,  
J. Reeve<sup>a</sup> and P. F. Halloran<sup>b</sup>

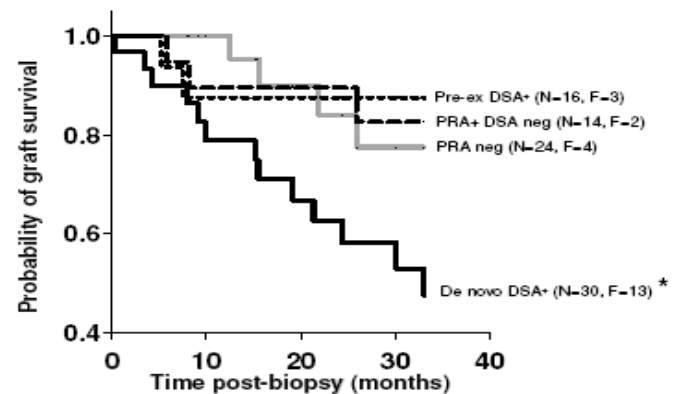


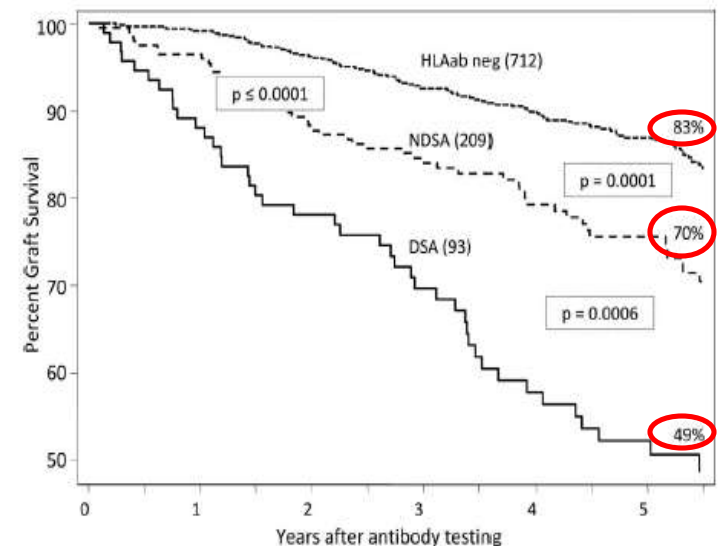
Figure 6: Probability of graft survival curves in patients who underwent a late biopsy and were assessed for DSA. Probability of graft survival in patients in each DSA subgroup was compared to patients with no detectable HLA antibodies (PRA neg). N depicts the number of patients in each group and F; the number of failed grafts. \*p = 0.001 (log-rank test).

## Anti-Human Leukocyte Antigen and Donor-Specific Antibodies Detected by Luminex Posttransplant Serve as Biomarkers for Chronic Rejection of Renal Allografts

Nils Lachmann,<sup>1,2,8</sup> Paul I. Terasaki,<sup>2</sup> Klemens Budde,<sup>3</sup> Lutz Liefeldt,<sup>3</sup> Andreas Kahl,<sup>4</sup> Petra Reinke,<sup>4</sup>  
Johann Pratschke,<sup>5</sup> Birgit Rudolph,<sup>6</sup> Danilo Schmidt,<sup>3</sup> Abdulgabar Salama,<sup>7</sup> and Constanze Schönemann<sup>1</sup>

Transplantation • Volume 87, Number 10, May 27, 2009

www.transplantjournal.com | 1505



# Risk factors for the *de novo* development of DSA

*Morath et al. Journal of Immun.Res. 2014*

- Retransplantation
- HLA-antibodies before TX
- Young age (18-35 years old)
- DR, DQ mismatch
- Nonadherence
- Insufficient IS
- Inflammation (i.e infection)
- (Subclinical) T-cell-mediated rejection

# Immunotherapeutic Approaches for Removal of HLAabs

- IVIG blockage of anti HLA antibody re-synthesis, modification of APC, apoptosis of mature B cells, regulation of anti-idiotypic ab to anti-HLA, expansion and effector function of CD4+/CD25+/FoxP3+Tregs
- **Rituximab** (anti cD-20) B cells depletion
- Plasmapheresis DSAs depletion
- Blocking co-stimulation pathways (CD40-40L, CD28-B7)
- **Bortezomib**, Carfilzomib
- Anti BAFF/April anti B-cell activating factor
- Anti-IL-6-receptor antibodies: Tocilizumab
- Modifiers of complement activation : Ecluzumab
- Belatacept (LEA29Y: CTLA4-Ig variant)?

*Jordan ST. Discovery Medicine, 2012*

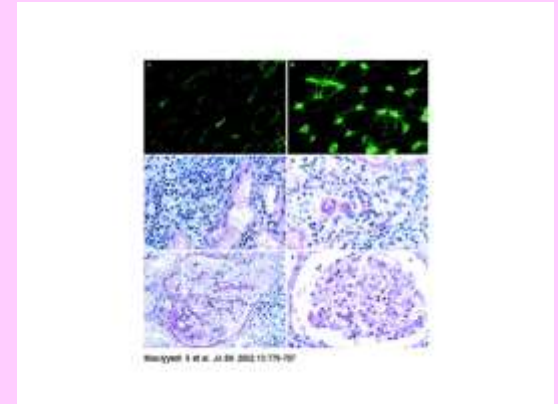
*Everly MJ, Terasaki PI. Seminars in Immunology 2012; 24:142*

*Kahwaji L et al. Transplant Int 2016*

*Rostaing L et al. Ther Apher Dial 2016*

*Sautenet B et al. Transplantation 2016*

# AMR: Characterization



❑ Serum: Presence of DSAs

❑ Renal biopsy: Spectrum of lesions

C4d deposition in the peritubular capillaries (as a marker of ab-mediated activation of the complement cascade) (C4d negative AMR!!)

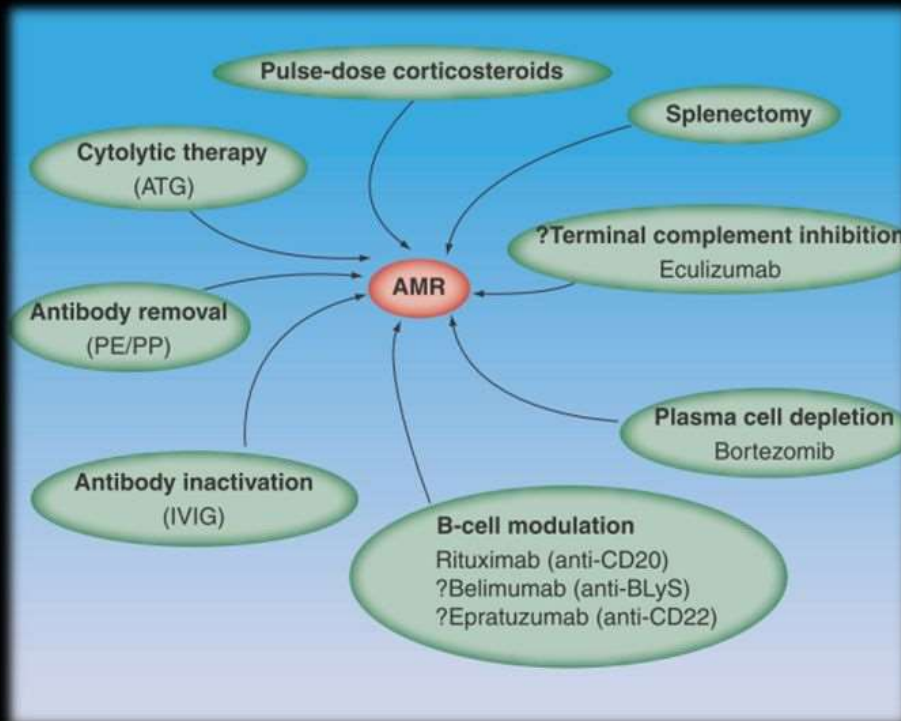
IF, transplant glomerulopathy, intimal arteritis, microvascular injury

❑ Clinically : chronic allograft dysfunction  
significant proteinuria

**graft failure**

*Hidalgo et al. 2009; Platt 2010; Jordan et al. 2011; Halloran et al. 2010; Lefaucheur et al. 2009; Gaston et al. 2011, Haas 2012*

# Therapeutic strategies antibody-mediated rejection



# Eculizumab

## Licensed for the treatment of:

- ❑ paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria
- ❑ atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome

## Used “off label” to treat:

- ❑ refractory antibody-mediated rejection  
( very limited number of patients, although with impressive efficacy)
- ❑ renal transplant candidates with a genetically determined risk of post-transplantation aHUS recurrence
- ❑ C3 glomerulopathy

*Hillmen, P. N. & Rother, R. P. N. Engl. J. Med. (2006)*

*Kelly, R. J. Blood (2011)*

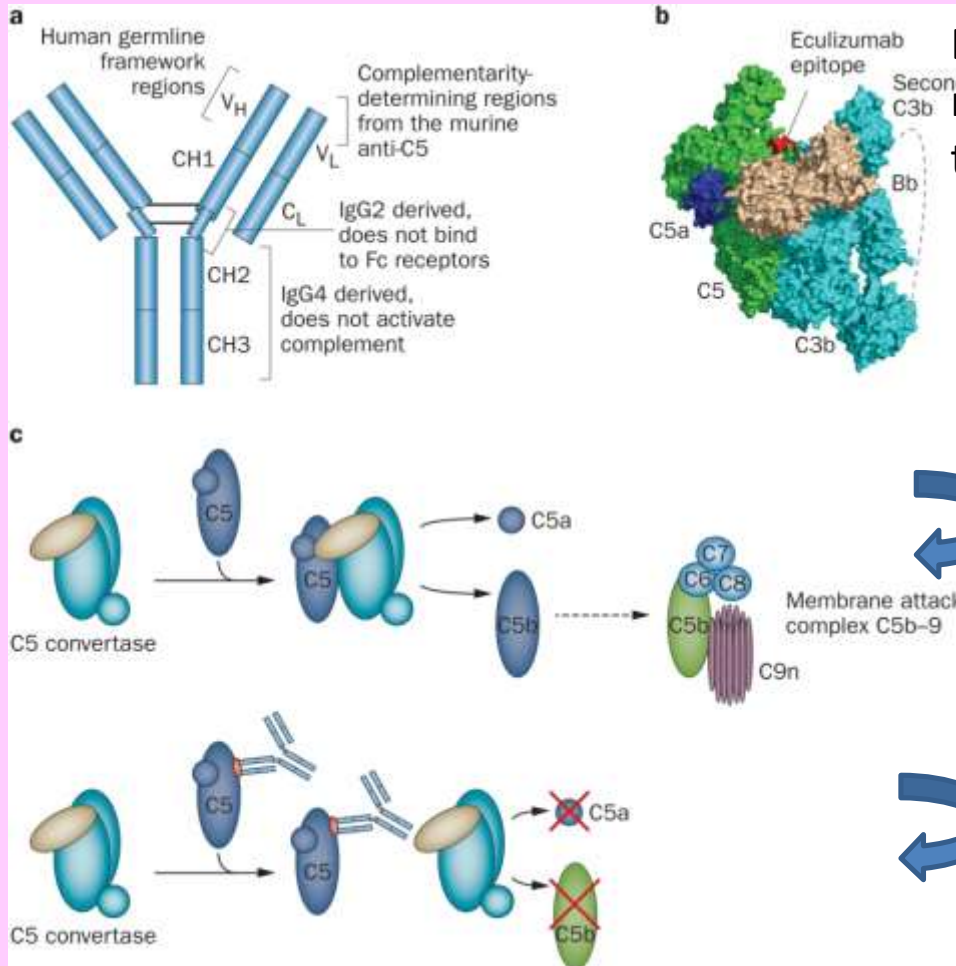
*Gruppo, RA et al. N. Engl. J. Med. (2009)*

*Nürnbergger, J. et al. N. Engl. J. Med (2009)*

*Sethi, S. & Fervenza, F. C. N. Engl. J. Med. (2012)*

*Nester, C. et al. Clin. J. Am. Soc. Nephrol. (2011)*

# Eculizumab: molecular structure and mode of action



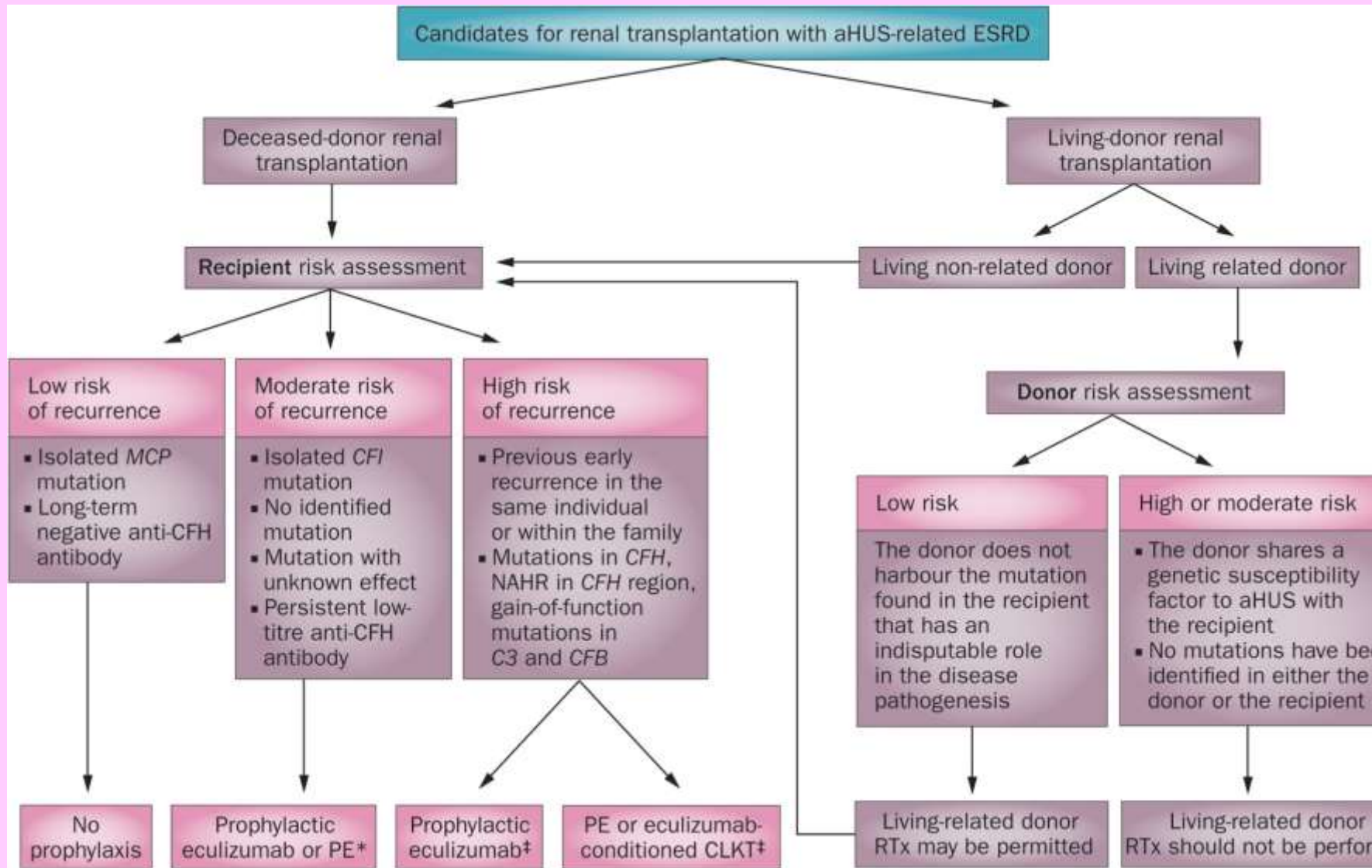
Eculizumab is a complement-inhibitory monoclonal antibody that inhibits assembly of the membrane attack complex via C5

Substrate C5 enters into the C5 convertase and is cleaved to C5a and C5b. C5b binds C6, C7, C8 and several molecules of C9 to form the membrane attack complex C5b-9

Eculizumab binds to C5 with a very high affinity, preventing its entry into the C5 convertase. This effect prevents C5 cleavage and the formation of C5a and C5b-9



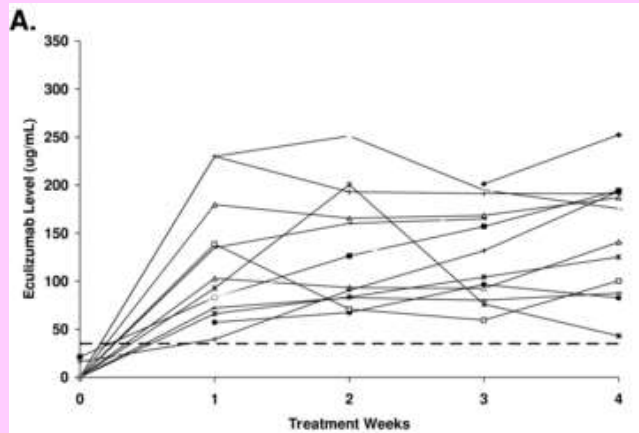
# Risk assessment for patients with aHUS who are candidates for renal transplantation



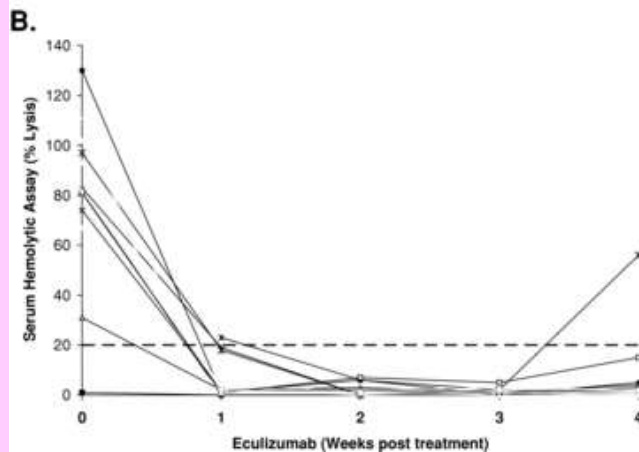
# Eculizumab and Antibody Mediated Rejection

- The Use of Antibody to Complement Protein C5 for Salvage Treatment of Severe Antibody-Mediated Rejection  
J. E. Locke et al. AJT 2009
- Terminal Complement Inhibition Decreases Antibody-Mediated Rejection in Sensitized Renal Transplant Recipients  
Stegall MA et al AJT 2011
- Eculizumab for the Treatment of Severe Antibody-Mediated Rejection:a case report and a review of the literature  
*Tran D e al. Case Rep Transplant 2016*

## Terminal Complement Inhibition Decreases Antibody-Mediated Rejection in Sensitized Renal Transplant Recipients



*Eculizumab levels in the first 16 patients were therapeutic at the end of each dosing period*



*Hemolytic activity was blocked in all patients except one patient at week 4*

# Bortezomib

- ❑ Protocolli di desensibilizzazione
- ❑ Rimozione DSA post-trapianto
- ❑ Trattamento rigetto anticorpo mediato

*Moreno Gonzales MA et al., Transplantation 2016*

*Jeong JC et al. Medicine (Baltimore) 2016*

*Jordan SC et al. Transplant Proc 2016*

*Shah N. et al. Curr Opin Organ Transplan 2015*

*Stegal MD, Clin Transplat 2010*

# Trapianto di rene

## Passato

Metodiche per preservazione organi e tecniche chirurgiche  
Terapie immunosoppressive per prevenire o ridurre gli episodi di rigetto acuto

## Passato recente

Impiego di diverse combinazioni di immunosoppressori con differenti meccanismi d'azione  
(induzione, duplice e triplice terapia)  
- bilanciare il rischio di rigetto e la nefrotossicità'  
- migliorare la sopravvivenza del paziente e del rene

## Presente

nuovi criteri di allocazione organi  
“donatori marginali” (ECD, DCD)  
trapianti ABO incompatibili, cross over  
cell-based immunosoppressione ([www.onestudy.org](http://www.onestudy.org))

Continua revisione della classificazione Banff, espressione genica ecc.

## Futuro

**Riprogrammare il sistema immunitario per indurre tolleranza**



**Grazie!!**