



Leading European Nephrology

# NEWS

## European Renal Association – European Dialysis and Transplant Association

### DESCARTES and ERBP publication was top-read paper in the “Transplant Library” 2016!

*February 1, 2017*

In May 2016, the paper “Does pre-emptive transplantation versus post start of dialysis transplantation with a kidney from a living donor improve outcomes after transplantation? A systematic literature review and position statement by the Descartes Working Group and ERBP” was published in *Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation*. The publication was the most popular article in the “Transplant Library” in 2016 and was read more than 700 times.

“This is flattering, of course. But in my view, this success mainly reflects the efficient and praxis-oriented collaboration of the DESCARTES (Developing Education Science and Care for Renal Transplantation in European States) working group and ERBP (European Renal Best Practice)”, explains Prof. Wim Van Biesen, ERBP chairman. “The fact that we – two organizations of high reputation under the roof of the ERA-EDTA – worked together has obviously enhanced the impact of the paper. Besides, we addressed a topic of high relevance.”

The review showed that pre-emptive transplantation in patients with a living donor can improve patient and graft survival and reduces the risk of acute rejection. The authors therefore recommended pre-emptive transplantation when a living donor is available, but they also discussed the other side of the coin: too early transplantation. Patients should be prepared timely, so actual transplantation can take place at the moment kidney function reaches a level where otherwise dialysis would be started.

Besides, the paper suggests to set up a quality registry with the aim to measure the outcomes of the transplanted patients and their donors. “This is important, because we have to evaluate and outweigh possible benefits for the recipient and possible donors’ risks”, concluded Van Biesen. “We are very happy that our article helped to spread the word!”

**Interested in reading the publication?**

**<http://ndt.oxfordjournals.org/content/31/5/691.full.pdf+html>**



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### About ERA-EDTA

With more than 7,500 members, the ERA-EDTA ("European Renal Association – European Dialysis and Transplant Association") is one of the biggest nephrology associations worldwide and one of the most important and prestigious European Medical Associations. It supports basic and clinical research in the fields of clinical nephrology, dialysis, renal transplantation and related subjects. The ERA-EDTA supports a number of studies as well as research groups and has founded a special "Fellowship Programme" for young investigators as well as grant programmes. In order to involve young nephrologists in all activities of the ERA-EDTA the Council decided to create a Young Nephrologists' Platform (YNP). Besides, it has established various research networks and different working groups to promote the collaboration of nephrologists with other medical disciplines (e.g. cardiology, immunology). Furthermore, a "European Renal Best Practice" (ERBP) advisory board has been established by the ERA-EDTA to draw up and publish guidelines and position statements. Another important goal of the ERA-EDTA is education: several series of CME-courses as well as the annual congress offer an attractive scientific programme to cover the need of continuous medical education for doctors working in the fields of nephrology, dialysis and transplantation. The association's journals, NDT (Nephrology, Dialysis, Transplantation) and ckj (Clinical Kidney Journal), are currently the leading nephrology journals in Europe. The ERA-EDTA Registry is a large epidemiologic database comparing countries by assessing nephrology practice throughout Europe. Finally, ERA-EDTA is member of the European Kidney Health Alliance (EKHA), a consortium of renal societies that actively interacts with the European Parliament. For more information please visit [www.era-edta.org](http://www.era-edta.org)