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Outcomes of Renal Transplantation in Patients with Bipolar Affective Disorder and Schizophrenia; A National Retrospective Cohort Study

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Abstract:

Background: Patients with severe psychiatric disorders such as schizophrenia and bipolar affective disorder (BPAD) have in the past been excluded from organ transplantation programmes on the basis of their psychiatric illness. However, there is little data on the outcomes of renal transplantation in these patients and little evidence to support such exclusion.

Methods: We reviewed the database of the Irish National Renal Transplant Programme and identified all patients with a history of BPAD or schizophrenia who had received a transplant over a 28 year period. Data was collected for the following outcomes: patient survival, graft survival, graft function, length of hospitalisation for transplantation and frequency of acute rejection episodes. The control group was the general transplant group, i.e. all patients without these psychiatric disorders, who had received a renal transplant during the relevant time period.

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