Efficacy of conventional immunosuppressive therapy in related and unrelated living renal transplantation.

Abstract: BACKGROUND: The application of antibody induction therapy in adult living-related kidney transplantation remains under discussion. The purpose of this study was to compare the outcome of living-related (LRT) and unrelated renal transplant recipients (LURT) using standardized immunosuppressive protocols. From October 2000 to October 2004, 72 adult LRT (TX) were performed at our institution. Thirty-nine LRT (group A) and 33 LURT (group B) recipients received a standardized immunosuppressive therapy consisting of tacrolimus (Tac), steroids and mycophenolate mofetil (MMF) without antibody induction therapy. This prospective analysis included immediate graft function, rejection rate and loss of the transplanted organ. The incidence of post-operative good graft function (>90%) was similar for both groups, as well as the rejection rate showed 57.8% for patients of group A and 58.8% for patients of group B (p1 rejection) was significantly higher in group B (11.8%) compared to patients in group A (4.4%). No difference concerning loss of transplanted kidney was observed for both groups. Conventional Tac, MMF and steroid-based immunosuppression therapy is equivalent in efficacy of therapy in living-related and unrelated renal transplants. In our opinion, induction therapy in patients without immunologic risk factors has no favourable effect.