

Post transplantation diabetes: clinical challenges

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Disclosures

- **Advisory Board:**

- Sandoz
- Astellas
- Atara Biotherapeutics
- Novartis
- Takeda
- Chiesi
- Alexion
- Mallinckrodt

- **Honorarium/Grant funding:**

- Chiesi
- Napp Pharmaceuticals
- Sandoz
- UpToDate.com
- Takeda

- **Trustee**

- Global Kidney Foundation
- Give A Kidney
- Metchley Park Medical Society



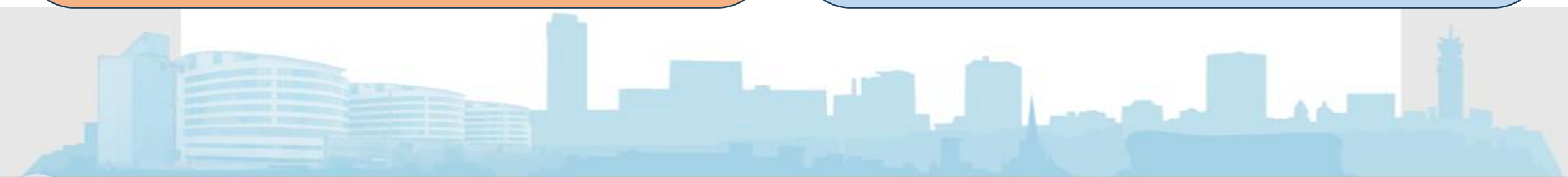
Clinical challenges

Can I prevent PTDM in my high cardio-metabolic risk kidney transplant candidate?

How should I manage a new kidney transplant patient who develops post-op PTDM?

Can I use SGLT2i for my kidney transplant patient with PTDM?

Can I use GLP-1 agonists for my kidney transplant patient with PTDM?



Why PTDM is common after transplantation

Non-modifiable

- Age
- Male sex?
- Deceased-donor kidney?
- Genetic
- HLA matching/type
- Non-Caucasian ethnicity
- Family history of diabetes
- Gestational diabetes
- ADPKD
- Hepatitis C

Modifiable

- Obesity
- Rejection episodes
- Metabolic syndrome
- Serum uric acid level?
- Low androgen levels in males
- CMV infection post-transplant
- Glucose intolerance
- Anti-hypertensives
- Uric acid/Mg abnormality post-transplant
- Immunosuppression

Why PTDM is common after transplantation

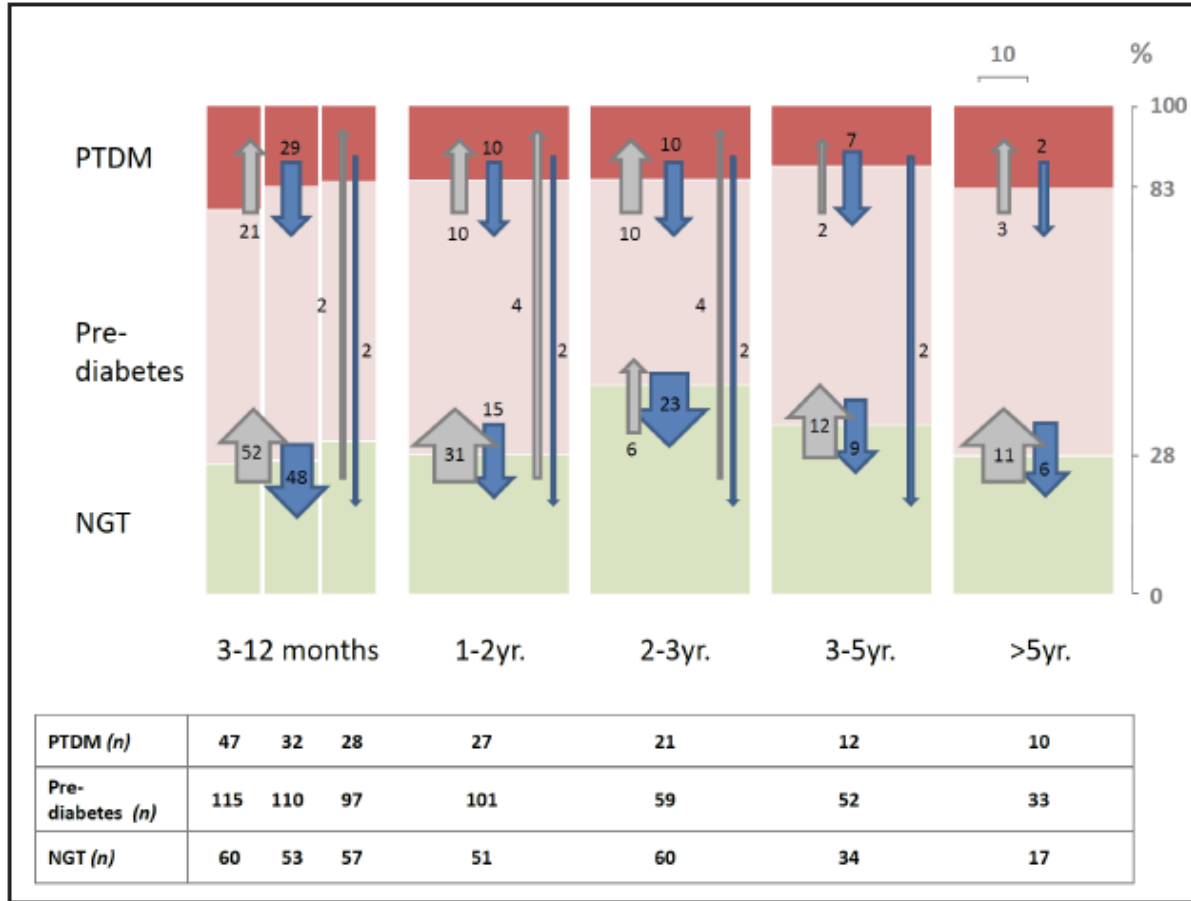
Non-modifiable

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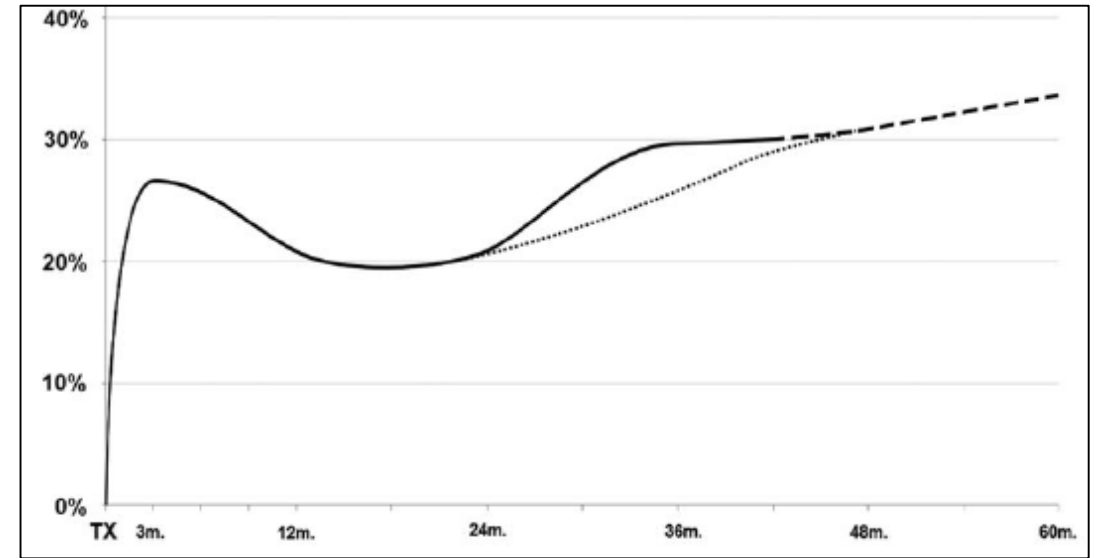
Modifiable

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Dynamic and bimodal nature of post-transplant glucose metabolism

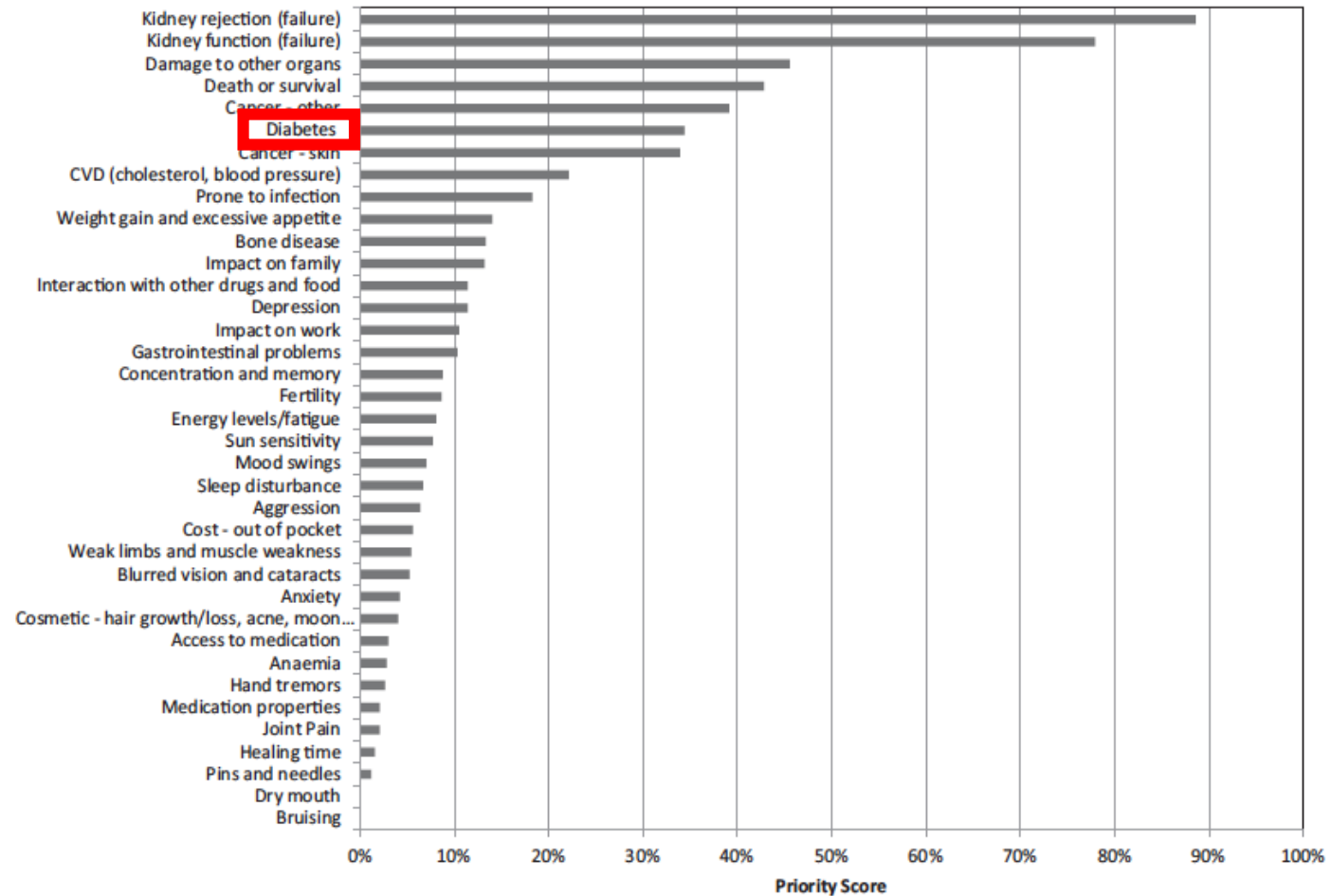
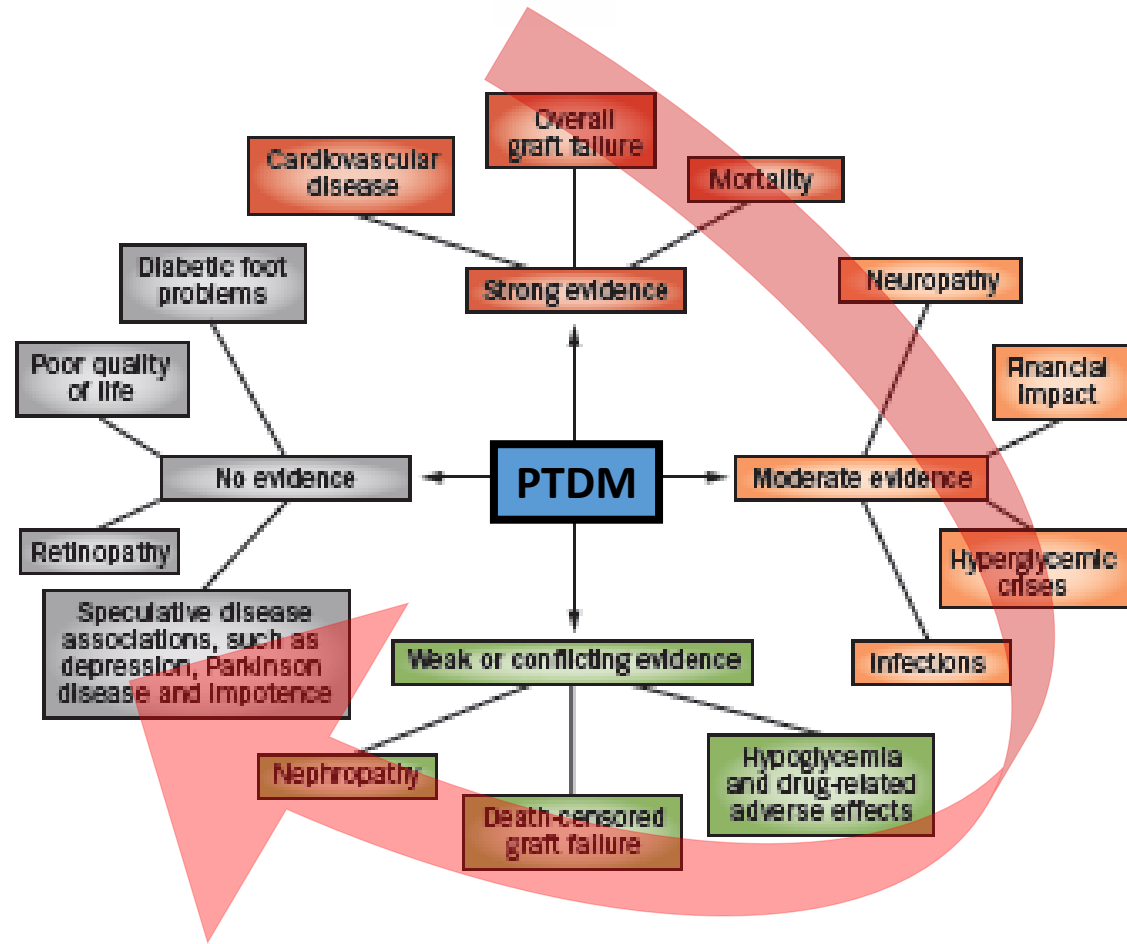


PTDM



Time from transplant

PTDM is associated with inferior post-transplant outcomes



Clinical challenges

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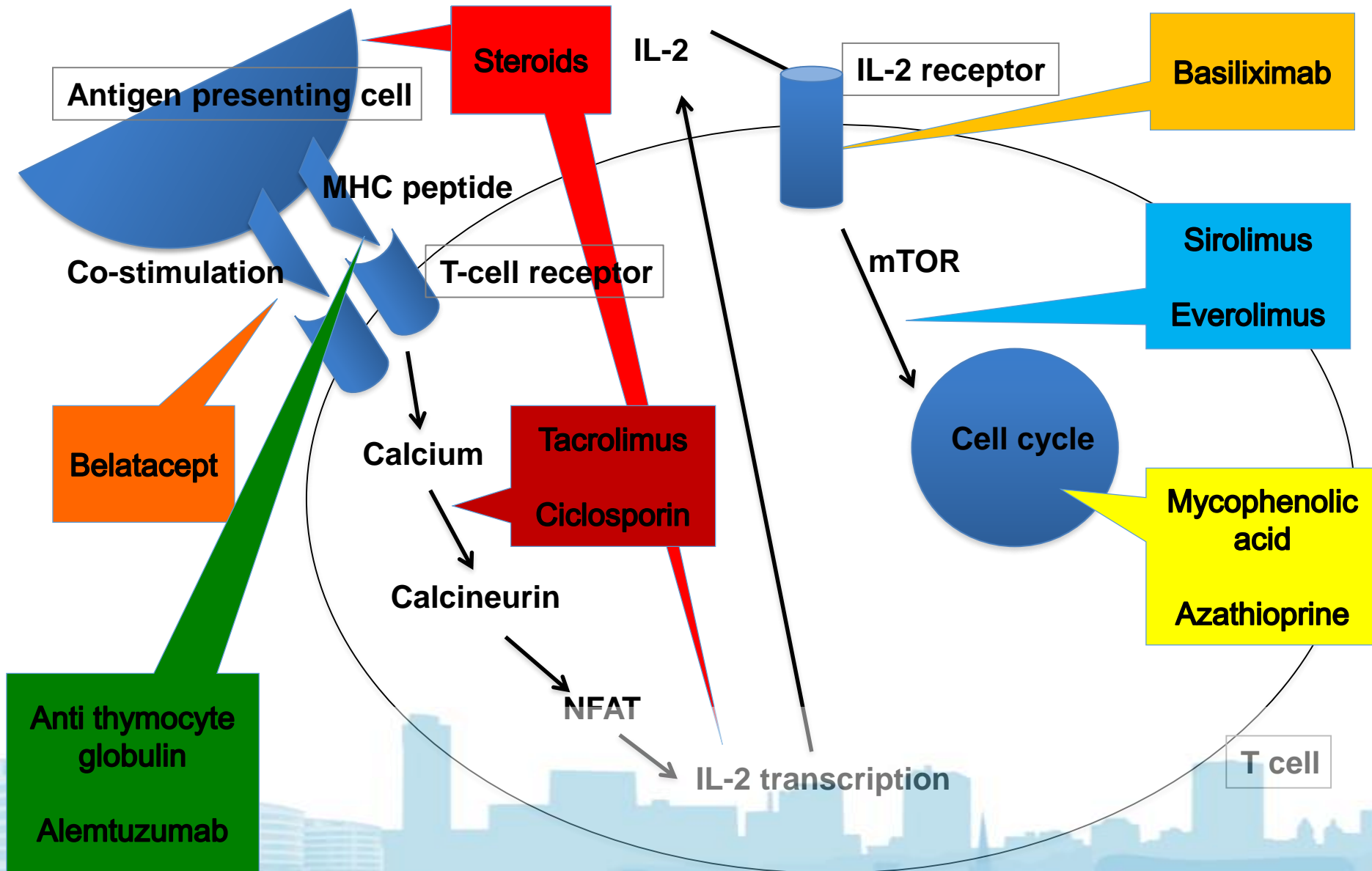
How should I manage a new kidney transplant patient who develops post-op PTDM?

Can I use SGLT2i for my kidney transplant patient with PTDM?

Can I use GLP-1 agonists for my kidney transplant patient with PTDM?



Burgeoning armamentarium of immunosuppression

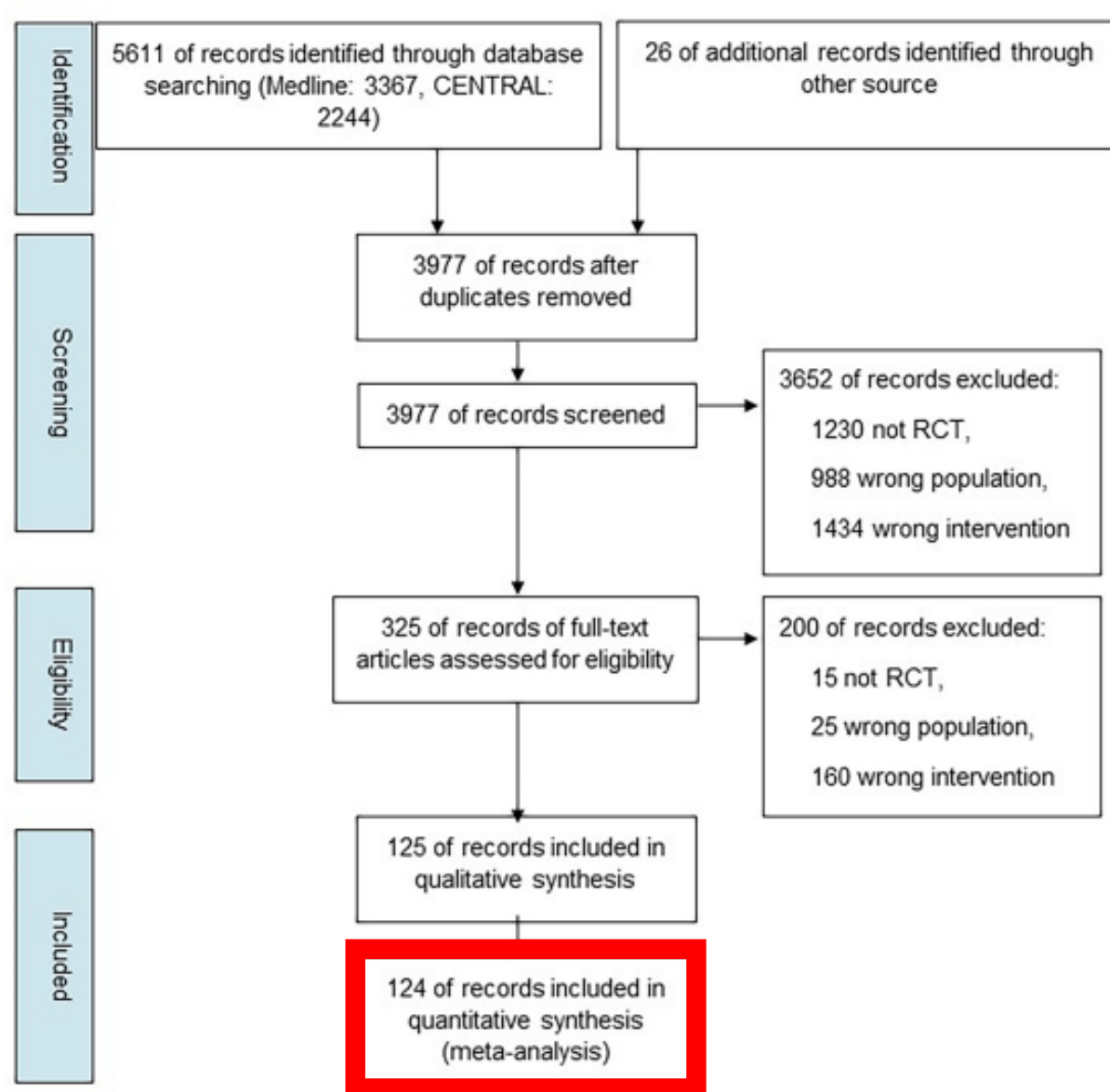




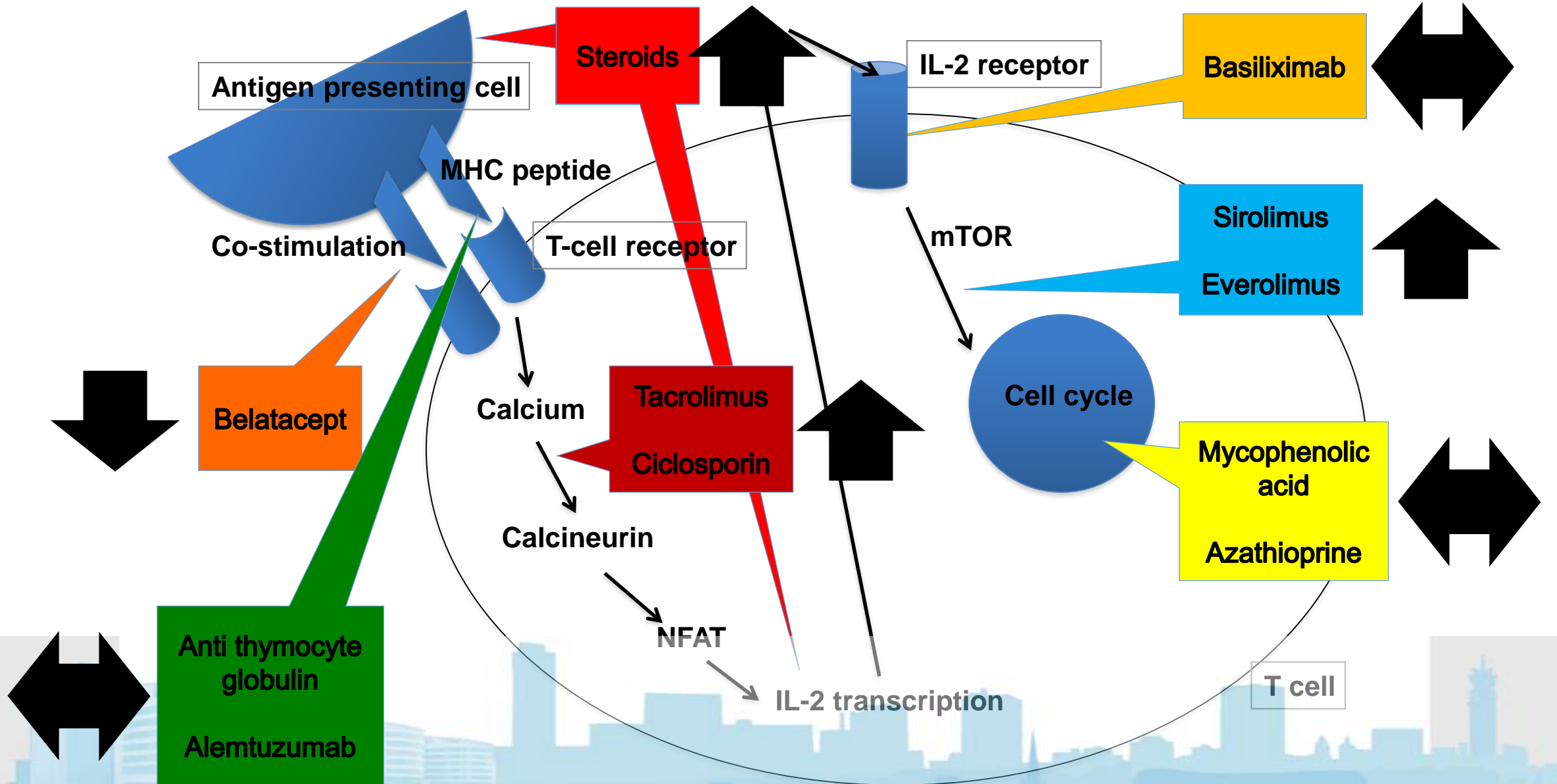
Review article

Immunosuppressive drug combinations after kidney transplantation and post-transplant diabetes: A systematic review and meta-analysis

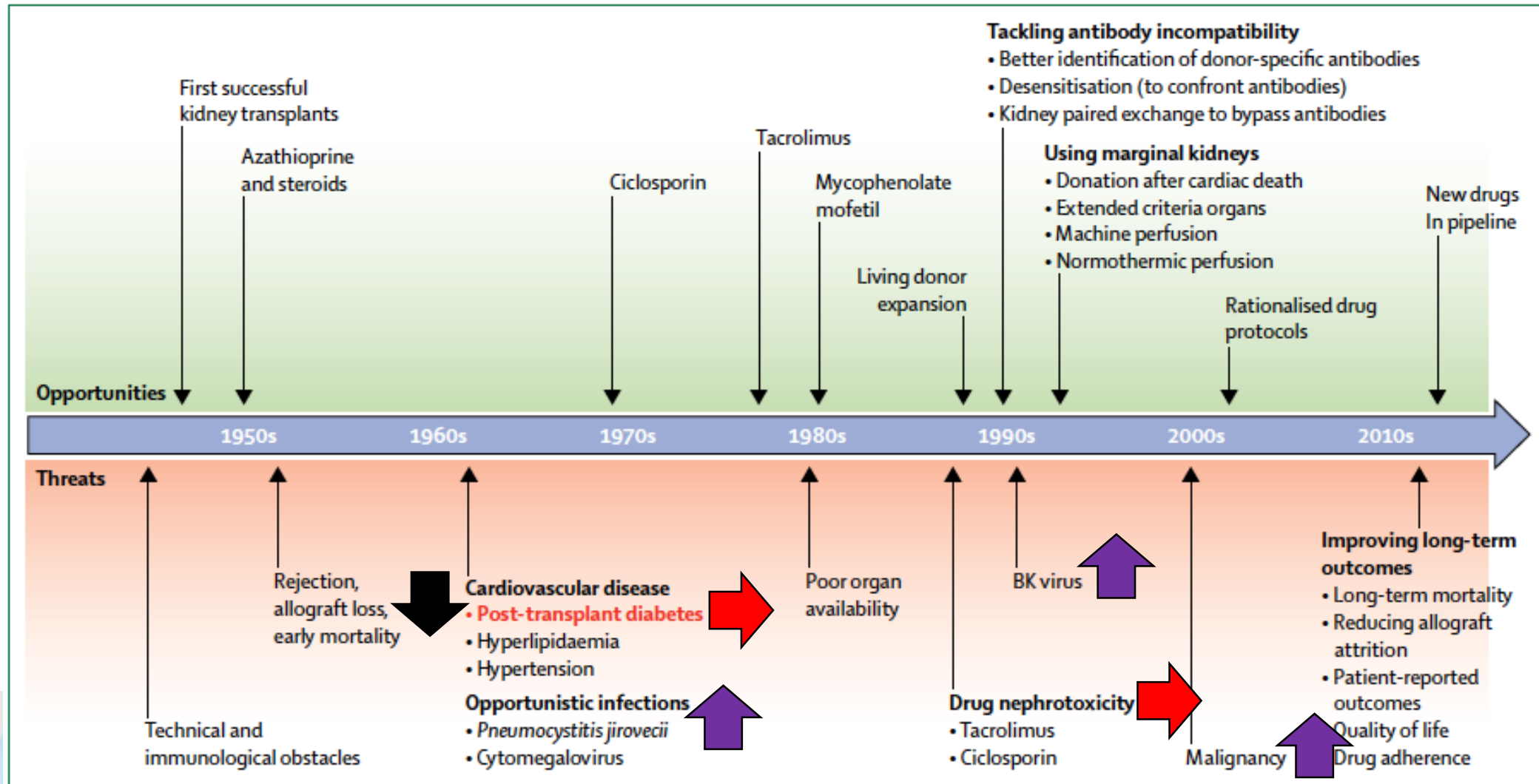
Laia Oliveras^{a,g}, Ana Coloma^a, Nuria Lloberas^b, Luis Lino^a, Alexandre Favà^a, Anna Manonelles^{a,g}, Sergi Codina^{a,g}, Carlos Couceiro^{a,g}, Edoardo Melilli^{a,g}, Adnan Sharif^{c,h}, Manfred Hecking^d, Martina Guthoff^{e,i}, Josep M. Cruzado^{a,g}, Julio Pascual^{f,g,1}, Nuria Montero^{a,g,*,1}



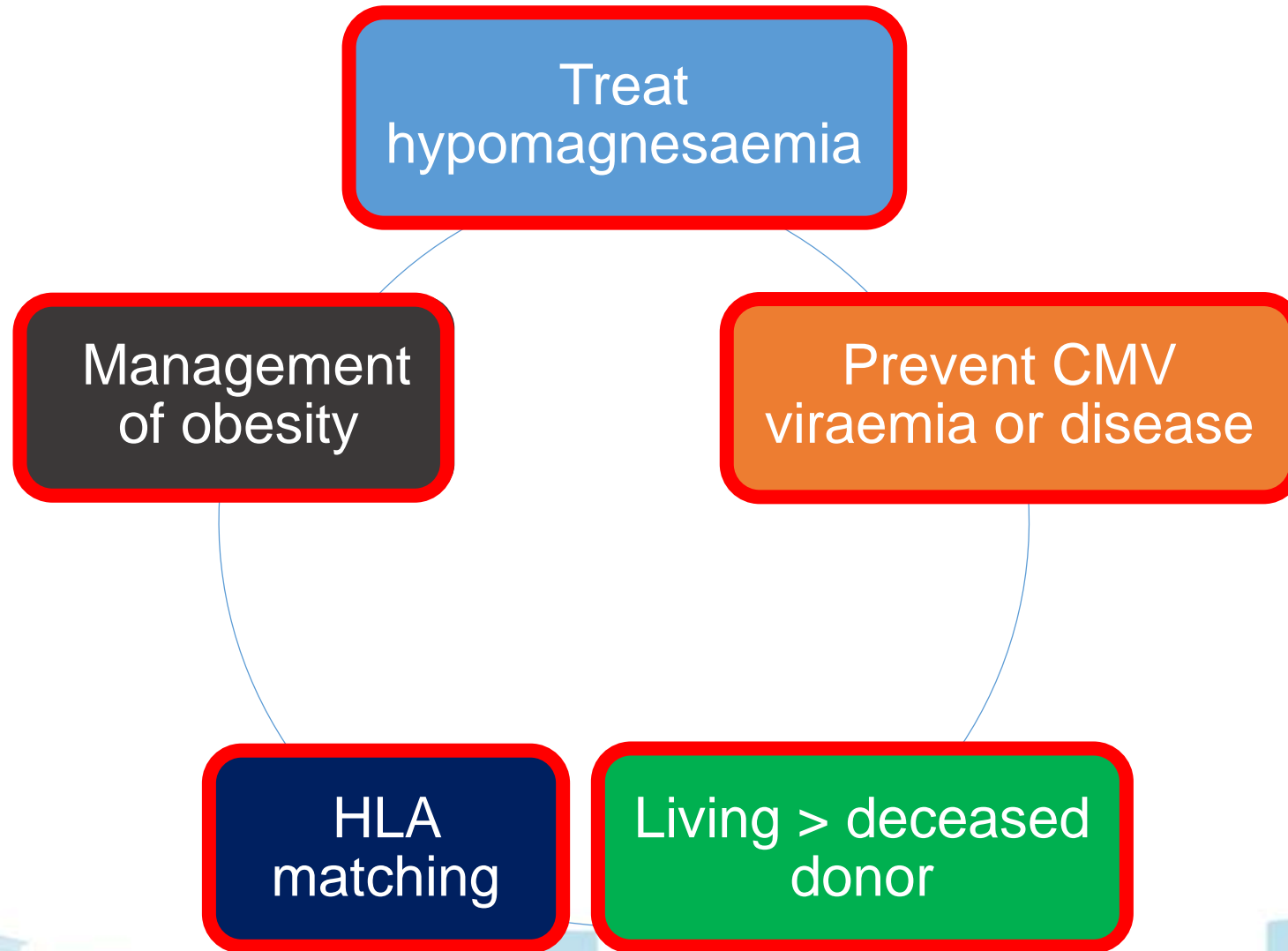
Burgeoning armamentarium of immunosuppression



PTDM in the context of competing risks after kidney transplantation



Are there any ways to mitigate PTDM?



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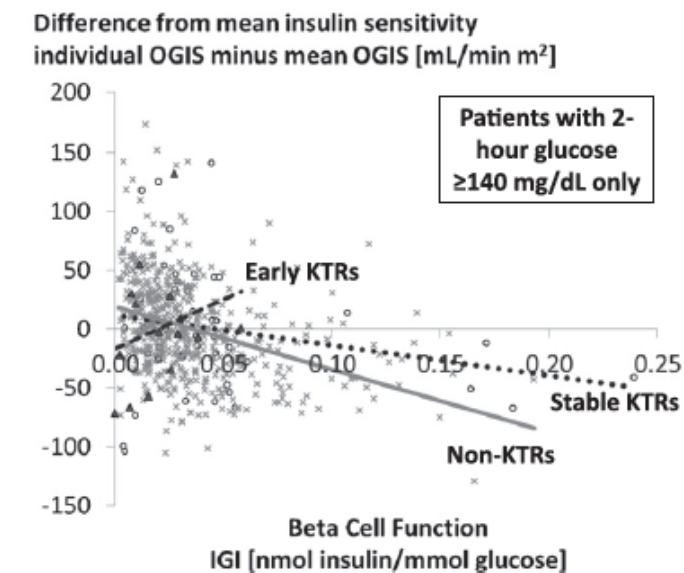
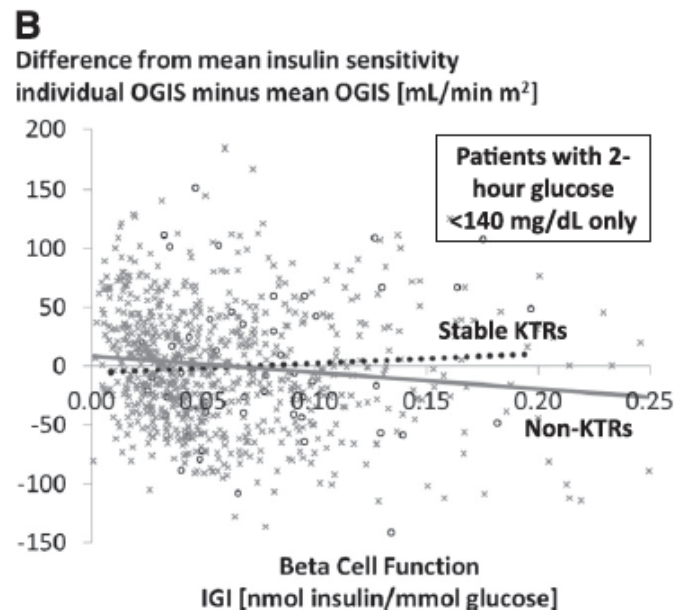
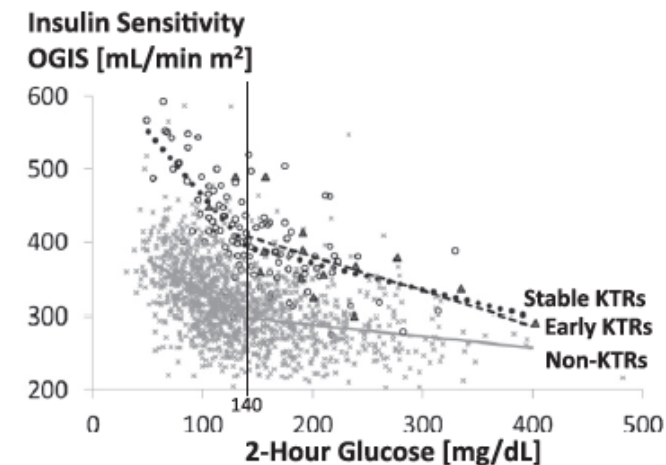
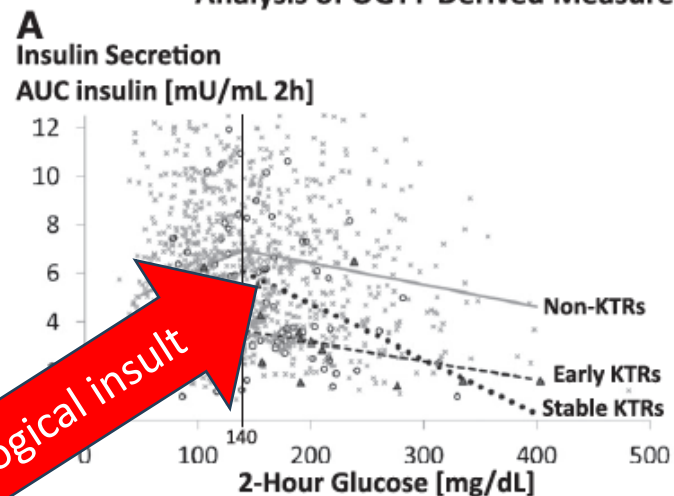
Glucose Metabolism After Renal Transplantation

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Impaired insulin secretion primary pathophysiological insult

Analysis of OGTT-Derived Measures: KTRs versus General Population



Therapeutic options based upon underlying PTDM characteristics

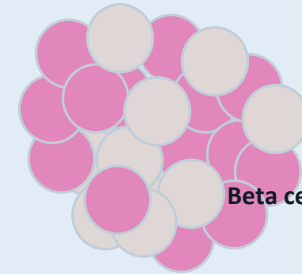
TIMING POST-TRANSPLANT

PRIMARY PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

CLINICAL PHENOTYPE

Insulin secretory

Early post-op



Beta cell dysfunction

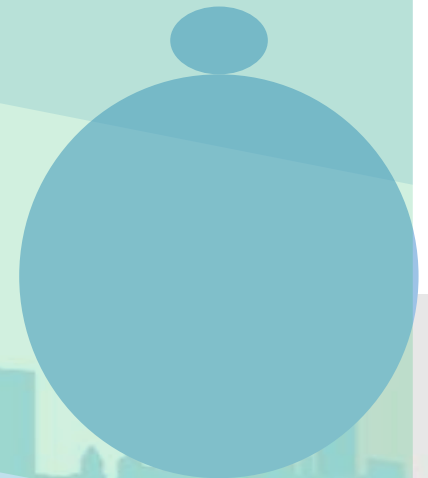


Insulin sensitizing

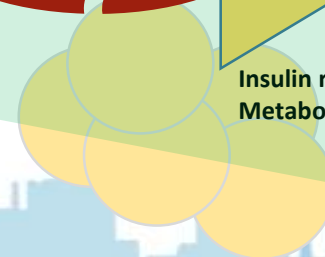
3-6 months



Insulin resistance
Metabolic syndrome



≥ 1-year



TIP: Study Design

Treat-to-target trial of Basal Insulin in Post Transplant Hyperglycemia
Efficacy and Safety of a Novel Protocol in Renal Transplant Recipients Receiving a Tacrolimus-based Immunosuppression

Inclusion: NTX, Tacrolimus, No history of DM, Informed Consent

Daily Measurements of Blood Glucose

(At least): Fasting, pre-lunch, pre-supper, post-supper

2 x 25 patients, Randomisation into 2 Study Arms

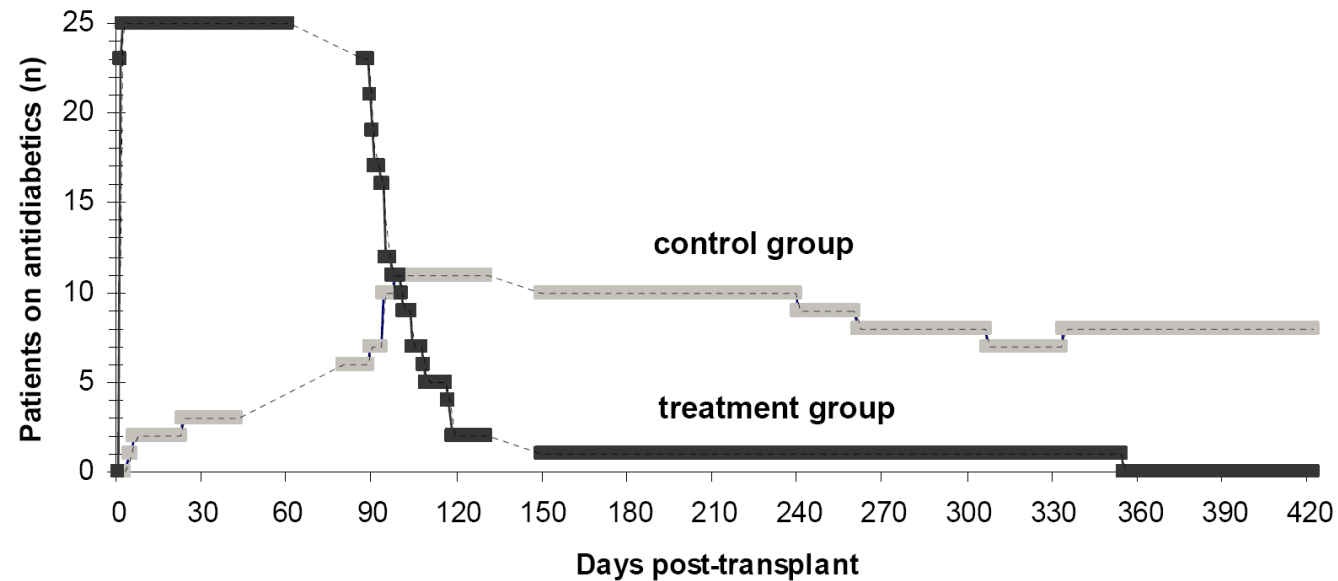
Arm A (treatment):

- Treatment starts when evening BG ≥ 140 mg/dl
- BG target level: 110-120 mg/dl
- Treatment with long acting insulin (Insulatard®)

Arm B (control):

- Corrections at the latest when BG > 250 mg/dl
- BG target level: none, but 250 mg/dl not accepted
- Conventional BG lowering therapy, according to decisions of the ward

Early insulin for post-op hyperglycaemia prevents PTDM at 1-year



Odds Ratios [95% CI]

	Diabetic versus Non-diabetic	Diabetic + Prediabetic versus Normal
3 months	0.36 [0.11-1.16]	0.29 [0.08-1.09]
6 months	0.13 [0.03-0.53]	0.56 [0.16-1.92]
12 months	0.27 [0.08-0.95]	0.51 [0.16-1.61]
Overall ^{^^}	0.27 [0.10-0.72]	0.43 [0.16-1.14]

Benefit in treatment group due to improved beta-cell function

C

Insulin Sensitivity

OGIS
[mL/min m⁻²]

Multi-centre study demonstrated no significant difference in ITT analysis but some efficacy in per protocol analysis (significant protocol violations which limits interpretation).

3 mo 6 mo 12 mo

3 mo 6 mo 12 mo

D

Beta Cell Function

+

0

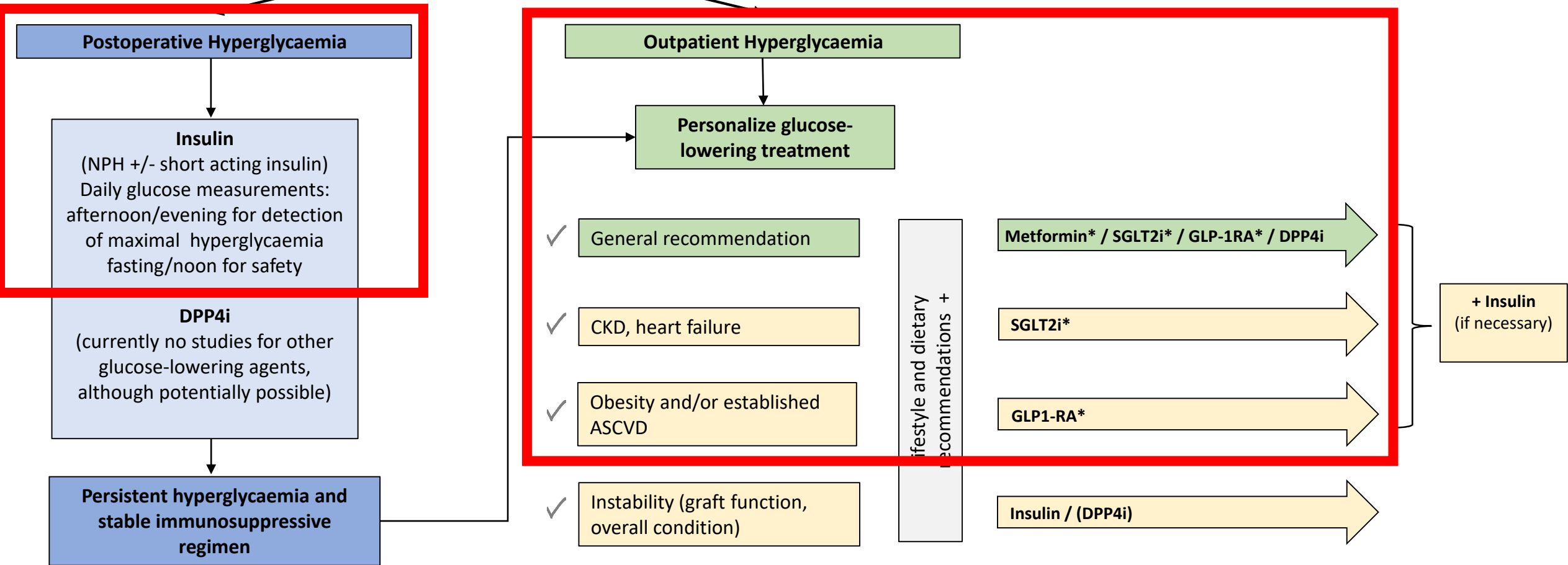
3 mo 6 mo 12 mo

3 mo 6 mo 12 mo

Schwaiger et al. JASN 2021

■ control ■ control predicted^{oo} ■ treatment ■ treatment predicted^{oo}

Glucose-Lowering Treatment for Post-Transplant Hyperglycaemia



*Standard 'sick day' rules apply: advise patients to temporarily stop therapy in acute intercurrent illness until medical consult

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Benefits and harms of drug treatment for type 2 diabetes: systematic review and network meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials

Interventions	All cause death (OR, 95%CI)	Cardiovascular death (OR, 95%CI)	Non-fatal myocardial infarction (OR, 95%CI)	Non-fatal stroke (OR, 95%CI)	Admission to hospital for heart failure (OR, 95%CI)	End stage kidney disease* (OR, 95%CI)	Health related quality of life score (OR, 95%CI)	Severe hypoglycaemia (OR, 95%CI)	Drug specific adverse events (OR, 95%CI)
SGLT-2 inhibitors	0.88 (0.83 to 0.94)	0.86 (0.80 to 0.94)	0.90 (0.82 to 0.98)	0.99 (0.88 to 1.11)	0.66 (0.60 to 0.73)	0.61 (0.55 to 0.67)	0.30 (0.10 to 0.49)	0.90 (0.79 to 1.02)	Genital infection 3.30 (2.88 to 3.78)
									Amputation 1.27 (1.01 to 1.61)
									Ketoacidosis 2.07 (1.44 to 2.98)
GLP-1 receptor agonists	0.88 (0.82 to 0.93)	0.87 (0.81 to 0.94)	0.91 (0.85 to 0.98)	0.85 (0.77 to 0.94)	0.91 (0.83 to 0.99)	0.83 (0.75 to 0.92)	0.17 (0.07 to 0.27)	0.98 (0.90 to 1.06)	Severe gastrointestinal events 1.97 (1.39 to 2.80)
Non-steroidal MRAs	0.89 (0.79 to 1.00)	0.88 (0.75 to 1.02)	0.91 (0.74 to 1.12)	1.00 (0.82 to 1.22)	0.78 (0.66 to 0.92)	0.83 (0.75 to 0.92)	-	0.64 (0.43 to 0.96)	Hyperkalaemia leading to hospital admission 5.92 (3.02 to 11.62)
Tirzepatide	0.83 (0.48 to 1.44)	1.00 (0.35 to 2.85)	0.69 (0.08 to 6.10)	-	0.63 (0.16 to 2.39)	0.68 (0.09 to 4.84)	0.39 (0.13 to 0.65)	1.13 (0.42 to 3.02)	Severe gastrointestinal events 4.59 (1.89 to 11.14)
Metformin	0.84 (0.67 to 1.04)	0.95 (0.48 to 1.88)	0.86 (0.68 to 1.09)	0.97 (0.71 to 1.33)	1.45 (0.28 to 7.36)	1.61 (0.36 to 7.24)	0.04 (-0.25 to 0.33)	1.73 (0.89 to 3.37)	Severe gastrointestinal events 2.22 (0.64 to 7.71)
α-glucosidase inhibitors	0.89 (0.30 to 2.61)	0.99 (0.21 to 4.70)	0.33 (0.06 to 1.92)	9.44 (0.76 to 116.58)	3.25 (0.13 to 82.49)	-	0.03 (-0.34 to 0.39)	1.30 (0.31 to 5.43)	Severe gastrointestinal events 3.40 (0.30 to 38.15)
Thiazolidinediones	0.95 (0.83 to 1.09)	0.93 (0.77 to 1.12)	0.97 (0.81 to 1.15)	0.85 (0.70 to 1.03)	1.54 (1.27 to 1.88)	0.69 (0.37 to 1.28)	0.20 (-0.13 to 0.52)	1.42 (0.97 to 2.10)	-
DPP-4 inhibitors	1.01 (0.95 to 1.08)	1.00 (0.92 to 1.09)	1.01 (0.92 to 1.11)	0.91 (0.80 to 1.03)	1.05 (0.95 to 1.16)	1.04 (0.93 to 1.16)	0.03 (-0.12 to 0.17)	1.11 (1.00 to 1.23)	-
Sulfonylureas	1.10 (0.97 to 1.26)	1.01 (0.83 to 1.23)	1.00 (0.83 to 1.22)	1.05 (0.84 to 1.32)	0.99 (0.79 to 1.23)	0.68 (0.37 to 1.24)	0.23 (-0.19 to 0.64)	5.22 (3.88 to 7.01)	-
Meglitinides	1.58 (0.51 to 4.92)	0.64 (0.11 to 3.69)	0.28 (0.05 to 1.60)	1.71 (0.26 to 11.40)	-	-	0.17 (-0.29 to 0.63)	3.21 (0.96 to 10.75)	-

SGLT-2 inhibitors = **cardio-renal benefits**

GLP-1 receptor agonists = **cardio-renal benefits**

Everything else = **majority have no cardio-renal benefits**

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Prospective post-transplant SGLT-2 inhibitor studies

Study	Study size and design	Duration	Intervention/Comparator	Primary outcome / Main outcome	Primary outcome results / Outcome results
Schwaiger et al. JASN 2019					<p>Received 2hPG increased during 4 (p=ns), demonstrating clinically</p>
Halden et al. Diabetes Care 2019					<p>technical error), median change over 24 weeks of empagliflozin</p>
Mahling et al. Kidney Blood Pres Res 2019					<p>Median HbA1c decreased</p>
Shah et al. Indian J Nephrol 2019					<p>re and HbA1c, tacrolimus</p>
Sanchez Fructuoso et al. CKJ 2023	<p>T2DM; multicenter, prospective, observational (interventional)</p>		<p>Empagliflozin/ empagliflozin</p>	<p>especially urinary tract infections (UTIs) and/or mycoses in diabetic kidney transplant recipients (DKTRs) placed on SGLT2i treatment.</p>	<p>frequency being a UTI (2.7% patients). In 10% patients, SGLT2i were suspended (mostly because of UTI). However, in a post-hoc subgroup analysis, UTIs were similar between DKTRs treated with SGLT2i over 12 months, compared with non-DKTRs (17.9% versus 16.7%). Body weight, blood pressure, fasting glycemia, HbA1c uric acid, urinary protein/creatinine ratio lower after SGLT2i treatment; magnesium and hemoglobin levels higher.</p>

nature communications *Nat Commun* 15, 10043 (2024). 

Article <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-54171-8>

The outcomes of SGLT-2 inhibitor utilization in diabetic kidney transplant recipients

Received: 15 March 2024

Jia-Yuh Sheu¹, Li-Yang Chang², Jui-Yi Chen^{3,4}, Heng-Chih Pan^{5,6,7,8}, Chi-Shin Tseng^{1,9}, Jeff S. Chueh^{1,2,9,12} & Vin-Cent Wu^{9,10,11,12}

Accepted: 5 November 2024

SGLT-2 inhibitor studies in progress (1)

Three strata of patients will be included:

1. Patients with an eGFR ≤ 25 mL/min/1.73m² (non-dialysis or living with a kidney transplant);
2. Dialysis patients with residual diuresis ≥ 500 mL/24 h (including haemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis);
3. Renal transplant recipients with an eGFR ≤ 45 mL/min/1.73m².

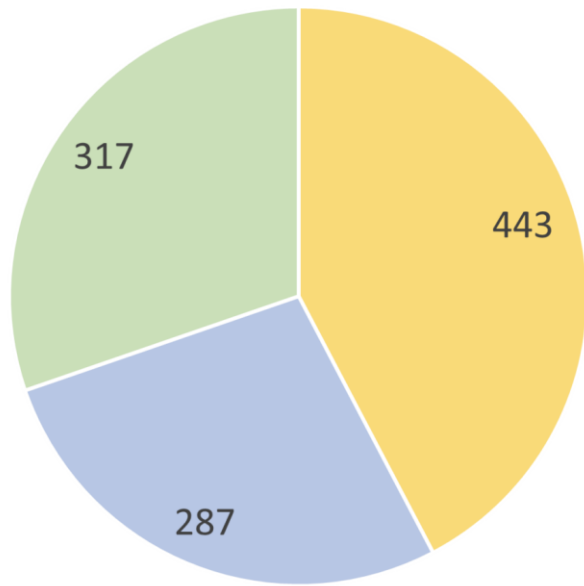
Expectation

Dapagliflozin reduces clinical end points (all-cause mortality, renal failure, and heart failure-related hospitalizations) in patients with stage 4 or 5 CKD, dialysis patients, and renal transplant recipients with and without type 2 diabetes.

Number of participants

1500 (total study total study duration 48 months but trial is endpoint-driven and will be terminated when 468 primary composite endpoints have occurred).

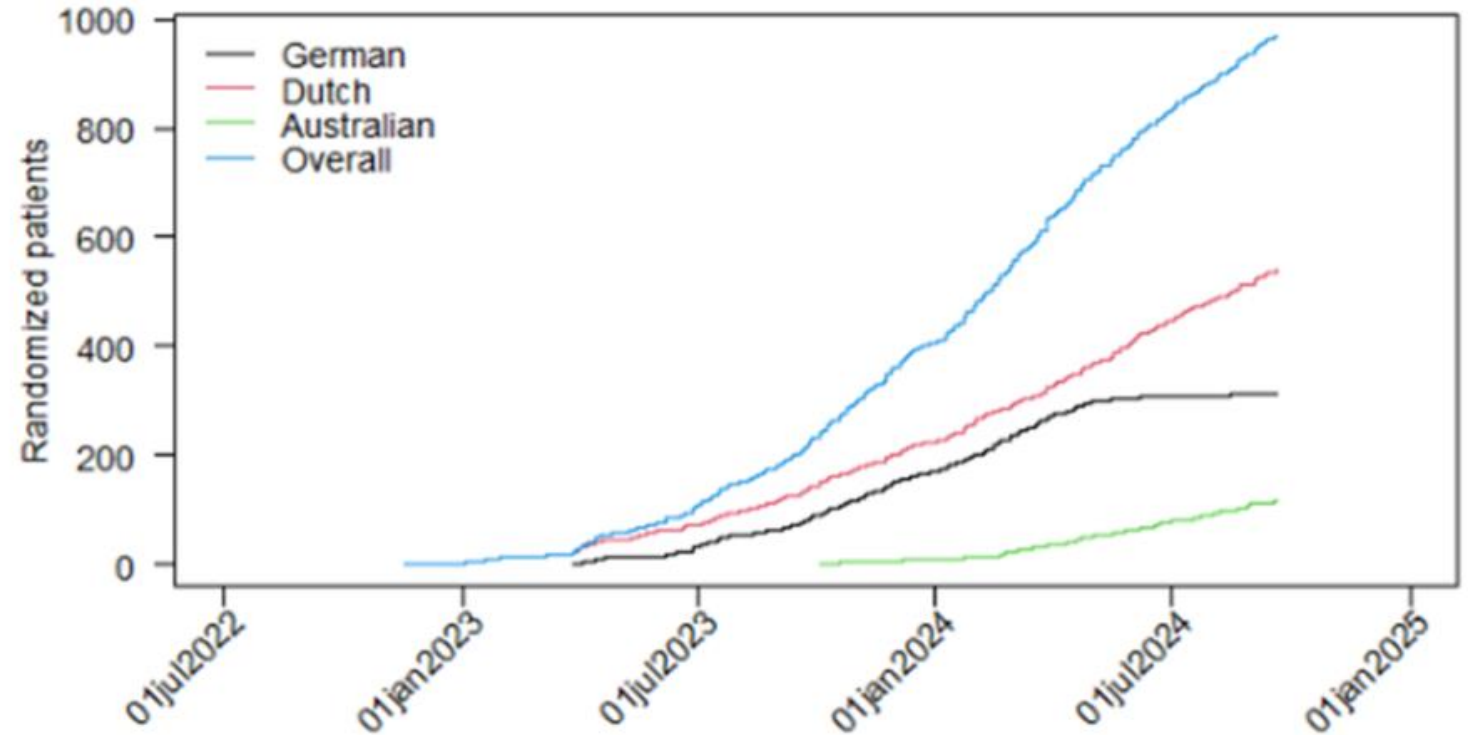
SGLT-2 inhibitor studies in progress (1)



■ CKD ■ Dialysis ■ Transplant

Participant numbers across patient groups from study start till September 2024 - measured globally

Total Randomized patients



SGLT-2 inhibitor studies in progress (2)

Renal And Cardiovascular Protection With Sglt2 Inhibition In Kidney Transplant Recipients (RENAISSANCE)

“We hypothesize that for adult KTRs who are ≥ 6 months posttransplant, use of SGLT2i compared with placebo will be safe, well tolerated, and associated with significant reductions in death, deterioration of transplant kidney function and major adverse cardiovascular events (myocardial infarction [MI], stroke and HF). We plan a randomized trial (n=900) to assess the efficacy and safety of SGLT2i for adult KTRs.”

Aim 1 - To determine efficacy of SGLT2i to reduce a hierarchical composite defined in hierarchical order as: (1) all-cause mortality, (2) kidney transplant loss (chronic dialysis >90 days, retransplant or sustained eGFR ≤ 15 ml/min/1.73m² for >3 months), (3) stroke or non-fatal MI, (4) sustained 40% decline of eGFR, (5) HF events (hospitalization or urgent treatment), and (6) eGFR slope (ml/min/1.73 m²/year).

Aim 2: To determine SGLT2i safety in KTRs. The primary safety outcome will include all SAEs and items of interest (mycotic infections and UTIs; all other infections requiring ER visit or hospitalization; amputation, bone fracture, diabetic ketoacidosis, episodes of AKI, hypotension, hypoglycemic episodes, and biopsy-proven acute transplant rejection).

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Can I use GLP-1 agonists for my kidney transplant patient with PTDM?



Prospective post-transplant GLP-1 receptor agonist studies

Study	Study size and design	Duration	Intervention/ Comparator	Primary outcome / Main outcome	Primary outcome results / Outcome results
Pinelli et al. Diabetes Care 2013	N=5; prospective, observational (interventional) (case series)	3 weeks	Liraglutide	Tacrolimus AUC0–12h	Tac-AUC reduced, Tac trough levels unaltered, reduction of postprandial glucose and body weight
Halden et al Diabetes Care 2016	N=24; RCT	4 weeks	GLP-1 infusion / 0.9% saline. Hyperglycemic clamp	Fasting levels of plasma glucose, glucagon, and insulin, Area under the curve concentrations	Patients with PTDM showed a reduced ability to suppress circulating glucagon levels during the hyperglycemic clamp. First and second-phase insulin secretion was lower compared to the control group

Management of Diabetes Mellitus With Glucagonlike Peptide-1 Agonist Liraglutide in Renal Transplant Recipients: A Retrospective Study

J.-H. Liou^a, Y.-M. Liu^a, and C.-H. Chen^{b,c,d,e,*}

Diabetes Ther (2020) 11:987–994
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s13300-020-00786-1>



BRIEF REPORT

The Use of GLP1R Agonists for the Treatment of Type 2 Diabetes in Kidney Transplant Recipients

Aleksandra Kukla, MD,¹ Jennifer Hill, DNP,¹ Massini Merzkani, MD,¹ Andrew Bentall, MD,¹ Elizabeth C. Lorenz, MD,¹ Walter D. Park, BS,² Matthew D'Costa, MD,² Yogish C. Kudva, MD,³ Mark D. Stegall, MD,² and Pankaj Shah, MD³

A Retrospective Study of Glucagon-Like Peptide 1 Receptor Agonists for the Management of Diabetes After Transplantation

Thiyagarajan Thangavelu · Elizabeth Lyden · Vijay Shivaswamy

Safety and Efficacy of Tirzepatide in Patients with Solid-Organ Transplant

Abstract presentation at American Diabetes Association 2024

Table 1. Baseline demographics

Characteristics	Number of patients (n = 16)
Transplant type:	
Kidney	5
Heart	1
Liver	5
Lung	3
Simultaneous Pancreas and Kidney	1
Heart and Kidney	1
Race:	
Caucasian	9
Hispanic	2
African American	3
Other	2
Diabetes type: p	
Type 1	1
Type 2	10
Steroid induced hyperglycemia	2
Post-transplant diabetes	3
Immunosuppression:	
Steroid	16
Tacrolimus	16
Mycophenolate mofetil	16
Age at time of drug initiation Mean ± SD	56.7 ± 13.2
Time from transplant to drug initiation in months	
Mean ± SD	53.6 ± 55.2
Median (Min, Max)	23.7 (15.9,80.1)

Table 2. Table 2. Changes Observed from Baseline through Last Available Follow-Up

	Baseline	3 months	6 months	Change from baseline to 6 months
A1C, %				
Mean ± SD	7.4 ± 2.3	6.8 ± 1.3	6.3 ± 0.8	-1.3 ± 1.9
Median (Min, Max)	6.5 (6, 8.3)	6.9 (5.7,7.5)	6.5 (5.6,7)	-0.6 (-7.5,0)
Mean percent change				-14.8%
P-value				0.33
Weight, Kg				
Mean ± SD	99.7 ± 16.1	98.6 ± 17.7	92.8 ± 9.9	-5.4 ± 6.2
Median (Min, Max)	98.8 (89.5,107.9)	99.3 (85.8,109.6)	91.1 (83.4,101.6)	-4.5 (3.2,-21.3)
Mean percent change				-6.9%
P-value				0.3
Fasting Blood glucose, mg/dl				
Mean ± SD	132.7 ± 45.9	115.4 ± 28.5	107.5 ± 21.7	-21.4 ± 36.5
Median (Min, Max)	122.5 (101.5,142.7)	110 (92.7,134.2)	106 (94.2,122.5)	-13.0 (-56.5,-2.5)
P-value				0.16
Serum eGFR, mL/min/1.73 m ²				
Mean ± SD	50.3 ± 20.4	51.3 ± 20.9	50.3 ± 21.4	0.06 ± 5.6
Median (Min, Max)	49 (35.5, 59.2)	45 (35,64)	46 (41,58)	1 (-8,12)
P-Value				0.96
Tac level (FK506), ng/ml				
Mean ± SD	7.6 ± 2.5	6.9 ± 2.2	6.0 ± 1.8	0.21 ± 2.21
Median (Min, Max)	7.5 (6.1,9.7)	6.8 (5.2,9)	6.4 (4.9, 6.8)	0.1 (-3,4)
P-value				0.18

Clinical challenges – summary/conclusions

- Risk can be mitigated but not eliminated.
- Targeting obesity would help.
- Modification of immunosuppression needs balancing against competing risks.

- Good short-term safety and efficacy data for SGLT2i use.
- Risk for UTIs probably not any different.
- Two large RCTs either in progress or hopefully soon to start.

- Go in quick with insulin but safety netting needed for outpatient management.
- Do not alter immunosuppression unless critical need.

- Good short-term safety and efficacy data for GLP-1 agonist use.
- Weight loss benefits are observed post-transplantation.
- No large RCTs in progress.



PTDM society guidelines/consensus statements

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DOI: 10.1111/dme.14523

REVIEW ARTICLE

DIABETIC
Medicine

Association of British Clinical Diabetologists and Renal Association guidelines on the detection and management of diabetes post solid organ transplantation

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International consensus on post-transplantation diabetes mellitus

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Thank you for your attention



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