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P210 -Donor characteristics limit opportunities for black patients to receive renal transplantation

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Introduction

Kidney transplantation is the 'gold standard' renal replacement option for patients with end stage renal failure (ESRF). Despite equitable access to transplant waiting lists, black patients are less likely to receive a living donor renal transplant. We conducted a retrospective data analysis of all potential renal transplant donors over a 5-year period to establish the donor characteristics associated with black (African or African Caribbean) donors not proceeding to transplant.

Methods

All data were collected over a 5-year period (January 2014 - December 2018) from the same trust using the local renal database software. The data included patients who, following a screening questionnaire, underwent blood tests and an initial interview with a renal transplant specialist nurse.

Data were analysed to establish the number of potential donors, their demographics (age/sex/ethnicity) and relationship to the recipient. Data were grouped into: 1) Proceeded to transplant. 2) Did not proceed. 3) Other (still undergoing assessment). Within those grouped as 'did not proceed' data were categorized as 'donor reason', 'recipient reason' or 'other'. 'Donor reasons' for not donating included medical reasons and also social reasons such as the donor deciding against transplantation. The number of cases where eGFR, hypertension and obesity contributed to the medical reasons for not donating was calculated. The 'recipient reasons' included unsuitability for transplantation or decision against. The 'other' category was given to those where an alternative donor was being assessed due to ABO/HLA incompatibility, the recipient received a donor after circulatory death (DCD) transplant or the reason was unclear. Data were assessed using the Fishers exact test for statistical significance.

Results

309 people were assessed as possible donors 178 female, 131 male, mean age 46.6 years (SEM 0.72). 177 were white (57.3%), 71 black (23.0%) and 61 from other ethnic backgrounds (19.7%). 53 of all potential donors proceeded to transplant, 228 did not proceed and 28 were ongoing assessment at the end of the data collection period. Of those who proceeded, 35 were white, 5 were black and 13 were from other ethnic backgrounds. A significantly greater proportion of the white group proceeded to transplant compared to black group ($p=0.0043$). When comparing the reasons for not proceeding, in the white group 47% were categorised as 'donor reasons' whilst this figure was 71% in the black group ($p=0.0019$). Within the medical reasons, hypertension was listed more frequently in the black group compared with the white group ($p=0.0027$).

Discussion

Despite accounting for 35.7% of the local dialysis population, only 23% of potential donors and 9.4% of those that proceeded to transplant were black. This study demonstrates that the factors limiting opportunities for black patients to receive living donor renal are twofold: firstly, fewer black people volunteer to be considered for transplantation and secondly, those that are assessed have more donor specific reasons for not proceeding to transplantation.