

Low-risk donor lungs optimize the post lung transplant outcome for high lung allocation score patients

Takeshi Kurosaki, author

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Abstrak

ABSTRACT

Purpose

The lung allocation score (LAS) has been generally recognized as a contributor to the overall survival in lung transplant candidates. However, donor-related risks have never been taken into consideration in previous research that validated the LAS. This study aimed to determine whether or not the role of the LAS as a predictor of the posttransplant outcome is influenced by the quality of the donor lungs.

Methods

We retrospectively reviewed 108 patients who underwent lung transplantation at Okayama University Hospital since 1998. The cohort was divided into two groups based on the lung donor score (DS; ≥ 4 / < 4). Correlations between the LAS and posttransplant outcomes were investigated in both groups.

Results

In the high-DS group, an elevated LAS was strongly associated with posttransplant PaO₂/FiO₂ ($p=0.018$). However, in the low-DS group, no correlation was found between them. There was no significant difference in the long-term survival according to the LAS in the low-DS group. The LAS effectively predicted the posttransplant outcome only when lungs with DS ≥ 4 were transplanted; the LAS was not reliable if high-quality lungs were transplanted.

Conclusion

Lung transplantation can be feasible and provides a survival benefit even for high-LAS patients if lungs from a low-risk donor are transplanted.