

Publication

Living donor liver transplantation and its effect on the donor-recipient relationship : a qualitative interview study with donors

JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)

ID 1194379

Author(s) Papachristou, C; Walter, M; Schmid, G; Frommer, J; Klapp, B F

Author(s) at UniBasel [Walter, Marc](#) ;

Year 2009

Title Living donor liver transplantation and its effect on the donor-recipient relationship : a qualitative interview study with donors

Journal Clinical transplantation

Volume 23

Number 3

Pages / Article-Number 382-91

Keywords donor-recipient relationship, LDLT, living donation, psychosocial aspects, qualitative methods

An important aspect in the preoperative evaluation and a legal precondition for an living donor liver transplantation (LDLT) is a family or emotionally close relationship between donor and recipient. We investigated the development of the donor-recipient relationship after LDLT. We conducted semi-structured clinical interviews with 18 donors as part of a regular postoperative follow-up and analyzed them using the method of Grounded Theory. The donation does not lead to any major changes in the donor-recipient relationship, probably due to careful pre-selection. It does however enhance the existing positive or conflicting character of the relationship. Donors sometimes downplay negative aspects in the relationship and emphasize the improvement as a way of dealing with a major life event. A donation cannot fulfill expectations linked to it and it is unfavorable to be used to improve the relationship. Potential misuse or instrumentalization of the donation by the donor are possible. Postoperative feelings of gratitude are an issue after surgery. A good relationship enhances a better management of the postoperative course. The preoperative donor-recipient relationship should be as free of conflict as possible. A thorough preoperative evaluation of the donor-recipient relationship is particularly important to assess the donors' suitability and clarify conflicts and unrealistic expectations.

Publisher Blackwell

ISSN/ISBN 0902-0063

edoc-URL <http://edoc.unibas.ch/dok/A6004598>

Full Text on edoc No;

Digital Object Identifier DOI 10.1111/j.1399-0012.2008.00948.x

PubMed ID <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19537301>

ISI-Number WOS:000268208500012

Document type (ISI) Article