

Abstract

Background: living donor liver transplantation is now the best solution for patients with end stage liver disease and hepatic malignancy. Many factors can affect the duration of post-operative stay of the patients post-transplant.

Aim of the work: Assessment of the incidence of intra-operative and post-operative complications of LDLT in both donors and recipients during the ICU stay.

Patients and methods: The present study enrolled 30 patients that were referred to the ICU after LDLT. For these patients complete pre-operative assessment is done and continuous assessment of haemodynamics and daily full laboratory profile is also done in post-operative period. These collected data will be studied and correlated to the duration of ICU stay.

Results: the mean age of the study population was 35 ± 20 years old, ranging from 1 to 63 years old. There were 6 (20%) females vs. 24 (80%) males that underwent Living Donor Liver Trans-plantation (October 2004 to December 2008) at Cairo University Hospital. Some correlations were done describing the relation between the rate of rise of serum FK level, the CRP levels, age of the donors, and age of the recipients, with the duration of post-operative ICU stay and the rate of decline of liver enzymes and bilirubin. The mortality rate was 26.7% (8 patients), main causes of death were sepsis, rejection, and portal vein thrombosis. All the donors have had a smooth post operative course and were discharged from the hospital within few days post-operatively.

Conclusion: Patients with CRP levels within normal range upon ICU admission have better prognosis than other patients with elevated CRP levels upon ICU admission. Rapid rise of serum FK level postoperatively shortens the duration of ICU stay and leads to a rapid decline in serum level of transaminases. Variable degrees of renal impairment lead to rapid rise of serum level of FK post-transplant. Tachycardic patients upon ICU admission post-transplant always have poor prognosis than patients with heart rates within normal range.

Key Words: Intra-Operative, Post-Operative Complications, Liver Transplantation