Gestational choriocarcinoma transmission following multiorgan donation.

Braun-Parvez L, Charlin E, Caillard S, Ducloux D, Wolf P, Rolle F, Golfier F, Flicoteaux H, Bergerat JP, Moulin B.

Source

Service de Néphrologie et Transplantation Rénale, Hôpitaux Universitaires de Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France.

Abstract

An accidental transmission of placental choriocarcinoma (CC) from a multiorgan donor to four recipients is reported. The donor was a 26-year-old pregnant woman, died from a cerebral hemorrhage. Histological examination demonstrated the presence of a placental CC. Diagnosis of CC transmission was established on the basis of an increase of human chorionic gonadotrophin hormone (hCG) level. The recipient of combined pancreas-kidney is still in complete remission 2 years after the beginning of chemotherapy without removal of the grafted organs which show optimal function. The recipient of a single kidney was rapidly transplantectomized and treated with actinomycin. At 2 years, she remains in remission. Liver recipient showed intestinal metastasis and died from digestive hemorrhage after an initial response to chemotherapy. Heart recipient had an initial remission under EMA-CO, but at the last report, he showed diffuse metastasis. Published reports on CC transmission are rare. The long-lasting remission of our pancreas-kidney recipient and her good outcome after 2 years make our observation original. Moreover, the high rate of transmission demonstrates the high malignant potential of CC in immunosuppressed patients. Chemotherapy combined or not with transplantectomy in case of nonvital organ, should be discussed.