



HIV-positive Donor to Positive Recipient Renal Transplantation (RT): A Nationwide Survey

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Introduction / Objectives

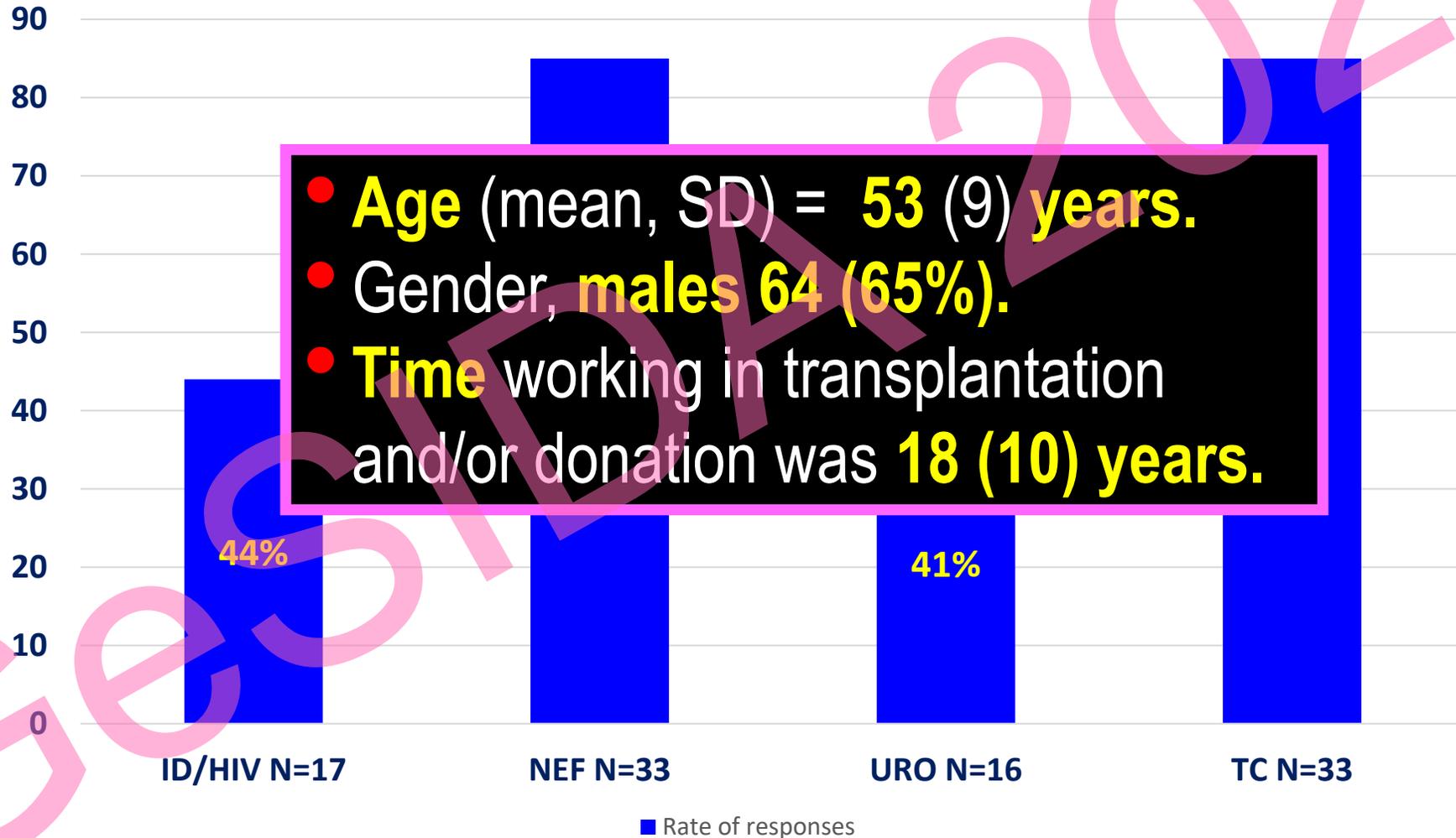
- HIV+ donor organs (mostly kidney) can now be transplanted into HIV+ recipients (HIV D+/R+) with end-stage organ disease in several countries (South Africa, USA, Europe). Spain has the world's highest donor rate, but using HIV+ donor organs is forbidden by law since 1987.
- This nationwide survey canvassed RT teams on this new strategy and their attitude toward HIV D+/R+ KT.

Methods

- The survey was performed in 2018-19 and was sent to the four members of RT teams (specialists in HIV/infectious diseases (HIV/ID), Nephrology (NEPH), urological surgery (URO SURG) and transplant coordination (TC)) in the 39 Spanish adult RT centers.
- Standardized questions were answered through a questionnaire (REDCap software) using an analog scale from 0 (fully disagree) to 10 (fully agree).
- The responses were correlated according to the specialty of the RT team.

Results: Demographic data from 39 RT teams (100%)

Rate of Responses by Specialty



HIV/ID: HIV/infectious diseases; NEF: Nephrology; URO: Urology; TC: transplant coordination teams.

Results: According to the Specialty (I)

	HIV/ID N=17	NEF N=33	URO N=16	TC N=33
Deceased donor				
- VS on ART**	10 (9,10)*	9 (7,10)	8 (7,10)	10 (8,10)
- No VS off ART	1 (0,7)	2 (0,5)	1 (0,4)	3 (1,8)
- HIV diagnosis at transplant evaluation	1 (0,5)	2 (0,5)	1 (0,5)	4 (1,8)
- High risk donor, HIV-**	9 (8,10)	8 (6,9)	7 (2,10)	10 (8,10)
- Serodiscordant HIV-donor but HIV+ couple	9 (8,10)	8 (6,9)	7.5 (5,10)	10 (8,10)

VS = HIV virologically suppression; ART = Antiretroviral therapy; HIV/ID: HIV/infectious diseases; NEF: Nephrology; URO: Urology; TC: Transplant coordination teams. 0 = Fully disagree; 10 = Fully agree. * Median (IQR) ** P value: <0.05.

Results: According to the Specialty (II)

	HIV/ID N=17	NEF N=33	URO N=16	TC N=33
Living donor				
- VS on ART	9 (8,10)*	8 (5,10)	8 (4,10)	10 (8,10)
- Use of specific Consent Form for HIV-infected receptors**	10 (9,10)*	10 (8,10)	8 (5,10)	10 (9,10)
- Willingness to participate in a HIV D+/R+ trial, (%)	85%			

VS = HIV virologically suppression; ART = Antiretroviral therapy; HIV/ID: HIV/infectious diseases; NEF: Nephrology; URO: Urology; TC: Transplant coordination teams. 0 = Fully disagree; 10 = Fully agree. * Median (IQR); ** P value: =0.058

Results

- There were no differences by age, gender or transplant activity.
- **The reasons for not participating (N=15, 15%) in a potential HIV D+/R+ trial were:** Use optimal donors, 5 (33%); Contraindicated by Spanish law, 2 (13%); Lack of evidence, 2 (13%); No need in Spain, 2 (13%); and, Other reasons, 4 (27%).
- **Potential number of donors last 20 years (only TC):** Virologically suppressed, 60 cases; High risk/Serodiscordant: 7 cases; No virologically suppressed, 26; and, living donors, 34. Two-thirds of the cases in the last 10 years.

Conclusions

- Most Spanish RT team specialists **would use** kidneys from virologically suppressed HIV-infected deceased or living donors for HIV-infected recipients with indications for RT.
- Conversely, they **would not use** organs from donors that were not HIV suppressed or in which HIV-infection was diagnosed at the time of transplant evaluation.
- In recent years, the number of **potential HIV+ donors** from both cadaver and living donors has increased.
- The results of this survey could initiate a **change of the donor law in Spain.**



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