

Factors in Patient Referral for Heart Transplantation

Indications

Severe LV dysfunction despite maximum therapy with persistent functional limitation:

- ⇒ Idiopathic cardiomyopathy
- ⇒ Ischemic cardiomyopathy
- ⇒ Restrictive cardiomyopathy
- ⇒ Postpartum cardiomyopathy
- ⇒ Congenital heart disease
- ⇒ Valvular heart disease
- ⇒ Pericardial diseases

Severe coronary disease with intractable angina, not amenable to coronary intervention

Intractable ventricular dysrhythmias

Waiting Times/Listing

Waiting times vary according to ABO blood type, height & weight and severity of illness. Patients are listed according to their medical status:

Status 1A - Patients in the ICU on one or all of the following support measures: VAD, IABP, ventilator, IV inotropes with Swann-Ganz in place.

Status 1B - IV inotrope dependent, in or out of the hospital.

Status 2 - Patient is stable at home and requires continuous care.

Contraindications

Fixed pulmonary hypertension defined as:

- TPG > 15
- PA systolic pressure > 50mm/Hg
- PVR > 4.0 wood units

Age greater than 69

Active malignancy

Active infection

HIV

Diabetes with end organ damage

Uncorrectable severe PVD

Significant lung or liver disease

Significant renal dysfunction

Morbid obesity

Substance abuse - *requires 6 months abstinence with formal, documented program*

Lack of funding

Lack of social/psychological support

Lack of compliance

Evaluation of the Patient Prior to Heart Transplantation

Cardiac:

- Left/Right heart catheterization
- Echocardiogram with doppler
- VO₂ stress test
- Assessment of electrical stability

Non-Cardiac:

- Pulmonary function tests
- Chest X-ray
- Flex sig/colonoscopy (> 50 years of age)
- Viral titers
- PPD

Within previous 12 months

Female patients:

- Mammogram (> 40 years of age)
- Pap smear (> 18 years of age)
- Pelvic exam (> 18 years of age)

Male patients:

- PSA (> 50 years of age)

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